

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of:

**AN INQUIRY INTO THE STATE)
UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND)**

**CASE NO.
2016-00059**

**AMERICAN BROADBAND AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS RESPONSE TO
COMMISSION STAFF'S SECOND REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO ALL
PARTIES AND MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

American Broadband and Telecommunications (“AB&T”) hereby serves its Responses to the Kentucky Public Service Commission Request for Information to all Parties dated June 22, 2016. AB&T also respectfully requests an extension of time for filing these responses, which were to have been electronically filed by July 13, 2016.

REQUEST NO. 1. If not already provided in a previous response to a Commission Staff request for information, respond to the following:

- a. Provide the monthly Kentucky Universal Service Fund ("KUSF") forms¹ ("KUSF form") submitted to the Commission and the Department of Finance and Administration from January 2014 to the present.
- b. Explain how the total number of subscriber lines is calculated for the KUSF form when a new customer receives service in the middle of a month.
- c. Explain how the total number of subscriber lines is calculated for the KUSF form when a customer leaves in the middle of a month. Commission Staff's First Request for Information referred to these forms as "reimbursement" forms. In this request, Commission Staff is referring to the forms that the parties are to file monthly pursuant to the Commission's decision in *An Inquiry into Universal Service Funding Issues*, Administrative Case No. 360 (KY. PSC May, 22, 1998) (form last revised March 10, 2016). These forms are to be filed regardless of whether a party is seeking reimbursement from the KUSF.
- d. Explain how the KUSF surcharge remittance is calculated when you experience a bad debt. Explain whether none of the surcharge amount or the full surcharge amount billed to, but not paid by, the customer is remitted.
- e. State whether the KUSF surcharge billed to a customer is prorated if the customer has service for less than a full month.

RESPONSE:

Please see Response to Staff's Second Request for Information to American Broadband and Telecommunications, filed July 21, 2016.

RESPONSIBLE WITNESS: Jeffrey Ansted, President

¹ Commission Staff's First Request for Information referred to these forms as "reimbursement" forms. In this request, Commission Staff is referring to the forms that the parties are to file monthly pursuant to the Commission's decision in *An Inquiry into Universal Service Funding Issues*, Administrative Case No. 360 (Ky. PSC May, 22, 1998)(form last revised March 10, 2016). These forms are to be filed regardless of whether a party is seeking reimbursement from the KUSF.

REQUEST NO. 2. If no KUSF forms have been submitted to the Commission and the Kentucky Department of Finance and Administration from January 2014, to the present, explain why the KUSF forms have not been submitted.

- a.** If no KUSF forms have been submitted, state whether you collect the KUSF surcharge from your customers.
- b.** If you do not collect the KUSF surcharge from your customers, explain why the KUSF surcharge has not been collected.
- c.** If no KUSF forms have been submitted, state whether you remit the KUSF surcharge to the Kentucky Department of Finance and Administration.
- d.** If you do not remit the KUSF surcharge to the Kentucky Department of Finance and Administration, explain why the KUSF surcharge has not been remitted.

RESPONSE:

Please see Response to Staff's Second Request for Information to American Broadband and Telecommunications.

RESPONSIBLE WITNESS: Jeffrey Ansted, President

REQUEST NO. 3. Explain the anticipated impact, if any, that the FCC's recent *Lifeline Reform Order*² will have on the provision of Lifeline service in Kentucky, including, but not limited to, verifying eligibility of Lifeline customers; the potential provision of broadband service; and, the impact of the reduction of Federal Universal Service funding for voice service.

RESPONSE:

Any reduction in funding will result in a reduction in support amounts to low income voice services consumers, possibly affecting telephone service penetration levels and the Commission's goal of Universal Service. Use of a national verifier should reduce controversies related to eligibility and compliance generally. As to broadband service, the proposed funding amounts may not support the types of services consumers desire. More importantly, diversion of support from voice services may have a negative effect on eligible elderly customers who may not have a use for Internet-based services, but may need affordable voice services to meet everyday needs.

RESPONSIBLE WITNESS: Jeffrey Ansted, President

² See *Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization*, WC Docket No. 11-42; *Telecommunications Carriers Eligible for Universal Service Support*, WC Docket No. 09-197; *Connect America Fund*, WC Docket No. 10-90, *Third Report and Order*, *Further Report and Order*, and *Order on Reconsideration* (Rel. April 27, 2016). ("Lifeline Reform Order").

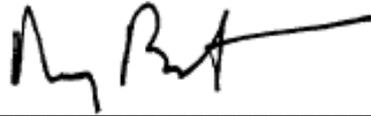
REQUEST NO. 4. In light of the *Lifeline Reform Order*, explain how a reduction in the amount of, or elimination of, KUSF support would impact the provision of Lifeline service in Kentucky.

RESPONSE:

Please see Response to request No. 3. Any reduction in state funding will result in a reduction in the support provided to the low income user. Moreover, as federal support for voice-only Lifeline service is reduced to zero, elimination of state support could eliminate any subsidy for mobile voice services used by Lifeline-eligible consumers.

RESPONSIBLE WITNESS: Jeffrey Ansted, President

Respectfully Submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

In accordance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8, I certify that the July 21, 2016 electronic filing of these Data Responses is a true and accurate copy of the same document being filed in paper medium; that the electronic filing was transmitted to the Commission on July 21, 2016; that there are currently no parties that the Commission has excused from participation by electronic means in this proceeding; and that an original paper medium of these Data Responses will be mailed to the Commission by first class United States mail, postage prepaid, on July 21, 2016.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Douglas F. Brent', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Douglas F. Brent