

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

In the Matter of:

PETITION OF BLUEGRASS WIRELESS LLC,)	
KENTUCKY RSA #3 CELLULAR GENERAL)	
PARTNERSHIP, KENTUCKY RSA #4)	
CELLULAR GENERAL PARTNERSHIP,)	CASE NO.
AND CUMBERLAND CELLULAR)	2020-00359
PARTNERSHIP TO RELINQUISH ELIGIBLE)	
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER)	
DESIGNATIONS)	

FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL STATUS UPDATE

Bluegrass Wireless LLC, Kentucky RSA #3 Cellular General Partnership, Kentucky RSA #4 Cellular General Partnership, and Cumberland Cellular Partnership (collectively, “Bluegrass Cellular”), by counsel, and in supplement to the Status Update filed in the above-styled matter on December 17, 2020, hereby respectfully state as follows.

1. Consistent with 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(4) and other applicable law, Bluegrass Cellular has requested the Commission’s authorization to relinquish designations as eligible telecommunications carriers (“ETC”) and cease providing Lifeline services in the Kentucky markets currently served by Bluegrass Cellular (the “Markets”). This relief is sought in connection with the acquisition of Bluegrass Cellular by Verizon Communications Inc. (“Verizon”), which transaction was originally expected to close at the end of 2020. The transaction is now expected to close on or about March 5, 2021.

2. Concurrently with the filing of its Petition in this matter, Bluegrass Cellular provided notice to each of its Lifeline customers regarding its intention to discontinue offering Lifeline services in Kentucky as of December 21, 2020.¹ However, due to the rescheduled closing

¹ See Petition, at Exhibit A (notice by letter) and Exhibit B (notice by SMS text message). These notices were sent November 5, 2020.

of the transaction with Verizon, Bluegrass Cellular decided to continue as an ETC offering Lifeline services in Kentucky into 2021.² Bluegrass Cellular then sent its Lifeline customers a second set of notices in which it explained the temporarily-continued availability of Lifeline services through Bluegrass Cellular, promised additional information as it became available, and again offered assistance with ensuring ongoing service coverage or other questions.³

3. Now that the closing of the transaction with Verizon has been rescheduled, Bluegrass Cellular has determined that March 5, 2021 is the date it intends to discontinue offering Lifeline services in Kentucky. In order to ensure its remaining Lifeline customers remain fully informed,⁴ Bluegrass Cellular intends to provide at least 30 days advance notice of the upcoming discontinuance of service. This notice—in the form of the letter and SMS text message attached hereto at Exhibit A and Exhibit B, respectively—will be substantially similar to the notice previously provided by Bluegrass Cellular to its Lifeline customers in November of 2020; specifically, the notice will explain the options available to Lifeline customers to ensure continued Lifeline or comparable service beyond March 5, 2021 (either with Verizon or an available ETC in the Markets), as well as provided customers a toll-free telephone number to contact Bluegrass Cellular’s customer service representatives for assistance with transition. Bluegrass Cellular will distribute the notice to Lifeline customers no later than February 3, 2021, 30 days before the requested effective date of relinquishment, and will thereafter confirm it has done so by filing another Supplemental Status Update with the Commission.

² See Status Update, at 1-2 (filed December 17, 2020).

³ See Status Update, at Exhibit A (notice by letter) and Exhibit B (notice by SMS text message). These notices were sent December 17, 2020.

⁴ As of this filing, Bluegrass Cellular continues to serve thirty-three (33) Lifeline customers.

4. In light of the foregoing, Bluegrass Cellular respectfully requests that the Commission authorize Bluegrass Cellular to relinquish its ETC designations effective March 5, 2021, consistent with the facts and law as stated in the Petition, as supplemented.

Respectfully submitted this 19th day of January, 2021.

/s/ **Edward T. Depp**

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EXHIBIT A

NOTICE LETTER III

[BLUEGRASS CELLULAR LETTERHEAD]

[February 3, 2021]

[Customer Name]

[Address]

[City, State & Zip Code]

RE: Your Lifeline Benefits through Bluegrass Cellular

Dear Valued Customer,

On or about November 5, 2020, we attempted to notify you by letter and text message that certain assets of Bluegrass Wireless LLC, Kentucky RSA #3 Cellular General Partnership, Kentucky RSA #4 Cellular General Partnership, and Cumberland Cellular Partnership (collectively, “Bluegrass Cellular”) are being acquired by Verizon Communications Inc. (“Verizon”), and that, in connection with the acquisition, Bluegrass Cellular will no longer offer the Lifeline Program in Kentucky. While we had expected the discontinuance of the Lifeline Program to be effective late last year, that date was temporarily extended and we attempted notify you of that fact in December; however, **at this time, please take notice that Bluegrass Cellular will no longer offer the Lifeline Program in Kentucky effective March 5, 2021.**

To help avoid service disruptions, Verizon will offer Lifeline customers a service plan that will not be part of the Lifeline Program, but will be comparable to your current Lifeline plan with us. Absent any action from you, this transition to Verizon services will be automatic. The Verizon service plan will include unlimited talk and text and 3GB of data, subject to Verizon's terms of service, and it will be offered to you at the same price as your current Lifeline plan. Verizon will send you further service details at a later date.

Alternatively, if you prefer to maintain your Lifeline benefits, you must make arrangements with another service provider prior to March 5, 2021. To find service providers in your area and learn additional information about Lifeline, please visit <https://www.lifelinesupport.org/> or contact the Universal Service Administrative Company (“USAC”) at 1-800-234-9473.

Should you have any questions or need further assistance with this transition, please call a member of our Customer Service team at 1-800-928-2355. We truly thank you for being a customer of Bluegrass Cellular, and we wish you nothing but health and happiness in the days to come.

Sincerely,

Bluegrass Cellular Lifeline Support

EXHIBIT B

NOTICE SMS TEXT MESSAGE III

“As a result of Verizon's planned acquisition of Bluegrass Wireless LLC, Kentucky RSA #3 Cellular General Partnership, Kentucky RSA #4 Cellular General Partnership, and Cumberland Cellular Partnership (collectively, “Bluegrass Cellular”), Bluegrass Cellular will no longer offer the Lifeline Program in Kentucky effective 3/5/2021. Verizon will automatically enroll you in a comparable, non-Lifeline service plan. Verizon will send you further service details at a later date. If you prefer to remain in the Lifeline Program beyond 3/5/2021, you must contact another Lifeline service provider—visit <https://www.lifelinesupport.org/> to search for providers and learn more about the Lifeline program. Questions? Call us at 1-800-928-2355.”

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