

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the Matter of:)
)
 AT&T Corp.)
)
 COMPLAINANT)
)
 v.)
)
 Mountain Rural Telephone Cooperative Corp.)
)
 and)
)
 Thacker-Grigsby Telephone Co, Inc.)
)
)
 DEFENDANTS)

APR 23 2014
PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

Case No. 2013-00392

**JOINT MOTION TO STAY PROCEDURAL
SCHEDULE AND FOR EXPEDITED RULING**

Complainant AT&T Corp. ("AT&T") and Defendant/Counterclaimants Mountain Rural Telephone Cooperative Corp. and Thacker-Grigsby Telephone Co., Inc. (collectively "Rural Carriers"), (collectively the "Parties"), by counsel, hereby jointly move for a stay of the procedural schedule in this matter and request an expedited ruling on this motion. In support of the motion and request, the Parties state as follows.

1. This matter comes before the Commission by formal complaint against the Rural Carriers by AT&T Kentucky filed on November 7, 2013.
2. On November 25, 2013, Rural Carriers jointly filed an answer and counterclaim against AT&T.

3. On February 3, 2014, the Commission issued an Order rejecting the counterclaim for filing.

4. On February 19, 2014, the Rural Carriers filed a motion for reconsideration.

5. On March 10, 2014, the Commission entered an order revoking its February 3, 2014 order disallowing the Rural Carriers' counterclaim, granting a deviation to permit the filing of the counterclaim, and establishing a procedural schedule which, among other things, requires responses to initial requests for information on May 2, 2014.

6. On April 17, 2014 the Rural Carriers and AT&T Corp. filed and served their initial requests for information.

7. Since the entry of the March 10, 2014 Order, the Parties have discussed the potential resolution of this case through a global settlement of matters in dispute between AT&T, BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Kentucky, the Rural Carriers in this case and other Kentucky Rural Local Exchange Carriers—parties to *In the Matter of Ballard Rural Telephone Cooperative, Corp., Inc., Et Al.* (“RLECs”) v. *BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., d/b/a AT&T Kentucky v. Halo Wireless, Inc.*, Case No. 2011-00199, currently pending before the Commission. As part of this proposal, AT&T Kentucky and AT&T Corp. proposed settling both this case and Case No. 2011-00199.

8. Specifically, on February 11, 2014, the RLECs provided a written settlement counterproposal to an AT&T Kentucky settlement proposal, in Case No. 2011-00199, which also provided for the resolution of this proceeding as part of the settlement of Case No. 2011-00199.

9. AT&T analyzed this settlement proposal and on March 19, 2014, provided a written response to the RLECs, which response included an offer to settle the present case comprehensively within settlement of Case No. 2011-00199.

10. Settlement negotiations in Case No. 2011-00199 are ongoing, and if the parties are able to reach agreement on these issues, the need for further Commission action in this case may be negated.

11. Case No. 2011-00199 is currently being held in abeyance to allow the Parties to continue settlement negotiations.

12. Accordingly, in order to encourage an efficient preservation of the Parties' and Commission staff's resources, it is requested that the pre-hearing deadlines established in the Commissions' March 10, 2014 Order be stayed and held in abeyance while the prospect of settlement continues to be explored.

13. Granting the motion will allow all of the parties to continue devoting their resources to the voluntary resolution of all of the claims in both cases; while denying this motion will impede those settlement efforts (both in this case and Case No. 2011-00199) because the Parties necessarily would need to shift their focus and resources away from settlement discussions and instead concentrate on litigating these claims and counterclaims.

14. To keep the Commission updated on the status and progress of such ongoing negotiations, the Parties propose to file periodic joint status reports with the Commission in concurrence and compliance with the Commissions' current abeyance in Case No. 2011-00199.

15. This joint motion is not made for the purpose of delay; rather, it is in the interest of all parties to allow for the most orderly and efficient adjudication of this matter.

16. Finally, because responses to initial data requests are presently due on May 2, 2014, the Parties respectfully request an expedited ruling on this motion.

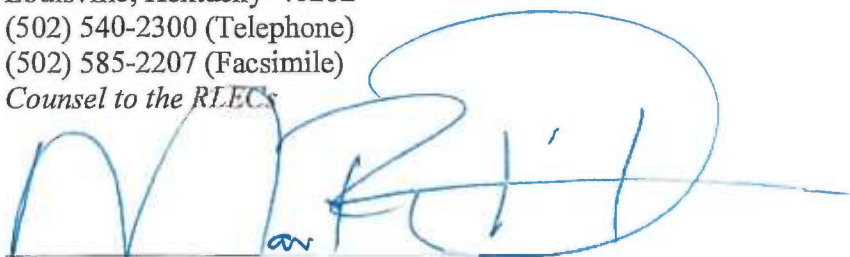
WHEREFORE, for all of the foregoing reasons, the Parties respectfully and jointly request that the Commission stay the procedural schedule established by the Commission's March 10, 2014

Order, and generally hold the deadlines contained therein in abeyance pending exhaustion of the Parties' ongoing settlement negotiations.

Respectfully submitted,

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e-mail Authorization

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