

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

PETITION OF SOUTH CENTRAL TELCOM, )  
LLC FOR DESIGNATION AS A )  
COMPETITIVE ELIGIBLE )  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER ) CASE NO. 2008-00367  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 214(E) OF THE )  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996 )

ORDER

South Central Telcom, LLC ("South Central") is a competitive local exchange carrier ("CLEC") with its corporate address at 1399 Happy Valley Road, Glasgow, Kentucky. South Central provides local exchange service using its own facilities. On December 16, 2005, South Central petitioned the Commission to designate South Central as an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 214(e) and 47 C.F.R. § 54.201 in the single wire center of GLSGKYXADS0 ("Glasgow") of the incumbent carrier Windstream Kentucky East, LLC ("Windstream"), a non-rural incumbent local exchange carrier.<sup>1</sup> The Commission granted the request on May 2, 2006.<sup>2</sup> South Central has now requested that it be designated an ETC in two additional exchanges of Windstream, Park City and Tompkinsville.

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<sup>1</sup> Windstream Kentucky East, LLC f/k/a Kentucky ALLTEL, Inc.

<sup>2</sup> Case No. 2005-00541, Petition of South Central Telcom, LLC for Designation as a Competitive Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Pursuant to Section 214(e) of The Telecommunications Act of 1996.

To receive ETC status, the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") requires a common carrier to: (1) offer services that are supported by federal universal support mechanisms<sup>3</sup> throughout its designated service area; (2) provide these services using its own facilities (including unbundled network elements) or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's facilities; and (3) advertise the availability of these services through media of general distribution.

The Commission finds that South Central has met the standards established by the FCC. South Central currently provides services eligible for support by the federal Universal Service Fund in the service area for which it seeks ETC designation.<sup>4</sup> In its petition requesting ETC designation, South Central affirmed that it offers these services using its own facilities.<sup>5</sup> South Central has begun advertising the availability and price of these services using media of general distribution.<sup>6</sup> South Central has complied fully with FCC guidelines regarding ETC designation.

South Central has provided sufficient evidence for this Commission to grant ETC status. This designation will benefit consumers in Kentucky by expanding the range of

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<sup>3</sup> These services are: (1) voice grade access to the public switched network; (2) local usage; (3) dual tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent; (4) single-party service or its functional equivalent; (5) access to emergency services; (6) access to operator services; (7) access to interexchange services; (8) access to directory assistance services; and (9) toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers. 47 C.F.R. § 54.101(a).

<sup>4</sup> South Central's Petition at 3 - 6.

<sup>5</sup> Id. at 6. In addition, South Central has a resale agreement with Windstream to provide resale services.

<sup>6</sup> Id. at 7.

competitive choices and by providing an incentive for incumbent telephone companies to improve their existing networks.

The Commission, having reviewed the evidence of record and having been otherwise sufficiently advised, HEREBY ORDERS that:

1. South Central is designated as an ETC for the wire centers Tompkinsville and Park City of Windstream. Accordingly, South Central is eligible to receive federal Universal Service Fund support.

2. South Central shall offer universal support services to consumers in its service area.

3. South Central shall offer these services using its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's services, including the services offered by another ETC.

4. South Central shall advertise the availability of and charges for these services using media of general distribution.

5. South Central has certified to the Commission that it will comply with the FCC's criteria, in accordance with 47 U.S.C. § 254(e), and is therefore eligible to receive Universal Service Fund support for the current certification period.

6. By September 1, 2009, and by each September 1 thereafter, South Central shall make its annual certification filing in Administrative Case No. 381.<sup>7</sup>

7. A copy of this Order shall be served upon the FCC and the Universal Service Administrative Company.


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<sup>7</sup> Administrative Case No. 381, A Certification of the Carriers Receiving Federal Universal Service High-Cost Support.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 7th day of October, 2008.

By the Commission

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director *for Stephanie Stumbo*  
*w/permission*

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