



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

DA 13-1254
Release Date: May 30, 2013

WIRELINER COMPETITION BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON PETITIONS FOR DESIGNATION AS A LOW-INCOME ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER FILED BY MILLENNIUM 2000, PINNACLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS, TELOPS INTERNATIONAL, U-PHONE, AND VAST COMPANIES

WC Docket No. 09-197

Comment Date: July 1, 2013

Reply Comment Date: July 15, 2013

The Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment on petitions filed by Millennium 2000 Inc. (Millennium 2000),¹ Pinnacle Telecommunications Group, Inc. d/b/a Pinntel (Pinntel),² TelOps International, Inc. d/b/a AmTel (AmTel),³ U-Phone, LLC (U-Phone),⁴ and Vast Companies, LLC d/b/a

¹ Petition of Millennium 2000 Inc. for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier for Low Income Support Only, WC Docket No. 09-197 (filed Apr. 5, 2012); Revised Petition of Millennium 2000 Inc. for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier for Low Income Support Only, WC Docket No. 09-197 (filed Apr. 16, 2013) (collectively Millennium 2000 Amended Petition) (amending the petition to reflect that Millennium 2000 no longer uses Coast to Coast Cellular to receive minutes from Verizon).

The Wireline Competition Bureau has approved Millennium 2000's compliance plan. *See Wireline Competition Bureau Approves the Compliance Plans of AirVoice Wireless, AmeriMex Communications, Blue Jay Wireless, Millennium 2000, Nexus Communications, PlatinumTel Communications, Sage Telecom, Telrite, and Telscape Communications*, WC Docket Nos. 09-197 and 11-42, 27 FCC Rcd 15927 (Wireline Comp. Bur. 2012); *see also Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization et al.*, WC Docket No. 11-42 *et al.*, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 27 FCC Rcd 6656, 6816, para. 380 (2012) (*Lifeline Reform Order*).

² Pinnacle Telecommunications Group, LLC Petition for Limited Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Florida, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia, WC Docket No. 09-197 (filed Feb. 11, 2013) (Pinntel Petition). Pinntel has a compliance plan pending with the Commission and may not be designated as an ETC until its plan has been approved by the Wireline Competition Bureau. *See Pinnacle Telecommunications Group, LLC Revised Compliance Plan*, WC Docket Nos. 09-197 and 11-42 (filed Apr. 8, 2013); *see also, Lifeline Reform Order*, 27 FCC Rcd at 6816, para. 380.

³ TelOps International, Inc. d/b/a AmTel (AmTel) Petition for Limited Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Florida, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia, WC Docket No. 09-197 (filed Jan. 18, 2013); TelOps International, Inc. d/b/a AmTel (AmTel) Amended Petition for Limited Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Florida, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia, WC Docket No. 09-197 (filed Apr. 3, 2013) (collectively AmTel Amended Petition) (amending the petition to reflect AmTel's addition of T-Mobile as an underlying carrier, to clarify detailed of its TLS, and to make certain commitments to protect against waste, fraud, and abuse of the Lifeline program). AmTel has a compliance plan pending with the Commission and may not be designated an ETC until its plan has been approved by the Wireline Competition Bureau. *See TelOps International, Inc. d/b/a AmTel, Revised Compliance Plan*, WC Docket Nos. 09-197 and 11-42 (filed Mar. 21, 2013); *see also, Lifeline Reform Order*, 27 FCC Rcd at 6816, para. 380.

Vast Communications (Vast),⁵ for limited designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) for the provision of Lifeline service. Millennium 2000, Pinntel, AmTel, and Vast each seek designation as an ETC for the limited purpose of offering Lifeline service in Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, New Hampshire, North Carolina, New York, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.⁶ U-Phone seeks ETC designation for the limited purpose of offering Lifeline service in Texas.⁷

Pursuant to sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules, interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates indicated on the first page of this document. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).⁸

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/>.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy 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. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

- All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary must be delivered to FCC Headquarters at 445 12th St., SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554. The filing hours are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes 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 must be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington DC 20554.

⁴ U-Phone, LLC Petition for Limited Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in Texas, WC Docket No. 09-197 (filed Apr. 4, 2013) (U-Phone Petition). U-Phone has a compliance plan pending with the Commission and may not be designated an ETC until its plan has been approved by the Wireline Competition Bureau. *See* U-Phone, LLC Compliance Plan, WC Docket Nos. 09-197 and 11-42 (filed Apr. 4, 2013); *see also*, *Lifeline Reform Order*, 27 FCC Rcd, at 6816, para. 380.

⁵ Vast Companies, LLC d/b/a Vast Communications Petition for Limited Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Florida, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia, WC Docket No. 09-197 (filed Apr. 5, 2013) (Vast Petition). Vast has a compliance plan pending with the Commission and may not be designated an ETC until its plan has been approved by the Wireline Competition Bureau. *See* Vast Companies, LLC, Revised Compliance Plan, WC Docket Nos. 09-197 and 11-42 (filed Jan. 29, 2013); *see also*, *Lifeline Reform Order*, 27 FCC Rcd at 6816, para. 380.

⁶ *See* Millennium 2000 Amended Petition at 1-2; Pinntel Petition at 1-2; TelOps Amended Petition at 1-2; Vast Petition at 1.

⁷ U-Phone Petition at 1.

⁸ *See* 47 CFR §§ 1.415, 1.419; *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1998).

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).

The proceeding this Notice initiates shall be treated as a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding in accordance with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.⁹ Persons making *ex parte* presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the *ex parte* presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter’s written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during *ex parte* meetings are deemed to be written *ex parte* presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b). In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written *ex parte* presentations and memoranda summarizing oral *ex parte* presentations, and all attachments thereto, must be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (*e.g.*, .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.

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

- FCC -

⁹ 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*