

**BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF KANSAS**

In the Matter of the Application of Skybeam,                     )  
LLC for an Order Confirming Relinquishment                     )  
Of its Eligible Telecommunications Carrier                     )     Docket No. 25-SKYT-561-ETC  
Designation                     )

**APPLICATION OF SKYBEAM, LLC FOR  
AN ORDER CONFIRMING RELINQUISHMENT OF ITS  
ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER DESIGNATION**

COMES NOW Skybeam, LLC (“Skybeam”), pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(4),  
47 C.F.R. § 54.205, K.A.R. 82-1-218 and K.A.R. 2015 Supp. 82-1-219, and respectfully requests  
an order confirming relinquishment of its Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (“ETC”)  
designation for the service area in Kansas specified herein, effective July 31, 2025 or as soon  
thereafter as is practicable.

This application provides the notice required by 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(4), 47 C.F.R. §  
54.205, K.S.A. 2015 Supp. 66-2006(d), K.S.A. 2015 Supp. 66-2008, K.S.A. 2015 Supp. 2009,  
K.A.R. 82- 1-218 and K.A.R. 2015 Supp. 82-1-219, and respectfully requests an order  
confirming relinquishment of its ETC designation for its Study Area in Kansas (Study Area Code  
416118).

In support of its application, Skybeam provides the information set forth below:

**I. BACKGROUND**

1. Skybeam is a limited liability company. On December 19, 2014, Skybeam sought  
designation from the Kansas Corporation Commission (“Commission”) as an ETC following its  
provisional selection as a recipient of support under the Rural Broadband Experiment Program  
(“RBE Program”) established by the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) by order

dated July 14, 2014 (Docket No. 15-SKYT-262-ETC). The Commission granted Skybeam's ETC designation on February 24, 2015.<sup>1</sup>

2. The FCC established the RBE Program to award up to \$100 million in support to qualified applicants meeting certain criteria for the deployment of fixed broadband services in census blocks deemed by the FCC to be unserved by a provider of voice service and broadband with speeds of at least 4/1 Mbps.<sup>2</sup> Following satisfaction of certain conditions, the FCC authorized Skybeam to receive \$880,216.00 in RBE Program support to deploy 25/5 Mbps service to certain census blocks covering parts of Marion, Butler, and Harvey Counties in Kansas (Study Area Code 416118).<sup>3</sup> A map of the service area encompassed by SAC 416118 is attached as an exhibit hereto. The support term is ten years, beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2025.

3. After June 30, 2025, Skybeam will have no further obligations under the RBE Program, other than post-term reporting.<sup>4</sup> Skybeam has completed all deployment requirements and complied with RBE Program and Commission rules in the Study Area. Consequently, Skybeam seeks to relinquish its ETC designation in the Study Area and requests an effective date for this relinquishment of July 31, 2025 or as soon thereafter as is practicable.

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<sup>1</sup> *In the Matter of the Application of Skybeam, LLC*, Order Granting Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation in 267 Kansas Census Blocks, Docket No. 15-SKYT-262-ETC (Feb. 25, 2015).

<sup>2</sup> *See Connect America Fund; ETC Annual Reports and Certification*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 14-58, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 29 FCC Rcd 8769 (2014).

<sup>3</sup> *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Rural Broadband Experiments Support for 15 Provisionally Selected Bids is Ready to be Authorized and Releases Updated Frequently Asked Questions*, Public Notice, WC Docket No. 10-90, 30 FCC Rcd 5038 (2015).

<sup>4</sup> Skybeam will receive a final payment of \$181.70 in RBE Program support at the end of July for June 2025, the final month of the ten-year support term.

4. Skybeam's relinquishment of ETC status will not affect the ability of other ETCs to participate in the federal universal service program.

5. Skybeam is currently providing no voice or Lifeline services to consumers in Kansas. Pursuant to a transaction between Skybeam and Ideatek Telecom, LLC ("Ideatek"), upon relinquishment of the ETC designation in the Study Area, facilities for the supported network are being assigned to Ideatek, an experienced provider of voice and broadband services in Kansas. Accordingly, Skybeam's relinquishment of ETC status will not adversely affect any consumers.

## **II. LEGAL STANDARD FOR RELINQUISHING ETC STATUS**

6. The standard for relinquishing an ETC designation is established in 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(4), which states:

A State commission (or the Commission in the case of a common carrier designated under paragraph (6)) shall permit an eligible telecommunications carrier to relinquish its designation as such a carrier in any area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier. An eligible telecommunications carrier that seeks to relinquish its eligible telecommunications carrier designation for an area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier shall give advance notice to the State commission (or the Commission in the case of a common carrier designated under paragraph (6)) of such relinquishment. Prior to permitting a telecommunications carrier designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier to cease providing universal service in an area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier, the State commission (or the Commission in the case of a common carrier designated under paragraph (6)) shall require the remaining eligible telecommunications carrier or carriers to ensure that all customers served by the relinquishing carrier will continue to be served, and shall require sufficient notice to permit the purchase or construction of adequate facilities by any remaining eligible telecommunications carrier. The State commission (or the Commission in the case of a common carrier designated under paragraph (6)) shall establish a time, not to exceed one year after the State commission (or the Commission in the case of a common carrier designated under paragraph (6)) approves such relinquishment under this paragraph, within which such purchase or construction shall be completed.

