## BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

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Application of LTD Broadband LLC for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier for the Purpose of Providing Services Supported by the FCC's Rural Digital Opportunity Fund.

Docket No. 21- LTDT - 430 -ETC

## APPLICATION OF LTD BROADBAND LLC FOR DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER

LTD Broadband LLC ("LTD Broadband" or the Company), by its counsel, respectfully submits this Application for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) pursuant to section 214(e)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the Act), and section 54.201 *et seq.* of the rules of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). LTD Broadband requests that the Kansas Corporation Commission (Commission or KCC) grant it designation as an ETC in the proposed service area for purposes of receiving support from the federal Universal Service Fund (USF), including support through the FCC's high-cost USF program. Specifically, LTD Broadband seeks designation as an ETC on or before June 7, 2021 to receive funding awarded to the Company through the recently completed Rural Digital Opportunity Fund ("RDOF") Auction so that it can deploy broadband and voice communications in certain unserved territories in Kansas.

LTD Broadband was a successful bidder in the recently completed RDOF Auction, where it will be awarded high-cost funding to extend broadband and digital voice services into one hundred and ninety (190) census block groups (CBGs) in rural Kansas for 2,122 currently unserved locations. A list of awarded CBGs is attached as **Exhibit A.** A map of Kansas showing the locations of sites won by LTD is attached as **Exhibit B**. Because the RDOF support is essential to LTD Broadband's ability to extend service in rural Kansas, the Company respectfully requests that the KCC expeditiously review and approve this Application.

## I. Introduction

#### A. The Company

LTD Broadband is a privately-held limited liability company formed in the State of 1. Nevada in October 2010. The Company's principal place of business is 69 Teahouse Street, Las Vegas NV 89138. Corey Hauer holds a 100% controlling interest in the Company. LTD Broadband has grown from a single water tower site in Rose Creek, Minnesota in 2011 to a network of over 2150 broadcast sites covering over 50,000 square miles servicing 16,000 customers. Currently LTD Broadband offers service in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wisconsin. LTD Broadband continues its rapid expansion of its footprint averaging 30 new broadcast sites each month. LTD Broadband is also overbuilding much of its existing fixed wireless footprint with 5G millimeter wave fixed wireless equipment to enable gigabit speeds. LTD Broadband operates an extensive fiber network with geographically dispersed redundant paths to insure maximum reliability and throughout its tower network. LTD Broadband believes it is one of the fastest growing and largest providers (by coverage area) of fixed-wireless broadband in the country. For the RDOF areas, LTD Broadband intends to deploy fiber to the home (FTTH) in the last mile using GPON and XGPON technology to offer speeds up to 10 Gbps. Middle mile connections may utilize multi-gigabit fixed-wireless transmission paths in certain instances.

2. LTD Broadband is a Foreign Limited Liability Corporation that is active and in good standing with the Kansas Secretary of State, proof of which is attached in **Exhibit C**. Additionally, LTD Broadband will file an application for certificate of authority to serve as a telecommunications service provider in Kansas. The Company affirms that it will not partner with another entity in providing the services as an ETC.

## **B.** Contacts

3. All correspondence, communications, pleadings, notices, orders, inquiries and

decisions relating to this Application should be addressed to:

Glenda L. Cafer (KS Bar #13342) Morris Laing Evans Brock & Kennedy, Chtd. 800 SW Jackson, Suite 1310 Topeka, KS 66612 785 430-2003 Email: gcafer@morrislaing.com

with a copy to:

Kristopher Twomey Law Office of Kristopher E. Twomey, P.C. 1725 I Street, NW Suite 300 Washington, D.C. 20006 kris@lokt.net 202 681-1850 Corey Hauer LTD Broadband LTD 69 Teahouse Street Las Vegas, NV 89138 coreyhauer@ltdbroadband.com 507 369-6669

