



Windstream  
4005 N Rodney Parham Road  
Little Rock, AR 72212

December 9, 2024

Linda Bridwell as Executive Director  
Kentucky Public Service Commission  
211 Sower Boulevard  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

**CASE NO. 2023-00416**

RE: Windstream response to Electronic Investigation of Pole Attachments

Dear Director Bridwell:

Windstream by counsel hereby submits its response to the above referenced case.

Please call or email me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Lynn Hughes  
Director – Carrier Interconnection  
Windstream

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

IN THE MATTER OF: )  
 )  
ELECTRONIC INVESTIGATION OF POLE ) CASE NO. 2023-00416  
ATTACHMENTS )

WINDSTREAM’S RESPONSE TO COMMISSION ORDER OF 11-18-24  
FOR PROPOSED EDITS TO 807 KAR 5:015E

Windstream on behalf of its operating companies in Kentucky (Windstream) respectfully provides this response to the Commission’s November 18, 2024, Order in this docket, and outlines its recommendation to the Commission to clarify the definition of “Attachment” under 807 KAR 5:015E.

Definition of “Attachment” – The current form of 807 KAR 5:015E defines “Attachment” as “any attachment by a cable television system operator, telecommunications carrier, broadband internet provider, or governmental unit to a pole owned or controlled by a utility.” At this time, as the Commission is reconsidering the application process for pole attachments, Windstream recommends that the Commission carve out and clarify that a service drop is not an Attachment as it is contemplated in this Section. In the deployment of a telecommunications service to a customer location, service drop cabling is used to extend the telecommunications/broadband service from the provider’s equipment to the customer’s location. As technology has advanced through the years, service drop cabling may extend across multiple utility poles (an “Extended Service Drop”) and not just from the closest pole to the customer’s location, the typical service drop configuration. The process involved in attaching a service drop to a utility pole has historically involved delivering a written notification to the pole owner shortly after the service drop is

placed. Windstream has experienced utility pole owners seeking to require the submission of a new application for service drops as an Attachment under 807 KAR 5:015E before permitting the service drop. The clarification that a service drop is not a new Attachment under 807 KAR 5:015E is necessary to prevent significant delays in delivering communications services to the consumers of Kentucky. As such, Windstream recommends that the Commission add language to 807 KAR 5:015E, Section 1. Definitions, to read as follows:

(1) “Attachment” means any attachment by a cable television system operator, telecommunications carrier, broadband internet provider, or governmental unit to a pole owned or controlled by a utility. “Attachment”, as used throughout 807 KAR 5:015E, does not include a service drop from an existing attachment.

Service Drop Fees – Likewise, as the Commission contemplates the efficiency of 807 KAR 5:015E, Windstream recommends that any new requirement to impose a fee upon attachers for a service drop be carefully considered and proportionate to the overall attachment fee. For instance, an attachment fee corresponds to one foot of usable space on a utility pole while a service drop utilizes much less than one foot of space.

Windstream recommends that the Commission add clarification to the current process for Attachments under 807 KAR 5:015E in order to prevent undue hardship to both providers and customers throughout the Commonwealth.

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ Lynn Hughes*

Lynn Hughes  
Director – Carrier Interconnection  
[S.Lynn.Hughes@windstream.com](mailto:S.Lynn.Hughes@windstream.com)