Steven L. Beshear Governor

Leonard K. Peters Secretary Energy and Environment Cabinet



Commonwealth of Kentucky

Public Service Commission
211 Sower Blvd.
P.O. Box 615

Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0615

Telephone: (502) 564-3940
Fax: (502) 564-3460

psc.ky.gov

David L. Armstrong Chairman

James W. Gardner Vice Chairman

> John W. Clay Commissioner

May 12, 2009

Ms. Marlene Dortch Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 – 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Mr. Scott Barash Acting CEO Universal Service Administrative Company 2000 L Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037

Re: CC Docket 96-45, USF Certification as Required by 47 C.F.R. § 54.314

Ms. Dortch and Mr. Barash:

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.314 and based on the information provided below, the Kentucky Public Service Commission ("KPSC") has received an affidavit from a representative of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T Mobility") and its subsidiary America Cellular Corporation ("ACC") certifying that federal high-cost support funds will only be used for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of its facilities and services for which the support is intended.

On August 15, 2006, the KPSC granted the petition for Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") designation for ACC. On April 14, 2008, the KPSC granted the request of AT&T Mobility to transfer the ETC designation of ACC to AT&T Mobility. A copy of the order approving the transfer and a copy of the certification by AT&T Mobility and ACC are enclosed for your review as Attachments A and B, respectively.

On March 27, 2009, AT&T Mobility notified the KPSC that the proposed merger of ACC into AT&T Mobility did not occur in April 2008 as anticipated but would occur on March 31, 2009. Therefore, AT&T Mobility will be the designated ETC for the study area code ("SAC") 269905 for the wirecenters listed in Exhibit B of AT&T Mobility's petition. Please note that neither AT&T Mobility nor ACC will serve as an ETC for the wirecenters related to KY RSAs 6 and 8, as listed in Exhibit A of the AT&T Mobility petition. Those exhibits and the petition are included with this letter as Attachment C.

Ms. Marlene Dortch Mr. Scott Barash May 12, 2009 Page 2

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, you may contact Jim Stevens at (502) 564-3940, ext. 238 or <a href="https://www.usens.contact-width://www.usens.c

Sincerely

**Executive Director** 

TB/ew

cc: Mary Pat Regan, President, AT&T Kentucky

Mary K. Keyer, General Counsel, AT&T Kentucky

Main Case File No. 2008-00077

Enclosures

## **Attachment A**

# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC

("AT&T MOBILITY") NOTICE OF ACQUISITION

AND REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF ELIGIBLE

) 2008-00077

TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER DESIGNATION)

#### ORDER

On February 26, 2008, AT&T Inc. notified the Commission that, on November 15, 2007, Dobson Communications Corporation ("Dobson") became a wholly owned subsidiary of AT&T Inc. and that AT&T intends to consolidate various Dobson legal entities with current AT&T entities. Specifically, AT&T intends to merge American Cellular Corporation ("ACC") into New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T Mobility") effective in April.

The Commission previously designated ACC as an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") for the receipt of federal universal service support in certain rural and non-rural areas of Kentucky. For certain rural areas, the designation was conditioned on concurrence by the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC") redefinition of certain study areas of the rural local exchange telephone company. ACC is currently designated as an ETC in the rural and non-rural areas set forth in Exhibit 1 of the application.

AT&T Mobility has requested that the Commission transfer the ETC designation of ACC to AT&T Mobility for the receipt of federal universal service support for those areas in which ACC was previously designated as an ETC with the exception of those

areas in KY-6 and KY-8 as set forth in Exhibit 2 of the application. AT&T Mobility is presently not an ETC in Kentucky for the purpose of receiving federal universal service support, and is requesting that the ETC designation be changed to AT&T Mobility for only those rural and non-rural areas set forth in Exhibit 2 of the application. After the transfer, all customers of AT&T Mobility in the ETC-designated areas will be included in the line counts for ETC designation.

AT&T Mobility will abide by the commitments made by ACC in its ETC application. Specifically, consistent with 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(l) of the federal Communications Act and 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(d) of the FCC's rules, AT&T Mobility commits to offer the services that are supported by federal universal service support mechanisms either using its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's services throughout the ETC-designated areas upon reasonable request, and to advertise the availability of such services and the charges therefor using media of general distribution. In addition, AT&T Mobility commits to continue to participate in the federal Lifeline and Link Up programs in compliance with the FCC's requirements. Further, AT&T Mobility commits to continue to file with the Commission plans for the use of high cost support to be received; records and documentation detailing AT&T Mobility's progress toward meeting its build-out plans; number of complaints per 1,000 handsets; and information detailing the number of unfulfilled requests for service for the past year.

