

August 22, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL
Public Service Commission
211 Sower Blvd.
PO Box 615
Frankfort, KY 40602

RECEIVED

AUG 22 2024

**PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION**

Email: psced@ky.gov

RE: A Certification of the Carriers Receiving Universal Service High Cost Support,
Administrative Case No. 381

Dear Ms. Bridwell:

In reference to the above-referenced case, please find enclosed the Affidavit of Michael L. Johnson on behalf of East Kentucky Network, LLC d/b/a Appalachian Wireless.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

/s/ Cindy McCarty

Cindy D. McCarty
General Counsel
(606) 339-1006
cmccarty@ekn.com

Enclosure

AFFIDAVIT OF MICHAEL L. JOHNSON

I, the undersigned Michael L. Johnson, CEO of East Kentucky Network, LLC d/b/a Appalachian Wireless ("East Kentucky Network"), do hereby declare under penalty of perjury as follows:

1. I am the authorized representative of East Kentucky Network. I am personally familiar with the Federal Universal Service High-Cost Support received by East Kentucky Network and how these funds are used by East Kentucky Network.

2. East Kentucky Network was designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier by the Kentucky Public Service Commission in Case No. 2005-00045 by order dated August 11, 2005. East Kentucky Network was also designated by the Kentucky Public Service Commission as an eligible telecommunications carrier in additional exchanges within its operating area in Case No. 2009-00199 by order dated July 21, 2009. East Kentucky Network's Service Provider ID Number (SPIN) is 143000997, Study Area Code (SAC) 269007.

3. East Kentucky Network estimates that it will receive \$4,842,528.00 of Federal Universal Service support during the January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, time period.

4. The Federal Universal Service funds East Kentucky Network received in the preceding calendar year were used for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as designated by the Federal Communications Commission consistent with Section 254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. These funds were used to provide the following supported services, as outlined in 47 C.F.R. § 54.101(a), which are available to any customer in East Kentucky Network's service area: voice grade access to the public switched network, unlimited local usage, dual tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent, access to emergency services, including 9-1-1 service or

enhanced 9-1-1 service, access to operator service, access to interexchange service and access to directory assistance and toll limitation for qualifying low income customers.

5. The Federal Universal Service funds East Kentucky Network receives will be used for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, as designated by the Federal Communications Commission consistent with Section 254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. These funds will be used to provide the following supported services, as outlined in 47 C.F.R. § 54.101(a), which are available to any customer in East Kentucky Network's service area: voice grade access to the public switched network, unlimited local usage, dual tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent, access to emergency services, including 9-1-1 service or enhanced 9-1-1 service, access to operator service, access to interexchange service and access to directory assistance and toll limitation for qualifying low income customers.

6. East Kentucky Network follows Federal Communications Commission Part 32 accounting requirements for regulated local exchange carriers and Part 36 separations provisions used to determine high-cost support amounts.

7. While continuing to receive the estimated amount of Federal Universal Service support as described and using this support for the purposes as described, East Kentucky Network does not anticipate increasing local rates nor withdrawing any services; therefore, the comparability of rates and service between the rural areas served by East Kentucky Network and the urban areas of Kentucky will not be changed because of any action on the part of East Kentucky Network.

8. East Kentucky Network constructed four (4) new cell sites and two (2) replacement cell sites in 2023. East Kentucky Network received .19 customer complaints per

1,000 handsets last year, and did not receive any unfulfilled requests for service in its service area.

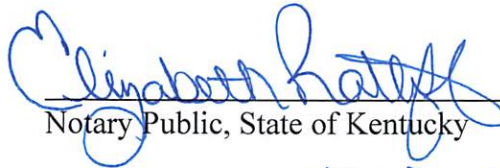
9. The matters addressed above are within my personal knowledge and are true and correct.



Michael L. Johnson, CEO
East Kentucky Network, LLC
d/b/a Appalachian Wireless

COUNTY OF FLOYD)
STATE OF KENTUCKY)

Sworn and subscribed before me, the undersigned authority, on this the 22nd day of August, 2024.



Notary Public, State of Kentucky

Commission No. KYNP63132

My Commission expires 12-9-26

(SEAL)

ELIZABETH RATLIFF
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE AT LARGE
KENTUCKY
COMMISSION # KYNP63132
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES December 9, 2026