



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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DA 08-1894
Released: August 12, 2008

COMMENT SOUGHT ON U.S. CELLULAR REQUEST TO AMEND ETC DESIGNATION IN TENNESSEE

PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

CC Docket No. 96-45

Comment Date: September 11, 2008
Reply Comment Date: September 26, 2008

On August 6, 2008, United States Cellular Corporation (U.S. Cellular) filed a request to amend its eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) designation in the state of Tennessee.¹ U.S. Cellular asks the Commission to amend its decision to deny U.S. Cellular's request for ETC designation in the rural study areas of Citizens Communications Company Tennessee d/b/a Frontier Communications of Tennessee, LLC (Citizens/Frontier) and Twin Lakes Cooperative Corporation (Twin Lakes).² To alleviate the Commission's concerns about creamskimming in these study areas, U.S. Cellular proposes to delete the Cookeville wire center in the Citizens/Frontier study area and the Cookeville South wire center in Twin Lakes study area from its requested ETC designation area.³ U.S. Cellular also states that it is no longer seeking ETC designation in the study area of Tennessee Telephone Company.⁴

Interested parties may file **comments on or before September 11, 2008** and **reply comments on or before September 26, 2008**. All pleadings are to reference **CC Docket No. 96-45**. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies.⁵

¹ Petition of United States Cellular Corporation to Amend Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the State of Tennessee, CC Docket No. 96-45 (filed Aug. 6, 2008) (U.S. Cellular Amendment Petition).

² *High-Cost Universal Service Support; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; Alltel Communications, Inc. et al., Petitions for Designation as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers*, WC Docket No. 05-337, CC Docket No. 96-45, Order, FCC 08-122 (rel. May 1, 2008). The Commission determined that designating U.S. Cellular as an ETC in the study areas of Citizen/Frontier and Twin Lakes would not be in the public interest. *Id.* at Appendix B, para. 21.

³ See U.S. Cellular Amendment Petition at 4-5.

⁴ *Id.* at 5.

⁵ See *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, GC Docket No. 97-113, Report and Order, 13 FCC Rcd 11322 (1998).

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>. Filers should follow the instructions provided on the website for submitting comments.
- For ECFS filers, if multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, filers must transmit one electronic copy of the comments for each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, filers should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions, filers should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov and include the following words in the body of the message, “get form.” A sample form and directions will be sent in response.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, filers must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number.

Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). All filings must be addressed to the Commission’s Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

The Commission’s contractor will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission’s Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 110, Washington, D.C. 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington D.C. 20554.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (tty).

In addition, one copy of each pleading must be sent to each of the following:

- (1) The Commission’s duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-B402, Washington, D.C. 20554, www.bcpweb.com; phone: 202-488-5300 fax: 202-488-5563; and
- (2) Antoinette Stevens, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5B-521, Washington, D.C. 20554; e-mail: antoinette.stevens@fcc.gov; and

Filings and comments are also available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554. They may also be purchased from the Commission’s duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CYB402, Washington, D.C. 20554, telephone: 202-488-5300, fax: 202-488-5563, or via e-mail www.bcpweb.com.

This matter shall be treated as a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding in accordance with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.⁶ Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentations must contain summaries of the substance of the presentation and not merely a listing of the subjects discussed. More than a one or two sentence description of the views and arguments presented generally is required.⁷ Other rules pertaining to oral and written *ex parte* presentations in permit-but-disclose proceedings are set forth in section 1.1206(b) of the Commission’s rules.⁸

For further information, please contact Romanda Williams, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at 202-418-7400 or TTY (202) 418-0484.

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⁶ 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*

⁷ *See* 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(2).

⁸ 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b).