## COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

AN INQUIRY INTO THE STATE ) CASE NO. 2016-00059 UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND )

## MOTION TO WITHDRAW

NOS Communications, Inc. (NOS) and its affiliate, Affinity Network, Inc. (ANI and, together with NOS, the Companies), move to withdraw from participation in the above-referenced case. In its Order<sup>1</sup> initiating this case, the Commission made each local exchange carrier, commercial mobile radio service provider, and eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") a party to this proceeding. At the same time, the Commission provided that any party that is not an ETC in Kentucky, receiving universal service fund ("USF") support from both the federal and state programs, may submit a written request to withdraw from the proceeding. The Commission cited, as an example, carriers that "pass the cost of the surcharge onto their customers and do not participate in the Lifeline program, or ETCs that do not receive KUSF support..."<sup>2</sup> Accordingly, because this illustrative description precisely characterizes both NOS and ANI, the Companies move to withdraw.

Neither NOS nor ANI is an ETC in Kentucky receiving either federal USF or state support. As a result, neither company has a direct interest in the level of reimbursement support provided to ETCs in Kentucky. Moreover, both NOS and ANI standardly pass any assessable state (or federal) USF surcharges onto their customers. Thus, neither company has a substantial interest in the precise level at which the surcharge is set. While the Companies believe that this proceeding is of considerable importance for Kentucky consumers, they do not believe that the determinations reached will have a material effect upon either NOS or ANI's operations and, similarly, do not believe that they have valuable insights to provide to the considerations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> An Inquiry into the State Universal Service Fund, Case No. 2016-00059, Order (issued Feb. 01, 2016) (Order).

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  Order at p. 6.

## **Conclusion**

For the reasons stated above, the Companies jointly request that the Commission grant this motion and permit NOS and ANI to withdraw from the proceeding.

Respectfully submitted.

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February 26, 2016

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ELECTRONIC FILING PROCEDURES

In accordance with 807 KAR 5:001, Section 8, I certify that the February 26, 2016 electronic filing of this Motion 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 February 26, 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 this Motion will be mailed to the Commission by first class United States mail, postage prepaid, on February 26, 2016.

I further certify that I am the authorized agent for the entities filing this Motion and possess the facilities to receive electronic transmissions.

Douglas F. Brent