The Commission therefore finds that the transfer of the ETC designation of ACC to AT&T Mobility for those areas in which ACC was previously designated as an ETC

and which the FCC did not order AT&T Mobility to divest as set forth in Exhibit 2 of the application should be approved. ACC will remain the designated ETC in KY-6 and KY-8 until it divests itself of those areas.

#### IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

- 1. The transfer of the ETC designation of ACC to AT&T Mobility for those areas in which ACC was previously designated as an ETC and which the FCC did not order AT&T Mobility to divest as set forth in Exhibit 2 of the application is approved.
- 2. ACC will remain the designated ETC in KY-6 and KY-8 until it divests itself of those areas.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 14th day of April, 2008.

By the Commission

Executive Director

## **Attachment B**

### Cheryl R. Winn

Attorney At Law

#### RECEIVED

August 29, 2008

SEP 02 2008 **PUBLIC SERVICE** COMMISSION

Ms. Stephanie Stumbo **Executive Director** Public Service Commission 211 Sower Boulevard P.O. Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602

Re:

A Certification of the Carriers Receiving Universal Service High-Cost Support,

Administrative Case 381

Dear Ms. Stumbo:

The Commission's September 25, 2001 Order in Administrative Case 381 requires that recipients of Federal Universal Service High-Cost Support provide information to the Commission by September 1 of each year regarding the use of those funds. The Commission, in turn, must certify to the FCC pursuant to the state certification process set out in 47 C.F.R. §54.313 that such funds are used appropriately.

Enclosed for filing are the Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Certification and Report of New Cingular Wireless PCS LLC ("AT&T Mobility") and American Cellular Corporation (SAC 269905). Attachment A-1 to the Certification contains confidential material, and pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001; §7, AT&T Mobility files herewith its Petition for Confidential Treatment requesting that the Commission afford confidentiality to that material. Also attached is an Affidavit of Jim Thorpe in Support of the Petition for Confidential Treatment. One proprietary copy and 10 edited copies of this material are filed with the Commission.

Should you wish any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Cheryl R. Winn
Counsel for New Cingular Wireless PCS LLC ("AT&T Mobility") and

American Cellular Corporation

**Enclosures** 

719451

601 West Chestnut Street Room 407 Louisville, KY 40203

Phone: (502) 582-1475 Fax: (502) 582-1573

Email: cheryl.winn@att.com

## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ΙN	TI	HE	MA	TTE	R	OF

A CERTIFICATION OF THE CARRIERS RECEIVING FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE HIGH COST SUPPORT	) ) )	ADMINISTRATIVE CASE NO. 38
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PETITION OF NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS, LLC (AT&T MOBILITY) AND AMERICAN CELLULAR CORPORATION (SAC 269905) FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT

Petitioner, New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T Mobility), through counsel, pursuant to KRS 61.870, KRS 65.7639, and 807 KAR 5:001 Section 7, hereby submits its Petition for Confidential Treatment for AT&T Mobility and American Cellular Corporation (collectively, "the Company"). The grounds in support of this Petition are set forth below.

In this Petition, the Company is seeking Confidential Treatment for certain information attached to its Certification and Report required by the Commission's September 25, 2001 Order herein as well as the Commission's August 15, 2005 Order in Case No. 2005-00130 styled In the matter of: American Cellular Corporation Petition For Designation As A Competitive Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Pursuant To Section 214(E) Of The Telecommunications Act of 1996. The Company is providing the original of its Summary of Potential Capital Projects ("Confidential Attachment A-1"), consisting of one page attached only to the original of this Petition for Confidential Treatment and marked in red ink as "Proprietary Information." The

On April 14, 2008, the Commission approved the request of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T Mobility") to transfer the ETC designation of American Cellular Corporation ("ACC") to AT&T Mobility for those areas in which ACC was previously designated as an ETC and which the FCC did not order AT&T Mobility to divest. The Commission further ordered that ACC will remain the designated ETC in KY-6 and KY-8 until it divests itself of those areas. In the Matter of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T Mobility") Notice of Acquisition and Request for Transfer of Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation, Case No. 2008-00077, Ordering Paragraph 2 and 3.

Company is providing a one-page document identified as "Confidential Attachment A-1" which notes that it contains "Confidential Data" for the Commission to place in its files which are available for public inspection. The redacted document is also attached to the Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Certification and Report of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T Mobility) and American Cellular (SAC 269905) filed herewith. The Company is also submitting the Affidavit of Jim Thorpe In Support of Petition for Confidential Treatment in support of this Petition (referred to hereafter as "Thorpe Affidavit").