## C. RDOF Auction

4. The FCC established the RDOF to continue its efforts to accelerate deployment of high-speed fixed broadband service capable of speeds of at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload to unserved and underserved Americans in rural areas.<sup>1</sup> The Phase I auction awarded funds to serve areas that are wholly unserved by fixed broadband service at speeds of 25/3 Mbps.<sup>2</sup> Phase II will award funds to serve areas that are only partially served and census blocks unawarded in the Phase I auction.<sup>3</sup>

5. On December 7, 2020, the FCC issued a Public Notice wherein LTD Broadband was awarded \$1,320,920,718.60 in funding over ten years to serve a total of 528,088 locations in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Rural Digital Opportunity Fund; Connect America Fund, WC Docket Nos. 14-259 and 10-90, Report and Order, FCC 20-5, ¶ 4 (Feb. 7, 2020) (RDOF Order).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> *Id.*,  $\P$  5, 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Id.

fifteen states.<sup>4</sup> In Kansas, the Company was awarded \$322,894.80 over ten years to build out and operate a network for advanced communications serving 2,122 unserved locations in 190 census block groups.<sup>5</sup> The FCC requires a company that is awarded support to obtain an ETC designation (encompassing receipt of high-cost support) for the areas covered by its successful bids within 180 days after being announced as a winning bidder (*i.e.*, by June 7, 2021).<sup>6</sup>

## II. Federal Communications Act

6. A state commission may, upon its own motion, or upon request, designate a common carrier to be an ETC for purposes of receiving universal service support in accordance with section 214(e)(2) of the Act. Designated ETCs must comply with the requirements of section 214(e)(1), which states:

A common carrier designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier . . . shall be eligible to receive universal service support in accordance with section 254 and shall, throughout the service area for which the designation is received –

(A) offer the services that are supported by the Federal universal service support mechanism under section 254(c), either using its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's services (including the service offered by another eligible telecommunications carrier); and

(B) advertise the availability of such services and the charges therefor using media of general distribution.

7. Section 214(e)(2) of the Act and section 54.201(c) of the FCC's rules state that the

state commission may, in the case of an area served by a rural telephone company – and shall, in

the case of all other areas – designate more than one common carrier as an ETC for a service area

the state commission designates, provided that each additional requesting carrier satisfies section

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Phase I Auction (AUCTION 904) Closes, Winning Bidders Announced, FCC Form 683 Due January 29, 2021, FCC AU Docket No. 20-34, WC Docket No. 10-90 (December 7, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See RDOF Order at ¶ 81.

214(e)(1) of the Act and section 54.201(d) of the FCC's rules. Before designating an additional ETC for an area served by a rural telephone company, section 214(e)(2) of the Act says that the state commission shall find that such designation is in the public interest.

## III. DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE AREA

8. LTD Broadband requests ETC designation for a service area that includes the census blocks in Kansas where it has been awarded RDOF support, as depicted in **Exhibits A and B**. In the RDOF Order, the FCC granted forbearance "from the statutory requirement that the ETC service area of [an RDOF] participant conform to the service area of the rural telephone company serving the same area."<sup>7</sup>

# IV. LTD BROADBAND SATISFIES THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ETC DESIGNATION

## A. LTD Broadband is a Common Carrier

9. As noted above, LTD Broadband holds FCC wireless licenses, on a common carrier basis, for the provision of fixed wireless services. The Company will utilize these existing (and additional) wireless licenses, as well as owned and leased fiber and other network assets to provide services in Kansas. Moreover, LTD Broadband will provide supported services on a common carrier basis, as defined in the Act and permitted by the FCC. Consequently, LTD Broadband is a common carrier.

## B. LTD Broadband Will Offer the Supported Services Throughout its ETC Designated Service Area

10. LTD Broadband commits to provide (i) voice grade access to the public switched telephone network (PSTN) or its functional equivalent; (ii) minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge to end users; (iii) access to emergency services; and (iv) toll

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> RDOF Order,  $\P$  93.

limitation services to qualifying low-income consumers as provided in accordance with 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.400 *et seq.* throughout the service area for which ETC designation is received. LTD Broadband will advertise the availability of service through media of general distribution, including newspaper, radio, mail, website and/or television. The language in its advertising will conform to the requirements set forth by the Commission in Docket No. 06-GIMT-446-GIT.

