### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

ELECTRONIC APPLICATION OF CELLCO ) PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS FOR ) ISSUANCE OF A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC ) CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO CONSTRUCT A ) WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY IN THE ) COMMONWEALTH OF ) KENTUCKY IN THE COUNTY OF EDMONSON

CASE NO. 2022-00332

### BRIEF IN RESPONSE TO ORDER TO REOPEN

Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (Applicant) response to PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (PSC) as to whether Applicant provided sufficient notice to adjoining landowners as required by KRS 278.665(2) and 807 KAR 5:063, Section 1(1)(I).

# BACKGROUND

- Applicant submitted an application requesting issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to construct a wireless communication facility in the Commonwealth of Kentucky in the County of Edmonson on October 4, 2022.
- The Public Service Commission (PSC) granted a Certificate of Convenience for this site on November 30, 2022.
- An assertion questioning proper notice was submitted to Case File 2022-00332 on February
  1, 2023 by Kathy Sasse.
- 4. In response, Applicant submitted a Supplement as Exhibit S to Original Filing detailing and including copies of the mailed envelopes, copies of returned envelopes, copies of returned green cards and tracking information from the United States Postal System.
- 5. The PSC reopened Case File 2022-00332 to investigate if notice was proper according to KRS 278.665(2) and 807 KAR 5:063, Section 1(1)(I) on February 16, 2023.

- 6. Applicant responded to said order on February 22, 2023 including:
  - a. Information from the Edmonson County Property Evaluation Administrator's records that Ms. Sasse was not shown as an owner of property entitled to notice;
  - b. Verification that one property did change ownership;
  - c. Detailed mailing information in Exhibit 1 and 2, pictures of posted notices in Exhibit 4 and proof of newspaper notification in the *Bowling Green Daily News* in the form of the tearsheet and Affidavit of Publication in Exhibit 5.
  - d. Applicant also asked the PSC for directions for the "unclaimed and returned notices".
- 7. The PSC issued a 2<sup>nd</sup> request for information on February 24, 2023.
- 8. Applicant responded to the PSC's 2<sup>nd</sup> Request for information on March 7, 2023 including:
  - a. Certification of attorney supervising the preparation of the response on behalf of the person that the response is true and accurate to the best of that person's knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry for each response to Items 1-3 and 6-7. Included as Exhibit 6.
  - Amendment of PSC's original numbering recognizing the automatic word processing allocation skipping numbers 4 & 5.
  - c. The ownership of parcel 043-00-00-040.01 changed from Sean M and Fallon A
    Willoughby to Julie Skaggs Reep on March 4, 2022.
  - New notice via certified mail, return receipt requested was mailed to Julie Skaggs
    Reep on March 7, 2023 and included as Exhibit 7.
  - e. All other property owners were verified with the PVA records as of March 3, 2023 and were consistent with original mailing and included in Exhibit 8.

# LEGAL STANDARD

The notice requirements for an application for a CPCN to build a wireless communications facility

are set forth in 807 KAR 5:063, Section 1(1)(I)–(q). A utility must provide with its application:

- (I) A statement that every person who, according to the records of the property valuation administrator, owns property within 500 feet of the proposed tower has been:
  - 1. Notified by certified mail, return receipt requested, of the proposed construction;
    - This was completed.
    - Please note the regulation states "return receipt requested" not "return receipt required".
  - 2. Given the commission docket number under which the application will be processed; and
    - This was completed.
  - 3. Informed of his right to request intervention;
    - This was completed.

Notice was provided utilizing the PVA records including the PCS docket number, right to intervene and copy of the aerial indicating the site location was included in the original filing as <u>Exhibit L</u>.

 (m) A list of the property owners who received the notice, together with copies of the certified letters sent to listed property owners;

The List of Property Owners to receive notice was included in the original filing as <u>Exhibit K</u>. an updated list of property owners as of October 4, 2022 is attached as <u>Exhibit 8</u>.