KRS 61.870 requires that public agencies within the Commonwealth make available for inspection all public records. Certain exceptions to that general requirement are contained in KRS 61.878 and KRS 61.878(1)(c), which provide an exemption for certain commercial information. In order to qualify for an exemption under these sections, a party must demonstrate that disclosure of such commercial information would permit an unfair commercial advantage to its competitors unless the information is afforded Confidential Protection. The procedure for requesting Confidential Treatment from the Commission is outlined in 807 KAR 5:001 Section 7.

All of the information contained in the Company's Summary of Potential Capital Projects and Service Improvement Update is proprietary commercial information as recognized by KRS 65.7639 and the Commission's January 24, 2000 Order in Case No. 99-184 styled In the Matter of: ACC Of Kentucky LLC's Petition for Confidential Protection. Accordingly, pursuant to KRS 61.878(1)(c), the Company requests that the Commission afford Confidential Treatment to the Company's Summary of Potential Capital Projects and Service Improvement Update.

The Company's Summary of Potential Capital Projects and Service Improvement Update would provide competitors and potential competitors with important information about the Company and its operations, which competitors would be unable to obtain otherwise. Thorpe Affidavit, ¶4. Armed with this information, a competitor could develop entry, marketing, or other strategies, which would likely ensure it success in competing with the Company. Further, in a competitive market, any information gained about a competitor can be used to that competitor's

detriment. Id. at p. 2,  $\P$  5. Such an unfair competitive advantage skews the marketplace and prevents the development of true competition to the ultimate detriment of the consumer.

Disclosure of the Confidential Information contained in the Company's Summary of Potential Capital Projects and Service Improvement Update would be detrimental to the Company because it contains data that is not otherwise available to the Company's competitors. *Id* at pp. ¶4. The information sought to be protected herein is not generally known outside the Company, nor is it provided to the public. *Id* at ¶6. Indeed, by granting this Petition, the public interest will be served because competition will be enhanced. Finally, the Commission has recognized in its January 24, 2000 Order in Case No. 99-184 that information of this type, previously submitted by American Cellular is entitled to Confidential Treatment.

Wherefore, the Company respectfully requests that the Commission issue an Order granting Confidential Treatment to the Company's Summary of Potential Capital Projects and Service Improvement Update.

Respectfully submitted this the 29th day of August, 2008.

Cheryl R/ Winn

601 W. Chestnut Street, Room 407

Louisville, KY 40203 Telephone: 502-582-1475

COUNSEL FOR NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC ("AT&T MOBILITY") AND AMERICAN

Rum

CELLULAR CORPORATION

## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

A CERTIFICATION OF THE CARRIERS ) ADMINISTRATIVE CASE NO 38 RECEIVING FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE ) HIGH-COST SUPPORT )

# AFFIDAVIT OF JIM THORPE IN SUPPORT OF PETITION OF NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC ("AT&T MOBILITY") AND AMERICAN CELLULAR CORPORATION (SAC 269905) FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT

Jim Thorpe being first duly sworn on oath, states as follows:

- I currently serve as a Vice President / General Manager for AT&T Mobility. In this capacity I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth in this affidavit and am authorized to make this affidavit on behalf of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T Mobility") and American Cellular Corporation (collectively, "the Company").
- 2. AT&T Mobility<sup>1</sup> is requesting confidential treatment for its proposed filing of a spreadsheet describing the location of the Company's cell sites, proposed service improvement projects and the estimated locations and costs associated with such improvements (Confidential Attachment A-1).
- 3. This exhibit contains proprietary information that would aid competitors of AT&T Mobility and such trade secret information is subject to protection from disclosure pursuant to Kentucky law See KRS 61 870, et seq

On April 14, 2008, the Commission approved the request of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T Mobility") to transfer the ETC designation of American Cellular Corporation ("ACC") to AT&T Mobility for those areas in which ACC was previously designated as an ETC and which the FCC did not order AT&T Mobility to divest. The Commission further ordered that ACC will remain the designated ETC in KY-6 and KY-8 until it divests itself of those areas. In the Matter of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T Mobility") Notice of Acquisition and Request for Transfer of Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation, Case No. 2008-00077, Ordering Paragraph 2 and 3.

- 4. The specific exhibit AT&T Mobility proposes to file would reveal proprietary information regarding the Company's network infrastructure, build out plans and operating costs. This information constitutes a trade secret because it is commercial information, that, if disclosed, could cause substantial competitive harm to AT&T Mobility. This information is either not publicly available or not generally available in this format. It would be difficult (or impossible) for someone to discover this information from other sources. If this information were available to competitors in this format, they could use it to the competitive detriment of AT&T Mobility.
- 5. Wireless providers, like AT&T Mobility, operate in a highly competitive marketplace where such proprietary information is closely guarded to ensure it is not disclosed to competitors.
- 6. This information is protected internally by the Company as proprietary information.