#### (i) <u>Voice Grade Access to the Public Switched Telephone Network</u>

11. LTD Broadband will provide voice-grade access to the PSTN by providing interconnected VoIP service throughout its designated service area. This plan complies fully with the FCC's universal service rules and orders. In the 2011 USF Transformation Order, the FCC established the Connect America Fund (CAF) and found that its authority to promote universal service did not depend on the classification of interconnected VoIP as a telecommunications service or an information service and that "ETCs may use any technology in the provision of voice telephony service." Currently, the Company provides an extensive range of service offerings for residential, business and government customers, including broadband Internet Access and VoIP, available at several price levels and upload/download speeds. At this time, LTD Broadband delivers retail plans with download speeds of up to 50 Mbps. Supported by RDOF funding, the Company expects to build networks that will enable it to develop service plans with download speeds up to 1 Gbps consistent with representations made to the FCC in its RDOF short and long form project descriptions. LTD Broadband expects to offer a similar selection of plans (albeit incorporating improved upper-end download speeds) in Kansas.

#### (ii) <u>Minutes of Use for Local Service</u>

12. LTD's calling packages in Kansas will allow for unlimited local calling and unlimited domestic calling in the continental United States. Additional features include: caller ID; caller ID with name (if made available by caller); call forwarding; voicemail; enhanced 911; and

local number portability. "Local usage" means an amount of minutes of use of exchange services, prescribed by the FCC, provided free of charge to end users." The FCC has not specified a minimum amount of local usage that a wireline ETC must offer. LTD Broadband will meet the local usage requirement by including unlimited local calling in its rate plans. The Company commits to comply with any minimum local usage requirements adopted in future by the FCC or by this Commission.

#### (iii) Access to Emergency Services

13. LTD Broadband complies fully with the FCC's requirements for 911/E911 service provided in connection with VoIP services. In particular, the Company complies with the requirements of Section 9.5 of the FCC's rules. At the time of service installation, LTD Broadband confirms with each subscriber the correct physical address (or Registered Location) for the service. In addition, the Company notifies each subscriber about the need to promptly update his or her Registered Location in the event the subscriber changes locations, to ensure that future emergency calls are correctly routed. Subscribers are made aware that this update can be easily achieved via a telephone call to customer service or through the LTD Broadband customer portal. Finally, each subscriber is informed that certain circumstances may interfere with emergency calls made using the VoIP service, including, e.g., unreported changes to a subscriber's Registered Location, power outages and broadband network connectivity loss.

14. The Company currently provides its VoIP customers with access to 911/E911 emergency services through an arrangement with Inteliquent, a certified telecommunications carrier in Kansas. Emergency calls from LTD Broadband customers are connected to Inteliquent's network via high speed Session Interface Protocol (SIP) trunks at LTD Broadband's datacenters. The SIP trunks are configured for High Availability IP to ensure maximum call processing effectiveness. As an ETC, LTD Broadband will continue to provide access to these critical services to customers throughout its service territory.

#### (iv) <u>Toll Limitation for Qualifying Low-Income Consumers</u>

15. At this time, LTD Broadband does not distinguish between local exchange and long distance calls in its voice offering. Consequently, those LTD Broadband plans that include voice services do not apply any additional charge for interexchange calls. If, in the future, LTD Broadband offers a service plan that does distinguish between toll and non-toll calls – and which makes additional charges for toll calls possible – the Company will offer toll limitation service to qualifying low-income consumers at no additional charge.

#### (v) <u>Broadband Internet Access Services (BIAS)</u>

16. LTD Broadband will provide BIAS service to customers, including the capability to transmit and receive data by wire or radio from all, or substantially all, Internet endpoints, excluding dial-up service. LTD Broadband, as an ETC, will offer BIAS services to low-income subscribers, consistent with its Auction 904 requirements and meet or exceed the FCC's RDOF deployment milestones.

