

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

PETITION OF AFFORDABLE PHONE SERVICE,)
INC. FOR WITHDRAWAL AS AN ELIGIBLE)
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER IN THE) Case No. 2013-00056
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY)

ORDER

On January 31, 2011, the Commission granted the request of Affordable Phone Service, Inc. ("Affordable") for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC").¹ Affordable was authorized to receive low-income support and not high-cost support. On February 8, 2013, Affordable petitioned the Commission for withdrawal of its ETC status. Affordable states that it has not provided service in Kentucky since January 5, 2013 and, therefore, has no customers.

47 USC § 214 (e)(4) states in part:

The state commission 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. An eligible telecommunications carrier that seeks to relinquish its eligible telecommunications carrier designation for an area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier shall give advance notice to the State commission of such relinquishment. Prior to permitting a telecommunications carrier designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier to cease providing universal service in an area served by

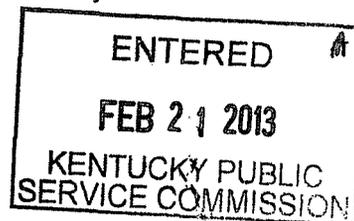
¹ Case No. 2009-00407, Petition of Absolute Home Phones Inc. for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the Commonwealth of Kentucky (Ky. PSC Jan. 31, 2011).

more than one eligible telecommunications carrier, the State commission shall require the remaining eligible telecommunications carrier or carriers to ensure that all customers served by the relinquishing carrier will continue to be served, and shall require sufficient notice to permit the purchase or construction of adequate facilities by any remaining eligible telecommunications carrier. The state commission shall establish a time, not to exceed one year after the State commission approves such relinquishment under this paragraph, within which such purchase or construction shall be completed.

The Commission finds that, pursuant to USC 47 214(e)(4) above, there is more than one ETC in the area of relinquishment and those carriers have sufficient facilities for the provision of service. Additionally, since Affordable has no customers, it is not necessary for the Commission to make a determination on the ability of other ETCs to serve those customers.

The Commission being sufficiently advised, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Affordable's request to withdraw as an ETC is granted. This case is now closed and removed from the Commission's docket.

By the Commission



ATTEST:



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