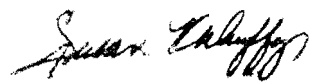


BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

OCT 01 2010



In the Matter of Staff's Motion to the)
Commission to Commence a Generic) Docket No. 10-GIMT-658-GIT
Proceeding to Address Issues Concerning)
the Kansas Lifeline Service Program)

REPLY COMMENTS OF THE CITIZENS' UTILITY RATEPAYER BOARD

COMES NOW the Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board ("CURB") and files the following reply comments in this docket related to the Kansas Corporation Commission's ("KCC" or "Commission") June 18, 2010, Order soliciting comments and reply comments regarding Staff's motion to the Commission to address issues concerning the Kansas Lifeline Service Program ("KLSP").

I. INTRODUCTION

1. After reviewing the initial comments filed in this docket, CURB offers these reply comments. CURB will not address all the issues put forth in Staff's motion to the Commission and will only address selected issues. CURB is hopeful that the result of this docket will be an even stronger, more robust KLSP with broader participation.

II. COMMENTS

Annual Certification of Record-Keeping Requirements.

2. CURB's initial comments recommended that the Commission close the gap between Kansas reporting requirements and the federal standards and require ETCs to implement procedures to verify annually the continued eligibility of a statistically valid random sample of the Lifeline subscribers in accordance with 47 C.F.R. §54.410 (c) (2).

3. On this issue, AT&T states:

AT&T is not opposed, if the Commission deems it necessary, to filing the same Lifeline Certification and Verification form with the Commission, verifying that AT&T is in compliance with the state's Lifeline income certification procedures. Once again, AT&T urges the Commission to maintain requirements in this regard that are consistent with the FCC's verification and certification requirements.¹

4. Similarly, and Cox Kansas Telecom, L.L.C. states:

While Cox is not supportive of additional regulatory burdens or requirements, should the Commission decide to impose state certification or verification requirements, Cox would recommend that any such state certifications or verifications be the same as those required of federal ETCs, and that federal ETCs be allowed to submit to the KCC a copy of the federal, annual verification as sufficient to meet any state verification requirements.²

5. CURB agrees with these comments and urges the Commission to implement reporting requirements in accordance with these recommendations.

List of Eligible Programs.

6. In an effort to increase Kansas KLSP participation rates, CURB supported the addition of appropriate new plans and in particular LIEAP (Low Income Energy Assistance Program). This plan is described as:

The Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) is a federally funded program that helps eligible households pay a portion of their home energy costs by providing a one-time per year benefit.

In order to qualify, applicants must be living at the address, be personally responsible for purchasing heating costs incurred at the current residence, demonstrate a recent history of payments toward purchase of the primary heating energy, and the combined gross income (before deductions) of all persons living at the address may not exceed 130% of the federal poverty level.³

¹ Initial Comments of AT&T, p. 6, ¶ 10.

² Initial Comments of Cox Kansas Telecomm, L.L.C., p.2.

³ <http://www.srs.ks.gov/services/Pages/LIEAP.aspx>

7. CURB further noted in its initial comments that the LIEAP program has already been approved as a qualifying program in 27 states.⁴ In initial comments the inclusion of LIEAP was recommended by Staff,⁵ CenturyLink⁶ and YourTel.⁷ This plan appears to be an appropriate new plan for consideration in Kansas and CURB recommends its inclusion in the list of qualifying programs in the KLSP.

Deadline to Implement the Lifeline Discount.

8. After reviewing the initial comments, CURB remains convinced that a timeline for applying the KLSP discount to consumers should be required.

9. Staff recommends in its initial comments: “Staff suggests the Commission consider requiring carriers to apply the KLSP discount to a customer’s account within one month (maximum) following verification that the customer qualifies for the Lifeline discount.” CURB supports this recommendation and urges the Commission to establish a fixed implementation requirement.

10. CURB will not address additional issues at this time but does reserve the right to address all issues in any subsequent proceedings in this docket.

11. For the reasons set forth above, CURB urges the Commission to implement these recommendations.

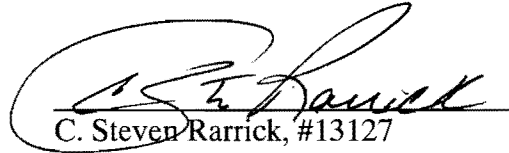
⁴ CURB notes that the programs go by different names in different states. Most common is LIHEAP, LIEAP and HEAP.

⁵ Comments of Commission Staff, p. 7, ¶ 17.

⁶ CenturyLink’s Initial Comments, p. 3, ¶ 6.

⁷ Comments of YourTel America, Inc., p. 3, ¶ 3.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Steven Rarrick", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

C. Steven Rarrick, #13127

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

10-GIMT-658-GIT

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was placed in the United States mail, postage prepaid, electronic service, or hand-delivered this 1st day of October, 2010, to the following:

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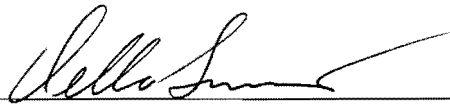
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