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May 12, 2016

Executive Director  
Kentucky Public Service Commission  
211 Sower Boulevard  
P.O. Box 615  
Frankfort, KY 40601

**RE: *An Inquiry into the State Universal Fund***  
**Case No. 2016-00059**

Dear Sir or Madam:

On March 10, 2016 the Commission issued an order granting various requests of carriers to withdraw from the referenced case, while noting the Commission would retain jurisdiction over the carriers including for further orders in the proceeding. Among the carriers listed in the Appendix to the order were Birch Communications, Inc., Birch Communications of Kentucky, LLC (“Birch-KY”) and Birch Telecom of the South, Inc. These carriers are affiliates and had each requested to withdraw from the case. Upon further review, Birch-KY determined it should not have requested to be dismissed, as it is has been designated an eligible telecommunications carrier<sup>1</sup> and has received reimbursements from the Kentucky Universal Service Fund.

Accordingly, on May 6, 2016 Birch Communications of Kentucky, LLC filed its Responses to Commission Staff’s First Requests for Information and Motion for Confidential Treatment and Extension of Time in the above-referenced case. If there are further questions, please contact me.

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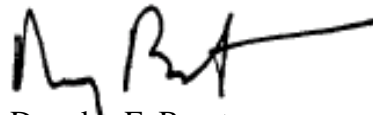
<sup>1</sup> See *Birch Communications of Kentucky, LLC Request for Transfer of ETC Designation of SE Acquisitions, LLC*, Case No. 2013-00296 (August 12, 2013) (transferring designation of SouthEast Telephone to Birch-KY for areas in which SouthEast was a designated ETC).

Public Service Commission  
May 12, 2016

An electronic version of this paper was uploaded to the Public Service Commission's Electronic Filing System on this day. Pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001 Section 8(5)(a), I certify the electronic version of the paper is a true and accurate copy of the paper medium. I further certify that I am the authorized agent for the entity listed above and possess the facilities to receive electronic transmissions.

Very truly yours,

STOLL KEENON OGDEN, PLLC

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

Douglas F. Brent