- This was completed.
- (n) A statement that the county judge executive has been:
  - 1. Notified by certified mail, return receipt requested, of the proposed construction;
  - 2. Given the commission docket number under which the application will be processed; and
  - 3. Informed of his right to request intervention;

Notice provided to the Judge Executive including the PCS docket number, right to intervene and copy of the aerial indicating the site was included in the original filing as  $\underline{Exhibit}$   $\underline{M}$ .

This was completed.

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(o) A copy of the notice sent to the county judge executive;

A copy of the notice to the Judge Executive was included in the original filing as <u>Exhibit M</u>.

This was completed.

- (p) A statement that:
  - 1. Two (2) written notices meeting the requirements of subsection (2) of this section have been posted, one (1) in a visible location on the proposed site and one (1) on the nearest public road; and
  - 2. The notices shall remain posted for at least two (2) weeks after the application has been filed;
    - The signs were posted on October 3, 2022.

- Said statement was filed with the original file as <u>Exhibit N</u>. Attached as <u>Exhibit 4</u> hereto are the photographs of the two signs; two by four feet in size with text printed in black letters at least one (1) inch in height against a white background, except for the word "tower," which is at least four (4) inches in height.

- The two signs posted on October 3, 2022, remained posted for at least two weeks after Verizon Wireless's application was filed on October 6, 2022.

- This was completed.
- (q) A statement that notice of the location of the proposed construction has been published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the construction is proposed.

Statement regarding the published notice in the Bowling Green Daily News was included as <u>Exhibit O</u> in the original filing. The legal ad was published October 6, 2023. Attached as <u>Exhibit 5</u> hereto is the tearsheet and the Affidavit of Publication.

This was completed.

KRS 278.665 Administrative regulations governing cellular antenna towers to be *constructed outside the jurisdiction of a planning commission.* 

(1) The commission shall, by administrative regulation promulgated in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A, establish the minimum content of an application for a certificate of convenience and necessity to construct cellular antenna towers for areas *outside the jurisdiction of a planning commission*<sup>1</sup>.

(2) The commission, in establishing the public notice requirements of an application as provided for in subsection (1) of this section, shall distinguish between areas of low and high population densities. At a minimum, when the site of the proposed cellular antenna tower is outside of an incorporated city, the commission shall require that every person who owns property contiguous to the property where the proposed cellular antenna tower will be located receives notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, of the proposed construction, given the commission docket number under which the application will be processed, and informed of the opportunity to intervene in the commission proceedings on the application.

<sup>1</sup>It should be noted that after submission to PSC, Applicant was informed that Edmonson County does have a Planning Commission with regulations for siting of Wireless Communication Facilities. Subsequently, Applicant filed with the County and received approval on March 14, 2023.

### ARGUMENT

Applicant has met the requirements in terms of mailing, posting and publication as specified in KRS278.665(2) and KAR 5:063, Section 1(1)(1). These rules require that notices are sent to persons within 500' of the tower based on the public records by certified return mail receipt. A reasonable reading of the regulations do not require that all notice verifications are <u>returned</u> <u>prior</u> to filing. If the standard is being modified, theoretically, an adjoining property owner could refuse service and stop the consideration, review and ultimately approval of said application. Applicant does not have the power to mandate receipt of service which is presumed to be why additional forms of notice are required, including newspaper publication and on-site posting of signs 2 feet by 4 feet in size.

It has been proven and evidence provided that the newspaper publication was published in the *Bowling Green Daily News* on October 6, 2022. It has also been proven and evidence provided that the signs were posted on October 3, 2023. Finally, in accordance with 807 KAR 5:063, Section 1(1)(I), it has been proven and evidenced that Certified mail notice including the commission docket number, the information regarding Applicant's request for a new WCF including a 195' tower with 5' lightning arrestor, their right to request intervention, the contact information for the PSC as well as the Applicant and an aerial with the site location clearly marked were "notified by certified mail, return receipt requested".

For each of these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the PSC determine that proper notice was provided, in accordance with both 807 KAR 5:063, Section 1(1)(I)–(q) and KRS 267.665, close it consideration of the request and reinstate the PSC's previous approval of the Applicant's requests.

