

consumer action
Education and advocacy since 1971

June 1, 2010

Mr. Jeff R. Derouen
Executive Director
Kentucky Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 615
211 Sower Boulevard
Frankfort, KY 40602-0615

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PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

RE: Case No. 2009-00100

Dear Mr. Derouen:

It has come to our attention that Kentucky is considering whether to extend the state's Lifeline program to include wireless telecommunications service, and that a petition from TracFone Wireless is under review.

Consumer Action¹ and the National Grange² believe that all carriers able to meet the service obligations of Lifeline should be permitted to serve Lifeline customers so that low income Americans have the same access to wireless and competitive services as do other consumers. For your review, we have attached a copy of our filing in support of TracFone's ETC proposal before the Federal Communications Commission.

Thank you.
Respectfully submitted,

Ken McEldowney, Executive Director
Consumer Action

Leroy Watson, Legislative Director
National Grange

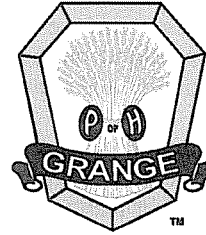
Attachment: FCC Filing

¹ Founded in 1971, Consumer Action is a national non-profit education and advocacy organization serving more than 10,000 community-based organizations with training, educational modules, and multi-lingual consumer publications.

² The National Grange is the nation's oldest general farm and rural public interest organization. Founded in 1867, today the National Grange advocates on public policy issues affecting Grange members affiliated with nearly 2700 local, county and state Grange chapters located in farming and rural communities in 40 states.

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Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

August 14, 2007

**Re: Federal Communications Commission [CC Docket No. 96-45]
*Support for the petition by TracFone Wireless, Inc. for Designation as an Eligible
Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) in the states of VA, FL, MA and NY***

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Telecommunications services have a profound impact on modern living. From connecting us to family and friends, to helping us obtain work, manage daily routines or call for emergency assistance, it is clear that these services are a necessity in everyday life. Given the importance of phone service, it's astonishing that FCC data reveals that approximately two-thirds of all eligible Lifeline households in the U.S. do not participate in the Lifeline support program. Only 6.8 million out of 21 million eligible Americans currently receive Lifeline support for their telephone service, based on 2005 forecasts.

As organizations dedicated to protecting and helping consumers, Consumer Action¹ and the National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry² believe that all carriers able to meet the service obligations of Lifeline should be permitted to serve Lifeline customers so that low-income Americans have the same access to wireless and competitive services as do other consumers. That is why we are writing today to support the petition by TracFone Wireless, Inc. for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) in the states of Virginia, Florida, Massachusetts and New York (FCC Docket 96-45).

Wireless telephone service has become an essential for most Americans as well as their families and friends overseas. However, for low-income Americans struggling to pay their monthly bills for landline service, wireless service may be unaffordable. In addition, a negative credit history

¹ Consumer Action (www.consumer-action.org) is a national non-profit consumer education and advocacy organization founded in San Francisco in 1971. Consumer Action serves consumers, community-based agencies and its members nationwide by advancing consumer rights, referring consumers to complaint-handling agencies and training community group staff on the effective use of its educational materials. Consumer Action also advocates for consumers in the media and before lawmakers and compares prices on telephone services, credit cards and bank accounts.

² The National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry (National Grange) is the oldest general farm and rural public interest organization in the United States. Founded in 1867, today the Grange represents nearly individual members affiliated with 2800 local, county and state Grange chapters across rural America. More than 70 percent of all local Grange chapters are located in communities of 5,000 persons or less.