Jm Thorpe, Vice President/General Manager

TENNESSEE
STATE OF KENTUCKY
)
COUNTY OF WILIAMSON )

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Jim Thorpe as Vice President / General Manager of AT&T Mobility this 2874 day of August 2008.

My commission expires:

MAY 8,2012



Erica L. Clak
Notary Public

## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

N THE MATTER OF:		
A CERTIFICATION OF THE CARRIERS RECEIVING FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE HIGH-COST SUPPORT	)	ADMINISTRATIVE CASE NO. 381

ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER CERTIFICATION AND REPORT OF NEW CINGULAR WIRLESS PCS LLC ("AT&T MOBILITY") AND AMERICAN CELLULAR CORPORATION (SAC 269905)

# CERTIFICATION OF NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC ("AT&T MOBILITY") AND AMERICAN CELLULAR CORPORATION (SAC 269905)

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE CASE NO. 381**

STATE OF KENTUCKY	)
	) ss
COUNTY OF WILIAMSON	)

The undersigned, being duly sworn, states as follows:

- I currently serve as a Vice President / General Manager for AT&T Mobility I am personally familiar with the high-cost federal universal service support received by American Cellular Corporation and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (collectively, "the Company") and the use of these funds in Kentucky for study area code ("SAC") 269905
- On August 15, 2006, the Public Service Commission of Kentucky

  ("Commission") issued an Order in Case No. 2005-00130 designating American Cellular

  Corporation ("ACC") as an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") throughout portions of

  the State ("ETC Designation Order") for SAC 269905. On November 15, 2007, Dobson

  Communications Corporation ("Dobson") became a wholly owned subsidiary of AT&T Inc.

  ("AT&T/Dobson Merger"). Following the AT&T/Dobson Merger, ACC remained a subsidiary

  of Dobson, but was converted to a limited liability company. On April 14, 2008, the Commission

  approved AT&T Mobility's request to transfer the ETC designation of American Cellular to

  AT&T Mobility for those areas in which American Cellular was previously designated as an ETC

  and which the FCC did not order AT&T Mobility to divest. The Commission further ordered that

  American Cellular will remain the designated ETC in KY-6 and KY-8 until it divests itself of

  those areas <sup>1</sup> Until American Cellular is divested in KY-6 and KY-8 AT&T Mobility is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In the Matter of New Cingular Wireless PCS. I.I.C ("AT&T Mobility") Notice of Acquisition and Request for Transfer of Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation, Case No 2008-00077, Ordering Paragraph 2 and 3.

responsible for making the requisite filings for the entire 269905 SAC which includes KY-6 and KY-8.

- To enable the Company to receive federal high-cost universal service support in calendar year 2009, the Commission is required to certify the Company's use of support for SAC 269905 to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") and the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") on or before October 1, 2008. On September 25, 2001, the Commission issued an order in Administrative Case No. 381 requiring all ETCs to file with the Commission their plans for the use of any high-cost federal universal service support they receive on or before September 1 of each calendar year.
- 4. As set forth in the Commission's ETC Designation Order, on or before
  September 1 of each year, the Company is further required to file the following additional
  information with the Commission: (a) records and documentation detailing the Company's
  progress towards meeting its build-out plans; (b) the number of complaints per 1,000 handsets;
  and (c) information detailing the number of unfulfilled requests for the past year.
- 5. Based on USAC's most recent projections, the Company currently estimates that it will receive approximately \$2.6 million in federal high-cost universal service support in 2009. The actual amount of support distributed to the Company may vary from this estimate as universal service support levels change over time and the FCC has recently ordered that the total annual competitive ETC ("CETC") support for each state will be capped at the level of support that CETCs were eligible to receive during March 2008 on an annualized basis. Consistent with the Company's 2008 expenditures to date, the Company expects that its capital investments, maintenance and operating expenses will far exceed the amount of federal high-cost universal service support the Company receives in 2008.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See In the Matter of High-Cost Universal Service Support, Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Alltel Communications, Inc. et al Petitions for Designation as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers. RCC Minnesota, Inc. and RCC Atlantic, Inc. New Hampshive ETC Designation Amendment, Order, WC Docket No. 05-337 and CC Dkt No. 96-45 (rel. May 1, 2008).

Accordingly, the Company hereby certifies that all federal high-cost universal service support that it receives during the 2009 calendar year will be used only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to Section 254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 254(e)

#### A. Service Improvement Progress Report

- 7. Since its designation as an ETC, the Company has continued to identify facility construction projects intended to expand network coverage within its designated service area.