Attached is a signed Certification of the attorney supervising the preparation of this Response Brief on behalf of the person that the response is true and accurate to the best of that person's knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry for each response within this submission.

Applicant respectfully request that the PSC accept the foregoing response brief to PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (PSC) as to whether Applicant provided sufficient notice to adjoining landowners as required by KRS 278.665(2) and 807 KAR 5:063, Section 1(1)(I).

Respectfully submitted, /s/ Russell L. Brown Clark, Quinn, Moses, Scott & Grahn, LLP 320 North Meridian Street, Suite 1100 Indianapolis, IN 46204 Phone: (317) 637-1321 / FAX: (317) 687-2344 Email: rbrown@clarkquinnlaw.com Attorney for Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless

# Exhibit 1



Copy from PVA Records showing street name, Property Owner Name and address.

# **USPS Tracking**<sup>®</sup>

FAQs >

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# 70201810000218531340

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# Latest Update

**Tracking Number:** 

Your item was delivered to an individual at the address at 5:10 pm on October 8, 2022 in BOWLING GREEN, KY 42104.

### Get More Out of USPS Tracking:

USPS Tracking Plus<sup>®</sup>

# **Delivered Delivered, Left with Individual** BOWLING GREEN, KY 42104

October 8, 2022, 5:10 pm

See All Tracking History

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**USPS Tracking Plus®** 

**Product Information** 

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Track Another Package

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FAQs

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**Tracking Number:** 

Your package is moving within the USPS network and is on track to be delivered to its final destination. It is currently in transit to the next facility.

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**Departed USPS Regional Facility** NASHVILLE TN DISTRIBUTION CENTER October 8, 2022, 12:13 am

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# **Need More Help?**

Contact USPS Tracking support for further assistance.





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Exhibit 4 Photos of Posted Notices



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# AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

Clark, Quinn, Moses, Scott & Grahn, LLC 320 N Meridian Street Suite 1100 Indianapolis, IN 46204

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that on **Thursday, October 6, 2022, a PUBLIC NOTICE ad** ran in the classified of the Daily News, a publication in and for the county of Warren, city of Bowling Green, State of Kentucky.

I further certify that all of the foregoing facts are true on such date aforesaid.

Dated this 6th day of October, 2022.

upp Zam

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of October, 2022.

My Commission Expires: July 20, 2024.

to sant

Notary Public KY State-At-Large Notary ID: KYNP9784

STATE OF INDIANA ) ) SS: COUNTY OF MARION )

# AFFIDAVIT OF CERTIFICATION COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I Russell L. Brown, attorney for Cellco Partnership, d/b/a Verizon Wireless do hereby certify that person supervising the preparation of the response on behalf of the person that I am the person supervising the preparation of the response and that the response is true and accurate to the best of our knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry for each response to Verizon Wireless's response to Staff's First Request, 1-3 and 5-7

Russell L. Brown Attorney, for Cellco Partnership, d/b/a Verizon Wireless

STATE OF INDIANA, COUNTY OF MARION, SS: Subseribed and sworn to before me this 3rd day of March, 2023.

Notary Public

Printed Name of Notary: Elizabeth Bentz Williams My commission expires: November 18, 2028 My County of Residence: <u>Marion</u> Commission #: <u>0639620</u>





Russell L. Brown Attorney at Law rbrown@clarkquinnlaw.com 320 N. Meridian St., Ste. 1100 Indianapolis, IN 46204 (317) 637-1321 main (317) 687-2344 fax

March 7, 2023

# VIA CERTIFIED MAIL 7022 0410 0002 1799 1171

JULIE SKAGGS REEP 4130 OTTER GAP RD BOWLING GREEN KY 42101

# Notice of Proposed Construction of Wireless Communications Facility Site Name: Edmonson/Warren

Cellco Partnership, d/b/a Verizon Wireless has filed an application with the Kentucky Public Service Commission ("PSC") to construct a new wireless communications facility on a site located to the east of 4229 Otter Gap Road, Bowling Green, KY 42101(North Latitude: (37° 05' 02.74", West Longitude 86° 16' 10.91"). The proposed facility will include a 195-foot tall antenna tower, plus a 4-foot lightning arrestor, for a total height of 199 feet with related ground facilities. This facility is needed to provide improved coverage for wireless communications in the area.

