COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

PETITION OF EAST KENTUCKY)
NETWORK, LLC D/B/A APPALACHIAN)
WIRELESS FOR DESIGNATION AS AN) CASE NO. 2005-00045
ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS)
CARRIER)

<u>O R D E R</u>

On January 26, 2005, East Kentucky Network, LLC d/b/a Appalachian Wireless ("Appalachian"), a Commercial Mobile Radio Service carrier, filed with the Commission a petition under 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2) seeking designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") to receive federal universal service support for service offered throughout its licensed service area in the state of Kentucky, including rural and non-rural areas.¹

The petition states that: (1) Appalachian meets all the requirements for designation as an ETC to serve the designated areas in the state of Kentucky;² (2) Appalachian requests designation throughout each of the designated areas within its service coverage;³ (3) in accordance with 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2), Appalachian is entitled

¹ <u>See</u> Petition of East Kentucky Network, LLC d/b/a Appalachian Wireless For Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier, filed January 26, 2005 ("Petition"). Appalachian requests ETC designation throughout its licensed service area in Kentucky. See <u>Id.</u> at 1, and Exhibits A-D.

² <u>Id.</u> at 1-7.

³ <u>Id.</u> at 2-4.

to be designated as an ETC in non-rural wirecenters;⁴ and (5) designation of Appalachian as an ETC for the designated areas served by a rural telephone company in Kentucky will serve the public interest.⁵

Appalachian also requests that the Commission petition the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") to redefine the service areas of affected rural incumbent local exchange carriers pursuant to Section 54.207(c) of the FCC's rules.⁶

The Commission seeks comment on Appalachian's petition from affected parties and the general public. The Commission will also set a procedural schedule for this matter.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

- 1. Comments on the application shall be filed within 30 days of the date of this Order.
- 2. Information requests to the applicant should be filed within 45 days of the date of this Order.
- Responses to information requests to the applicant should be filed within
 days of the date of this Order.
- 4. Requests for a public hearing in this matter should be filed within 75 days of the date of this Order.

⁴ Id. at 2-3.

⁵ Id. at 7-10.

⁶ <u>Id.</u> at 3-4.

5. If no requests for a public hearing are made, then parties may file any additional comments on the application and information requests for the Commission to consider within 90 days of the date of this Order.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 9th day of March, 2005.

By the Commission

Commissioner W. Gregory Coker did not participate in the deliberations or decision concerning this case.

ATTEST:

Executive Director