# C. LTD Broadband Will Satisfy the "Own Facilities" Requirement for ETC Designation

17. LTD Broadband commits that, throughout its service area, it will comply with Section 214(e)(1) of the Act and offer supported services "either using its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's services." The Company provides service using a combination of network facilities and technologies. Its last-mile voice and broadband services are provided using fiber and fixed wireless microwave platforms. For its transport backbone, the Company relies upon point-to-point licensed wireless connections, owned fiber, leased dark fiber and ethernet. In Kansas, LTD Broadband will deploy similar network

arrangements to provide supported voice services and meet broadband requirements for RDOF support.

#### D. LTD Broadband Will Advertise the Availability of its Services

18. LTD Broadband will advertise the availability of the supported services throughout its designated service areas using direct mail. LTD Broadband agrees to comply with all form and content requirements for advertising that are adopted by the FCC or this Commission and that are required of all similarly designated ETCs. As discussed in its Application, LTD Broadband commits to direct advertising specifically towards Lifeline-eligible customers in the awarded census locations. This Lifeline services advertising will comply with the content requirements of FCC rule section 54.405(c), stating in "easily understood language, that it is a Lifeline service, that Lifeline is a government assistance program, the service is non-transferable, only eligible consumers may enroll in the program, and the program is limited to one discount per household." These content points will be included in all Lifeline service- related materials issued by the Company, including print, broadcast and web-posted marketing materials as well as the materials used for customer enrollment and recertification. Provided as **Exhibit D** is a draft sample draft of the Company's Lifeline advertising.

## E. Consumer Protection and Service Quality Standards

19. LTD Broadband considers service quality and compliance with consumer protection standards to be integral to its operations. Consequently, throughout its more than eleven-year history of providing communications services, the Company has consistently prioritized customer service and dedicated the necessary resources to ensure customer satisfaction. The Company has not been the subject of any serious consumer complaints or investigations. At this time, LTD Broadband complies with all state and federal consumer protection requirements applicable to its operations. Upon designation as an ETC in Kansas, LTD Broadband will comply

with applicable consumer protection and service quality standards, as set forth by the FCC, this Commission and the State of Kansas. This will include compliance with all state and federal privacy standards, including the FCC's Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI) rules and the network performance disclosure requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 8.

## F. Emergency Situation Functionality

20. The Company's network is designed to remain operational in emergency situations and to ensure uninterrupted service to customers. First, the network was developed, and continues to be expanded, utilizing state-of-the-art industry standard equipment and software. This ensures infrastructure durability to continue operations even under major stress events. Moreover, recognizing that no network is absolutely protected against adverse events, LTD Broadband has designed its network to provide for continued services even if one or more elements within the network temporarily fail. Throughout the layers of the Company's network, connections and transport resources are designed with redundancy to provide immediately available back-ups in the event of power cuts or other events. LTD Broadband employs a distributed data center model with duplication and load sharing as well as uninterrupted power supply (UPS) and generator backups. All point-of-presence (POP) locations will have failover power ability along with wireless re-route backhaul ability and multiple routing options within each WAN/fiber POP tower location. Within the data center are multiple network-to-network interfaces (NNIs) with Tier 1 Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and public internet exchanges including MICE, SiX, KCIX, QCIX, and DenverIX supporting full border gateway protocol (BGP) routing to each transit carrier to ensure uninterrupted uptime for subscribers. In addition, the Company's subscribers are provided with a UPS that is intended to provide backup power for up to twenty-four (24) hours in the event of outages.