  Attached as Confidential Attachment A-1 is a summary of the types of facilities, locations, estimated budget and deployment dates for each of these service improvements.
- 8 The Company has also identified several new signal quality or capacity projects that will improve service within its designated service areas. These signal quality or capacity projects are described in Confidential Attachment A-1, including the locations, estimated budgets and deployment dates for each of the improvements
- 9 Since it began providing service in Kentucky, the Company has developed a robust network and currently provides service to a substantial number of subscribers within its designated service areas. Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 254(e), the Company will continue utilize the federal high-cost universal service support it receives to maintain, upgrade and operate these network facilities consistent with the universal service objective of providing quality telecommunications services

#### B. Requests for Service

The Commission's ETC Designation Order provides that the Company is to annually report the number of requests for service from potential customers within its designated ETC service area that were unfulfilled. The Company has adopted the calendar year as the time period for purposes of meeting the September 1 filing deadline. Accordingly, for the time period January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007, the Company experienced one request for service that the Company was unable to satisfy. After following its six-step process for evaluating

requests for service, the Company determined that the only way to provide service to the requesting customer was by constructing a new cell site. The Company further determined that such a cell site could not be put in service at a reasonable cost and within a reasonable time.

#### C. Complaints Per 1,000 Handsets

12. The Company is also required to annually report the number of complaints per 1,000 handsets. The Company has adopted the calendar year as the time period for purposes of meeting a September 1 filing deadline. For the time period January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007, the Company received ...33 complaints per 1,000 handset within its designated ETC service areas from the Commission, the Office of the Kentucky Attorney General or the Better Business Bureau.

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

AT&T Mobility

Jim Thorpe Vice President/General Manager

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28<sup>TH</sup> day of August, 2007

Notary Public

My Commission expires: MAY 8,2012

STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE OF COUNTY PUBLIC OF COUNTY STATE OF STATE

Seal

#### CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT A-1

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EDITED

# Attachment C



AT&T Kentucky 601 W. Chestnut Street Room 407 Louisville, KY 40203 T: 502.582.8219 F: 502.582.1573 mary.keyer@att.com

## RECEIVED

March 26, 2009

MAR 27 2009

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Mr. Jeff Derouen
Executive Director
Public Service Commission
211 Sower Boulevard
P. O. Box 615
Frankfort, KY 40602

Re:

New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC d/b/a AT&T Mobility Notice of

Acquisition and Request for Transfer of Eligible Telecommunications

Carrier Designation PSC 2008-00077

Dear Mr. Derouen:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced case are the original and ten (10) copies of Notice of Partial Relinquishment of Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation for American Cellular Corporation, Consummation of Transfer of the Remainder of ACC's ETC Designation to New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC, Study Area Code 269905.

Sincerely,

Mary K. Keyer

General Counsel/Kentucky

Enclosures

cc: Parties of Record

732258

#### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC D/B/A	)	
AT&T MOBILITY NOTICE OF ACQUISITION	)	CASE NO.
AND REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF ELIGIBLE	)	2008-00077
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER DESIGNATION	VÌ	

# NOTICE OF PARTIAL RELINQUISHMENT OF ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER DESIGNATION FOR AMERICAN CELLULAR CORPORATION, CONSUMMATION OF TRANSFER OF THE REMAINDER OF ACC'S ETC DESIGNATION TO NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC, STUDY AREA CODE 269905

The Kentucky Public Service Commission ("Commission") previously designated American Cellular Corporation ("ACC") as an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") for the purpose of receiving federal high cost and low income universal service support in certain rural and non-rural areas of Kentucky. On February 26, 2008, AT&T Inc. notified the Commission that on November 15, 2007, Dobson Communications Corporation ("Dobson") became a wholly-owned subsidiary of AT&T Inc. and that AT&T intended to consolidate various Dobson legal entities by merging American Cellular Corporation ("ACC") into New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC d/b/a AT&T Mobility ("AT&T Mobility") effective in April 2008. AT&T Mobility also requested that the Commission's

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See In the Matter of Petition of American Cellular Corporation Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Pursuant to Section 214(e) of the Telecommunications Act, Case No. 2005-00130. ("ACC Designation Decision").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In the Matter of Applications of AT&T Inc., and Dobson Communications Corporation, For Consent to Transfer Control of Licenses and Authorizations, File Nos. 0003092368 et at, WT Docket No. 07-153, ("Dobson Merger Approval Order") (rel. Nov. 19, 2007).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> It should be noted that after November 15, 2007, Dobson and AT&T Mobility have both been managed by AT&T Mobility Corporation.

