Dear Ms. King:

Attached is an order released by the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) on May 1, 2008. In the order, the Commission grants the petition of United States Cellular Corp. (U.S. Cellular) to be designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) in the commonwealth of Virginia pursuant to section 214(e)(6) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the Act).1

In accordance with section 214(e)(5) of the Act, the order proposes to redefine the service areas for four of the rural telephone companies for which U.S. Cellular has been granted ETC status: NTELOS Telephone Inc., Peoples Mutual Telephone Co., Central Telephone Co.-VA, and Verizon South Inc.-VA.2 The wire centers affected by the reclassification are listed in Exhibit 29 of the order.

The Commission's decision to redefine the service areas of these telephone companies is subject to the review and final agreement of the SCC.3 The Wireline Competition Bureau therefore requests that the SCC examine this redefinition based on its unique knowledge of the rural areas in question. Pursuant to section 54.207(d)(1) of the Commission’s rules, the attached order includes the definition proposed by the Commission and contains the Commission’s reasons for adopting the proposed redefinitions.4

The Commission requests that notice of the SCC’s approval or other action be sent to: 1) Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Office of the Secretary, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20554; and 2) Jennifer McKee, Acting Division Chief,

1 See 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(6).
4 See 47 C.F.R. § 54.207(d)(1).
Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20554.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 418-1500 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dana R. Shaffer  
Bureau Chief  
Wireline Competition Bureau

Attachment