# G. LTD Broadband Will Comply With all Applicable Kansas and FCC Reporting, Remittance, and Other Regulatory Obligations

21. LTD Broadband will comply with all applicable Kansas and FCC requirements with respect to fees, charges, and reports. The Company will timely pay all applicable federal, state, and local regulatory fees, including universal service and E911 fees. Furthermore, LTD Broadband will comply with the ongoing reporting requirements for ETCs as set forth, and revised from time to time, by the KCC and the FCC. Additionally, LTD Broadband commits to respond to the KCC's requests for information, including requests regarding the Company's ability to assume responsibility to serve existing customers of another ETC that operates in the Company's designated service area that relinquishes all or part its ETC designation. LTD Broadband also will comply fully with measures adopted by the FCC and the KCC in the future if any factors change that would affect its eligibility for an ETC designation. In the event that LTD Broadband determines to cease operations as an ETC, the Company will comply with the applicable relinquishment protocols of the FCC and the KCC.

# V. DESIGNATION OF LTD BROADBAND AS AN ETC IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

22. Designation of LTD Broadband as an ETC in Kansas will serve the public interest by facilitating the goal of deploying voice and high-speed broadband networks in unserved and underserved rural, high-cost areas, and it will promote competition in Kansas. The Company will deploy advanced communications to unserved and underserved areas in Kansas in accordance with the goals of the RDOF program. Expedited designation of LTD Broadband will serve the public interest by ensuring that the Company is eligible to receive federal high-cost USF support and deploy critical communications facilities as soon as possible. The services to be provided by the Company will provide important connectivity to rural Kansas consumers, businesses, and community anchor institutions, including rural schools, libraries, and medical facilities.

## VI. CONCLUSION

23. For the reasons set forth above, LTD Broadband respectfully requests that the KCC (i) expeditiously review and approve this Application on or before June 7, 2021; (ii) issue an Order designating the Company as an ETC in Kansas for the specific purpose of receiving federal high cost and low-income funding; and (iii) grant such other relief as the KCC deems to be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>|s|Glenda Cafer</u>

Glenda L. Cafer (KS Bar #13342) Morris Laing Evans Brock & Kennedy, Chtd. 800 SW Jackson, Suite 1310 Topeka, KS 66612 (785) 430-2003 Email: gcafer@morrislaing.com

Kristopher Twomey Law Office of Kristopher E. Twomey, P.C. 1725 I Street, NW Suite 300 Washington, D.C. 20006 (202) 681-1850 kris@lokt.net

Counsel for LTD Broadband LLC

## Exhibit A

List of RDOF Census Block Groups

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## Exhibit B

Map of Sites Awarded to LTD Broadband

28/2021

# RDOF (LTD)



## Exhibit C

Kansas Secretary of State Form

SCOTT SCHWAB Secretary of State



Memorial Hall, 1st Floor 120 S.W. 10th Avenue Topeka, KS 66612-1594 (785) 296-4564

## STATE OF KANSAS

February 08, 2021

LTD BROADBAND LC PO BOX 3064 BLOOMING PRAIRIE MN 55917

RE: LTD BROADBAND LC

ID. # 5423611 (USE IN ALL CORRESPONDENCE WITH OUR OFFICE)

Enclosed is certified copy of the foreign limited liability company application for registration in the state of Kansas. Your foreign limited liability company's business entity identification number is at the top of this page. This business entity identification number should be used in all correspondence with our office.

Every foreign limited liability company must file an annual report with our office and pay a filing fee. The annual report and fee are due together on the 15th day of the fourth month following the tax closing month. (For example, if the tax closing month is December, the due date is April 15 of the following year). The annual report may be filed as early as January 1. An annual report is not required if the company has not been incorporated for six months prior to its first tax year end. If the company operates on a tax year end other than the calendar year, you must notify our office in writing prior to December 31.

The annual report may be filed electronically at www.sos.ks.gov or you may obtain a paper form from the Web site.

PLEASE NOTE: For information regarding taxes, contact the Kansas Department of Revenue at (785) 368-8222 or www.ksrevenue.org.