transfer of the ETC designation of ACC to AT&T Mobility not include Kentucky RSA 6 and 8 because these areas were being divested.<sup>4</sup> On April 14, 2008, the Commission granted AT&T Mobility's request to transfer the ETC designation from ACC to AT&T Mobility except that ACC would remain designated as the ETC in KY-6 and KY-8 until it divested itself of those areas.<sup>5</sup>

#### **ACC Partial Relinquishment**

The FCC in the *Dobson Merger Approval Order*, imposed a condition that the operating units in certain areas must be divested, including Kentucky RSA 6 and 8.6 On December 22, 2008, the operations in Kentucky RSA 6 and 8 were successfully divested to Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless and certain of its subsidiaries ("Verizon Wireless"). ACC's relinquishment of the ETC designation in the wire centers identified on **Exhibit A** should be effective as of December 22, 2008. ACC's ETC designation in Kentucky RSA 6 and 8 was not transferred to Verizon Wireless.

As a result of the FCC-mandated divestiture of its wireless telecommunications operations and customers in Kentucky RSA 6 and 8, ACC no longer owns or operates a network to provide the supported services to any customers in this area.<sup>7</sup> As such, ACC is requesting that ACC's ETC designation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See letter dated February 25, 2008, from Mary K. Keyer to Ms. Beth O'Donnell regarding AT&T Mobility Notice of Acquisition and Request for Transfer of ETC Designation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See In the Matter of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T Mobility") Notice of Acquisition and Request for Transfer of Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation, Case No. 2008-0007, April 14, 2008 Order ("AT&T Mobility ETC Transfer Order").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Dobson Merger Approval Order, ¶ 88.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> This statement is limited to ACC and does not impact other wireless subsidiaries of AT&T Inc.

in the specific incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC) wire centers as set forth in **Exhibit A** be relinquished effective December 22, 2008.

The federal Communications Act of 1934, as amended ("Act"), provides that a state commission must allow the relinquishment of an ETC designation in areas served by more than one ETC. Specifically, section 214(e)(4) of the Act provides:

A State commission (or the [FCC] in the case of a common carrier designated under paragraph (6)) shall permit an eligible telecommunications carrier to relinquish its designation as such a carrier in any area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier.

47 U.S.C. §214(e)(4) (emphasis added); see also 47 C.F.R. § 54.205(a) and (b).

In accordance with the FCC-mandated divestiture of its operations in Kentucky RSA 6 and 8, each of ACC's former customers within those market areas is now served by Verizon Wireless. Further, to the best of AT&T's knowledge, the customers within each of the ILEC wire centers identified on **Exhibit A** will be able to receive service from an incumbent ETC.<sup>8</sup>

#### Transfer Remaining ETC Designation from ACC to AT&T Mobility

Pursuant to the Commission's previous order, ACC will be merging into AT&T Mobility at which time the ETC designation previously granted to ACC will transfer to AT&T Mobility. While it was originally contemplated that ACC would merge into AT&T Mobility last April, due to unforeseen delay this will now occur on March 31, 2009. The wire centers where AT&T Mobility will be designated as

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Nothing in ACC's notice of partial relinquishment is intended to affect, and ACC shall fully retain and transfer to AT&T Mobility, the ETC designation in the ILEC wire centers set forth in **Exhibit B**, as explained in more detail below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> AT&T Mobility ETC Transfer Order.

an ETC are set forth in **Exhibit B**. <sup>10</sup> After March 31, 2009, AT&T Mobility will be the designated ETC for study area code ("SAC") 269905.

As stated in the February 26, 2008, notice, AT&T Mobility will continue to abide by the commitments made by ACC in its ETC application. Specifically, consistent with Section 214(e)(1) of the federal Communications Act ("Act") and Section 54.201(d) of the FCC's rules, AT&T Mobility will (1) offer the services that are supported by federal universal service support mechanisms 11 either using its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's services throughout the ETC-designated areas upon reasonable request, 12 and (2) advertise the availability of such services and the applicable charges using media of general distribution. 13 In addition, AT&T Mobility will continue to participate in the federal Lifeline and Link Up programs in compliance with the FCC's requirements. Further, AT&T Mobility will continue to file with the Commission its plans for the use of high cost support to be received; records and documentation detailing AT&T Mobility's progress toward meeting its build-out plans; number of complaints per 1,000 handsets; and information detailing the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> In the letter submitted by AT&T on February 26, 2008, AT&T inadvertently omitted two wire centers in which ACC had been previously designated as an ETC that should transfer to AT&T Mobility.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> The supported services include: voice grade access to the public switched network; local usage; dual tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent; single-party service or its functional equivalent; access to emergency services; access to operator services; access to interexchange service; access to directory assistance; and toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See ACC Designation Decision, p. 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1); 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(d).

number of unfulfilled requests for service for the past year. As part of the annual filing submitted to the Commission in Administrative Case No. 381, AT&T Mobility certified that it will use all high cost support that it receives during the 2009 calendar year only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 254(e).