This notice is being sent to you because the County Property Valuation Administrator's records indicate that you may own property that is within a 500' radius of the proposed tower site or contiguous to the property on which the tower is to be constructed. You have a right to submit testimony to the Kentucky Public Service Commission ("PSC"), either in writing or to request intervention in the PSC's proceedings on the application. You may contact the PSC for additional information concerning this matter at: Kentucky Public Service Commission, Executive Director, 211 Sower Boulevard, P.O. Box 615, Frankfort, Kentucky 40602. Please refer to docket number 2022-00332 in any correspondence sent in connection with this matter.

We have attached a map showing the site location for the proposed tower. Applicant's radio frequency engineers assisted in selecting the proposed site for the facility, and they have determined it is the proper location and elevation needed to provide quality service to wireless customers in the area. Please feel free to contact us at 317-637-1321 if you have any comments or questions about this proposal.

Sincerely, Russell L. Brown

Attorney for Applicant RLB/jdj enclosure

# Location Map



ClarkQuinn, Moses, Scott & Grahn, LLP





JULIE SKAGGS REEP 4130 OTTER GAP RD BOWLING GREEN KY 42101

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Notice List of property owners from PVA as of October 4, 2022

WATT HAROLD & PATRICA ELLA 278 AUBREY MILLS RD BOWLING GREEN KY 42101

WATT HAROLD & PATRICA ELLA 278 AUBREY MILLS RD BOWLING GREEN KY 42101

WATT PATRICIA E 278 AUBRY MILLS RD BOWLING GREEN, KY 42101

WATT LARRY JOE 4229 OTTER GAP RD BOWLING GREEN KY 42101

DUNCAN BOBBY JOE 1637 SHADYLAND CH RD BOWLING GREEN KY 42101

LINDSEY LISA K & WILSON RANDY S 101 WALNUT RIDGE WAY BOWLING GREEN KY 42104

DAVIS KEITH 1145 SHADY LAND CHURCH RD BOWLING GREEN KY 42101

COWLES WILLIAM B & DORA A 383 TUCKERTOWN RD OAKLAND KY 42159

MEREDITH JOHN W & LORI ANN 3975 OTTER GAP RD BOWLING GREEN KY 42101 BASHAM YVONNE WATT EST PO BOX 192 BROWNSVILLE KY 42210

WEBB TODD K & LISA MICHELLE 3300 OTTER GAP RD BOWLING GREEN KY 42101

BOWLES STEVEN & KIMBERLY 4060 OTTER GAP RD BOWLING GREEN KY 42101

WILLOUGHBY SEAN M & FALLON A 4130 OTTER GAP RD BOWLING GREEN KY 42101

JULIE SKAGGS REEP 4130 OTTER GAP RD BOWLING GREEN KY 42101

MURPHY TARA L 15 HUCKLEBERRY LN BOWLING GREEN KY 42101

MASSEY T J & ALEX 1099 DENHAM RD SMITHS GROVE KY 42171 STATE OF INDIANA ) ) SS: COUNTY OF MARION )

# AFFIDAVIT OF CERTIFICATION COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I Russell L. Brown, attorney for Cellco Partnership, d/b/a Verizon Wireless do hereby certify that person supervising the preparation of the response brief on behalf of the person that the response is true and accurate to the best of that person's knowledge, information, and belief formed after a reasonable inquiry for each response within this submission.

Russell L. Brown Attorney, for Cellco Partnership, d/b/a Verizon Wireless

STATE OF INDIANA, COUNTY OF MARION, SS: 15+h Subscribed and sworp to before me this 9th day of March, 2023.

illians

Notary Public Printed Name of Notary: Elizabeth Bentz Williams My commission expires: November 18, 2028 My County of Residence: <u>Marion</u> Commission #: <u>0639620</u>