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FAApplication Foreign CovMemorial Hall, 1st Floor 120 S.W. 10th Avenue Topeka, KS 66612-1594All information on the applicat	(785) 296-45 kssos@ks.go https://sos.ka ion for registratior	on of 64 v nsas.gov	te and accompa	0969 051 \$165	010 02-08-2021	11    
Choose type of covered entity:	Corporation for profit (fee \$115) 51-03			Series limited liability company (fee \$165.00) 51-33 (Complete statement 11a, if applicable)		
	Corporation not for profit (fee \$115) 51-17			Limited partnership (fee \$165) 51-06		
	Limited liability company (fee \$165) 51-10			Limited liability partnership (fee \$165) 51-18 (Statement 11b applies)		
<ol> <li>Name of covered entity: Must <i>exactly</i> match name on certificate.</li> </ol>	LTD Broadb	and LLC				
2. State or foreign country of origin:	Nevada					
3. Date of formation in home state:	Monih 10	Day 31	<sup>Year</sup> 2011			
	where such fore	ign entity is org nding under the	janized (usual laws of the ju	ly the Sec	ys of the application by the pro- retary of State or comparable of its organization.	oper
5. Date the covered entity began doing business in Kansas if different than the filing date:	Month	Day	Year		ee FA-I #5 for additional filings and fees that hay be due.	hat
6. Name of resident agent and address of registered office in Kansas: Must be a Kansas street address. A P.O. Box is unacceptable.	City	ces, Inc. Is Ave, Suite 1	000	State	Zip	
	Topeka			KS	66603	



7. Mailing address: Address will be used to send official mail from the Secretary of State's office	Attention Name LTD Broadband, LLC Address PO Box 3064					
	City	State	Zip	Country		
	Blooming Prairie	MN	55917	USA		
8. Fiscal year end:	December 31				2	
9. Full nature and character of business to be conducted in Kansas:	Internet service provider					
	a a second a					

- 10. The foreign covered entity hereby consents, without power of revocation, that actions may be commenced against it in the proper court of any county in the state of Kansas; and the foreign covered entity stipulates and agrees that such service shall be taken and held in all courts to be valid and binding as if due service had been made upon the authorized persons of the foreign covered entity.
- 11a. This statement applies to foreign series limited liability companies only, and applies only if the series limited liability company is chosen as type of covered entity.

The limited liability company is governed by an operating agreement that establishes or provides for the establishment of a series of members, managers, limited liability company interests or assets having separate rights, powers or duties with respect to specified property or obligations of the foreign limited liability company or profits and losses associated with specified property or obligations.



The debts, liabilities and obligations incurred, contracted for or otherwise existing with respect to a particular series, if any, are enforceable against the assets of such series only, and not against the assets of the foreign limited liability company generally or any other series thereof.



Any of the debts, liabilities, obligations and expenses incurred, contracted for or otherwise existing with respect to the foreign limited liability company generally or any other series thereof shall be enforceable against the assets of such series.

# 11b. This statement applies to foreign limited liability partnerships only, and applies only if the foreign limited liability partnership is chosen as type of covered entity.

The above-named partnership elects to be a foreign limited liability partnership.

12. I declare under penalty of perjury pursuant t	to the laws of the state of Kansas that the forego	ing is true and co	orrect.
Signature of Authorized Person	Name of Signer (Printed or Typed)		
Le ty Hand	reactive of the particular of	া বাহগুনিতি বিবাহিনে	

Please review to ensure completion.

# SECRETARY OF STATE



## CERTIFICATE OF EXISTENCE WITH STATUS IN GOOD STANDING

I, Barbara K. Cegavske, the duly elected and qualified Nevada Secretary of State, do hereby certify that I am, by the laws of said State, the custodian of the records relating to filings by corporations, non-profit corporations, corporation soles, limited-liability companies, limited partnerships, limited-liability partnerships and business trusts pursuant to Title 7 of the Nevada Revised Statutes which are either presently in a status of good standing or were in good standing for a time period subsequent of 1976 and am the proper officer to execute this certificate.

I further certify that the records of the Nevada Secretary of State, at the date of this certificate, evidence, **LTD BROADBAND LLC**, as a limited "ability company duly organized under the laws of Nevada and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Nevada since October 22, 2010, and is in good standing in this state.



