The Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) hereby approves the amended compliance plan\(^1\) of TracFone Wireless, Inc. (TracFone) filed pursuant to the requirements for the continued provision of Lifeline service.\(^2\)

The Act provides that a carrier be designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) to receive universal service support.\(^3\) The Commission has required that all non-facilities based telecommunications carriers seeking Lifeline-only ETC designation must meet the following conditions: (1) compliance with certain 911 and enhanced 911 (E911) public safety requirements; and (2) Bureau approval of a compliance plan providing specific information regarding the carrier and its service offerings and outlining the measures the carrier will take to implement its obligations.\(^4\)

The Bureau has clarified that any transfer of ownership or control of an ETC with an approved Lifeline compliance plan requires Commission approval in advance of the transaction.\(^5\) This includes renewing compliance plan approval for changes in the corporate ownership and control of the ETC.\(^6\)

In accordance with this requirement, TracFone submitted an amended compliance plan to reflect the proposed acquisition of TracFone by Verizon Communications, Inc. (Verizon) from América Móvil, S.A.B. de C.V. (América Móvil), and to otherwise update TracFone’s Compliance Plan in conformance with changes to the Commission’s rules since approval of TracFone’s previously approved Compliance Plan.\(^7\)

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6. Id.
Plan. TracFone currently provides resold Lifeline service in 43 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

TracFone is currently an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of América Móvil. As of September 13, 2020, Verizon and América Móvil have agreed that América Móvil will transfer all issued and outstanding shares of common stock of TracFone to Verizon in exchange for cash and other valuable consideration. Following consummation of the transaction, TracFone will be a wholly-owned subsidiary of Verizon, and TracFone’s subsidiaries will become wholly-owned indirect subsidiaries of Verizon. As set forth in the application for transfer of TracFone’s international section 214 authorization, Verizon intends to maintain TracFone’s ETC status and will continue to offer Lifeline service through TracFone.

The Bureau has reviewed TracFone’s Amended Compliance Plan for conformance with the relevant requirements, and now approves the Amended Compliance Plan. We note that with respect to this matter, TracFone will remain the only entity with an approved compliance plan. Additionally, TracFone must continue to comply with any future additions to or amendments of the Lifeline program rules unless it has relinquished its relevant designation(s) pursuant to section 214(e)(4) of the Act.

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For further information, please contact John Lockwood, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at john.lockwood@fcc.gov.

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