#### **CONCLUSION**

AT&T Mobility respectfully requests that the Commission allow for the partial relinquishment of ACC's ETC designation in Kentucky RSA 6 and 8 effective as of the date of divestiture, December 22, 2008. AT&T Mobility also respectfully requests that the Commission recognize that effective March 31, 2009, that ACC's ETC designation in the wire centers listed in **Exhibit B** has been transferred to AT&T Mobility

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

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COUNSEL FOR NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC D/B/A AT&T MOBILITY

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> AT&T Mobility will follow the Commission's requirements and those in 47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a)(1)(B) to fulfill a reasonable request for service.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup>See In the Matter of A Certification of the Carriers Receiving Federal Universal Service High-Cost Support, Administrative Case No. 381, Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Certification and Report of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T Mobility") and American Cellular Corporation (SAC 269905), ¶ 6.

# Exhibit A AT&T Mobility ETC Wire Centers For Relenquishment (SAC 269905)

WC Code	Exchange	ILEC SAC	SAC_Name
BEREKYXA	BEREA		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
BRHDKYXA	BRODHEAD		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
BRSDKYXA	BURNSIDE		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
BTVLKYXA	BRYANTSVILLE		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
CRBOKYMA	CRAB ORCHARD		SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
DAVLKYMA	DANVILLE		SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
EBNKKYXA	EUBANK		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
EBRNKYAC	EAST BERNSTAD		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
FBSHKYXA	FAUBUSH		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
FORDKYMA	FORD		SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
HTVLKYXE	HUSTONVILLE	269690	KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
JNCYKYMA	JUNCTION CITY	265182	SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
KKVLKYMA	KIRKSVILLE	265182	SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
LBRTKYXA	LIBERTY	269690	KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
LNCSKYXA	LANCASTER	269690	KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
LONDKYXA	LONDON	269691	KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
LVTNKYXA	LIVINGSTON	269691	KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
MTVRKYAI	MOUNT VERNON	269691	KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
NANCKYXA	NANCY	269690	KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
PNLCKYXE	PAINT LICK	269690	KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
PRVLKYMA	PERRYVILLE	265182	SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
RCMDKYMA	RICHMOND		SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
SCHLKYXA	SCIENCE HILL		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
SMRTKYXA	SOMERSET		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
SOVLKYXA	SHOPVILLE		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
STFRKYMA	STANFORD		SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
WACOKYMA			SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
WHLLKYXA	WHITE LILY		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
AGSTKYXA	AUGUSTA		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
BKVLKYXA	BROOKSVILLE		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
CRLSKYMA	CARLISLE		SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
DOVRKYXA	DOVER		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
EWNGKYXA	EWING		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
FMBGKYXA	FLEMINGSBURG		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
FRNLKYXA	FERNLEAF		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
GMTWKYXA	GERMANTOWN		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
GRSNKYXA	GARRISON		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
HLBOKYXA JHVLKYXA	HILLSBORO		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
LWGMKYXA	JOHNSVILLE LEWISBURG		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
MRHDKYXA	MOREHEAD		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
MTOLKYXA	MOUNT OLIVET		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
MTSTKYMA	MT STERLING		SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
MYLCKYXA	MAYSLICK		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON
MYVLKYMA	MAYSVILLE		SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
OLHLKYXA	OLIVE HILL		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
OWVLKYXA	OWINGSVILLE		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
SHBGKYXA	SHARPSBURG		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
SLLCKYXA	SALT LICK		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
TLBOKYXA	TOLLESBORO		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
VNBGKYXA	VANCÈBURG		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
WASHKYXA	WASHINGTON		KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LONDON