Electronic Certificate Certificate Number: C20190113-0083 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of State, at my office on January 13, 2019.

Barbara K. Cegevske

Barbara K. Cegavske Secretary of State



I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of the original on file. Certified on this date: Fcb 8, 2021 SCOTT SCHWAB Secretary of State Scat Scheab

## Exhibit D

Sample Lifeline Advertisement

# **좋LTD Broadband**

## LIFELINE | MAKING PHONE & INTERNET MORE AFFORDABLE

LTD Broadband is a telecommunications provider who provides basic and enhanced services within its service territory, including services supported by Federal Universal Service funds and eligible for Federal Lifeline assistance.

We offer a discounted digital phone service to make calling more affordable to qualified consumers. Lifeline qualified consumers may be eligible to receive a discount on either digital phone or broadband internet service.

## To qualify, a household must participate in one of the following:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as Food Stamps) - Medicaid - Supplemental Security Income (SSI) - Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit - Federal Public Housing - Income at or below 135% of the federal poverty level

To learn more about the Lifeline program and discounts you may be eligible to receive visit the FCC's Lifeline Program page at: https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/lifeline-support-affordable-communications

PO BOX 3064, BLOOMING PRAIRIE, MN 55917 | (507) 369-6669 | WWW.LTDBROADBAND.NET

## AFFIDAVIT

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, appeared Corey Hauer, and being duly sworn, stated and affirmed the following:

1. My name is Corey Hauer. I am Chief Executive Officer of LTD Broadband LLC ("LTD"), a Nevada Limited Liability Company authorized by the Kansas Secretary of State to transact business in the state on February 8, 2021. I am authorized to give this Affidavit on behalf of LTD in support of LTD's Application for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") pursuant to Section 214(e)(2) of the Telecommunications Act of 1934, as amended (the "Act"). hereby affirm that every statement made in the Application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

2. Applicant was a successful bidder in the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund ("RDOF") Auction (Auction 904) in the census block groups depicted on Exhibit A to the Application ad seeks designation in those census block groups only.

3. Applicant acknowledges that a carrier must obtain designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ('ETC") from the Commission in order to be eligible to receive support from the federal Universal Service Fund, including CAF II funding, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 151 et seq. and 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2).

4. Applicant is also applying for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity and Applicant will be a common carrier for purposes of obtaining ETC designation under 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2).

5. Applicant will offer voice telephony service and broadband internet service as those services are defined in 47 C.F.R. § 54.101(a).

6. Applicant will provide the supported services throughout the area requested for designation in accordance with 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(d).

7. Applicant will advertise the availability of the supported services and the charges therefore in accordance with 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(d)(2).

8. Applicant affirms that the supported services will be provided using Applicant's own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's services in accordance with 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(d)(1).

9. Applicant will comply with the service requirements applicable to the support it receives in accordance with 47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a)(1)(i).

10. Applicant will comply with the minimum service standards detailed at 47 C.F.R. § 54.408(b)(3).

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11. Applicant affirms that all enrollments in the Lifeline program will be performed in compliance with all requirements for the Lifeline program, including but not limited to, those applicable to the verification of identity, address and eligibility of Lifeline subscribers.

12. Applicant affirms that the requested ETC designation is in the public interest in accordance with the Federal Communication Commission's recognition, in Public Notice DA 20-1422, released on December 7, 2020, that entities seeking ETC designation in relation to federal high-cost support demonstrate their ability to efficiently offer service and meet their public interest obligations through the competitive bidding process.

13. I hereby affirm that every statement made in the Application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

State of Nevada County of Clark.

Corey Hauer Chief Executive Officer

Sworn to and subscribed before me on the 21 day of April 2021.



Notary Public

My Commission expires:

STATE OF KANSAS ) ) ss: COUNTY OF SHAWNEE )

## **VERIFICATION**

I, Glenda Cafer, verify under penalty of perjury that I have caused the foregoing pleading to be prepared; that I have read and reviewed the same; and that the contents thereof are true and correct to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief.

|s|Glenda Cafer