# Exhibit B AT&T Mobility ETC Designated Wire Centers (SAC 269905)

MO Coll	F	U TO 040, 040 Mana
WC Code	Exchange	ILEC SAC Name
BSVLKYXR	BURKESVILLE1	260401 DUO COUNTY TEL. COOP., INC.
FRPLKYXA	FAIRPLAY	260401 DUO COUNTY TEL. COOP., INC.
JMTWKYXA	JAMESTOWN	260401 DUO COUNTY TEL. COOP., INC.
RSSPKYXA	RUSSELLSPG	260401 DUO COUNTY TEL. COOP., INC.
PNKNKYXA	PINE KNOT	264002 HIGHLAND TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC KY
STRNKYXA	STNSWHLYCY	264002 HIGHLAND TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC KY
ALBYKYXA	ALBANY	269690 KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
BRVLKYXA	BRADFORDSVILLE	269690 KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
BSVLKYXA	BURKESVILLE	269690 KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
CECLKYXA	CECILIA	269690 KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
CLMAKYXA	COLUMBIA	269690 KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
CMVLKYXA	CAMPBELLSVILLE	269690 KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
EZTWKYXA	ELIZABETHTOWN	269690 KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
GLSGKYXA	GLASGOW	269690 KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
GNBGKYXB	GREENSBURG	269690 KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
HGVLKYXA	HODGENVILLE	269690 KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
LBNNKYXA	LEBANON	269690 KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
LRTTKYXA	LORETTO	269690 KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
MNTIKYXA	MONTICELLO	269690 KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
SHDNKYXA	SOUTH HARDIN	269690 KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
		269690 KENTUCKY ALLTEL, INC LEXINGTON
TMVLKYXA	TOMPKINSVILLE	
BLFDKYMA	BLOOMFIELD	265182 SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
BRGNKYMA	BURGIN	265182 SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
BRTWKYES	BARDSTOWN	265182 SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
CHPLKYMA	CHAPLIN	265182 SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
	HARRODSBURG	265182 SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
LBJTKYMA	LEBANON JUNCTION	265182 SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
LRBGKYMA	LAWRENCEBURG	265182 SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
	MT EDEN	265182 SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
	NEW HAVEN	265182 SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
RSTRKYES	ROSE TERRACE	265182 SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
SLVSKYMA	SALVISA	265182 SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
SPFDKYMA	SPRINGFIELD	265182 SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
TYVLKYMA	TAYLORSVILLE	265182 SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
WSBGKYMA	WILLISBURG	265182 SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
WSPNKYMA	WEST POINT	265182 SOUTH CENTRAL BELL-KY
BFLOKYXA	BUFFALO	260418 SOUTH CENTRAL RURAL TEL. COOP. CORP., INC.
BOVLKYXA	BONNIEVL	260418 SOUTH CENTRAL RURAL TEL. COOP. CORP., INC.
CNMRKYXA	CANMER	260418 SOUTH CENTRAL RURAL TEL. COOP. CORP., INC.
CNTRKYXA	CENTER	260418 SOUTH CENTRAL RURAL TEL. COOP. CORP., INC.
CVCYKYXA	CAVE CITY	260418 SOUTH CENTRAL RURAL TEL. COOP. CORP., INC.
EDTNKYXA	EDMONTON	260418 SOUTH CENTRAL RURAL TEL. COOP. CORP., INC.
FNRNKYXA	FOUNTANRUN	260418 SOUTH CENTRAL RURAL TEL. COOP. CORP., INC.
GLSGKYXR	GLASGOW2	260418 SOUTH CENTRAL RURAL TEL. COOP. CORP., INC.
GMLLKYXA	GAMALIEL	260418 SOUTH CENTRAL RURAL TEL. COOP. CORP., INC.
HRCVKYXA	HORSE CAVE	260418 SOUTH CENTRAL RURAL TEL. COOP. CORP., INC.
HSVLKYXA	HISEVILLE	260418 SOUTH CENTRAL RURAL TEL. COOP. CORP., INC.
LUCSKYXA	LUCAS	260418 SOUTH CENTRAL RURAL TEL. COOP. CORP., INC.
MFVLKYXA	MUNFORDVL	260418 SOUTH CENTRAL RURAL TEL. COOP. CORP., INC.
MGNLKYXA	MAGNOLIA	260418 SOUTH CENTRAL RURAL TEL. COOP. CORP., INC.
SMSHKYXA	SUMMERSHAD	260418 SOUTH CENTRAL RURAL TEL. COOP. CORP., INC.
TMHLKYXA	TEMPLEHILL	260418 SOUTH CENTRAL RURAL TEL. COOP. CORP., INC.
LIVE ILEKTION	1 - IVII I II	200-10 GOOTH OLIVINAL NORAL FEL. GOOF, GORP., INC.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was served on the following individuals by mailing a copy thereof, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of March 2009.

Larry Blenk American Cellular Corporation d/b/a AT&T Mobility 5565 Glenridge Connector, Suite 510 Atlanta, GA 30342

Timothy J Duffy Dobson Cellular Systems, Inc. 14201 Wireless Way Oklahoma City, OK 73134

Tom Jankowski Senior Manager New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC d/b/a AT&T 11760 US Highway 1, Suite 600 N. Palm Beach, FL 33408

Mary K. Kéyèr