7. 47 C.F.R. 54.205, which also governs the relinquishment of ETC designations, states:

(a) A state commission shall permit an eligible telecommunications carrier to relinquish its designation as such a carrier in any area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier. An eligible telecommunications carrier that seeks to relinquish its eligible telecommunications carrier designation for an area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier shall give advance notice to the state commission of such relinquishment.

(b) Prior to permitting a telecommunications carrier designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier to cease providing universal service in an area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier, the state commission shall require the remaining eligible telecommunications carrier or carriers to ensure that all customers served by the relinquishing carrier will continue to be served, and shall require sufficient notice to permit the purchase or construction of adequate facilities by any remaining eligible telecommunications carrier. The state commission shall establish a time, not to exceed one year after the state commission approves such relinquishment under this section, within which such purchase or construction shall be completed.

8. Skybeam's Application meets the aforementioned requirements. Existing providers offer voice service in the Study Area, which Skybeam believes has contributed to its lack of voice customers. It is understood that AT&T, Inc. and Brightspeed are among the service providers holding designation as ETCs that offer service in areas that overlap those that Skybeam currently serves. These providers have been served with a copy of this application.

9. Through this application to relinquish its designation as an ETC in the Study Area, Skybeam is providing the Commission with the advance notice required by 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(4) and 47 C.F.R. § 54.205.

10. There is no need for other ETCs to serve any relinquished customers in those territories because Skybeam has no voice or Lifeline customers in the Study Area. For this reason, no consumers will be impacted by Skybeam's ETC relinquishment.

11. To the best of Skybeam's knowledge, no additional facilities will need to be constructed or purchased because Skybeam has no voice customers to be served in the Study Area.

### **III. CUSTOMER NOTIFICATION OF ETC RELINQUISHMENT**

12. No customer notice is required here because Skybeam has no voice consumers in the Study Area Code who must be notified of its ETC relinquishment. Further, as discussed above, Skybeam is assigning its facilities and broadband customers in the Study Area to Ideatek.

### **IV. RELIEF REQUESTED**

WHEREFORE, Skybeam respectfully requests the Commission to grant its application and issue an order confirming relinquishment of its ETC designation in Study Area Code 416118.

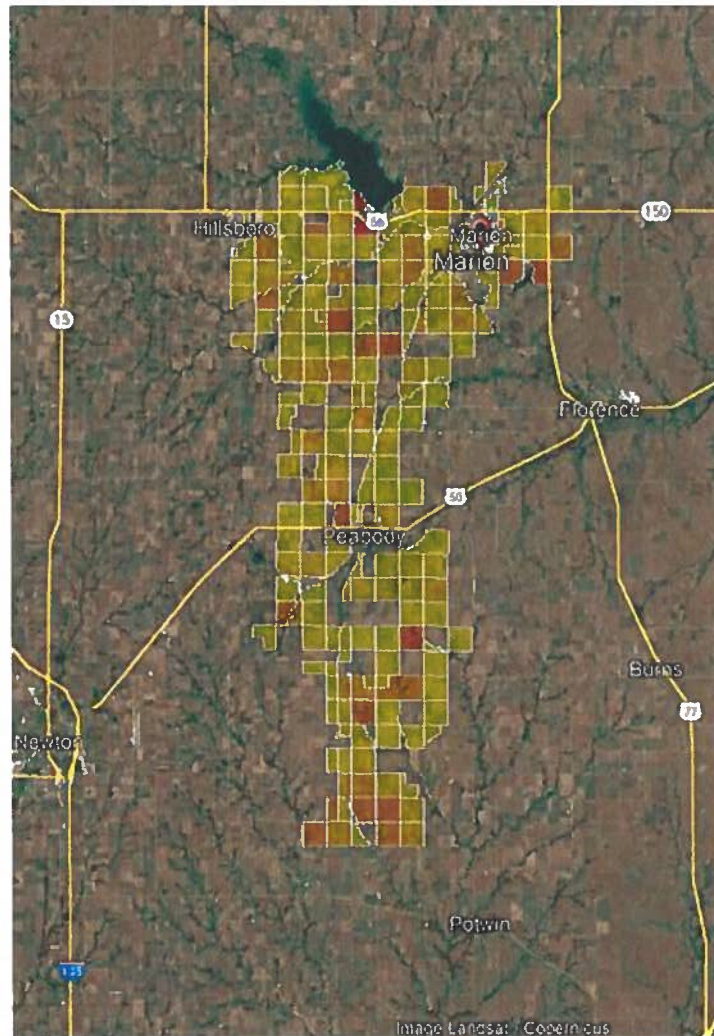
Respectfully submitted,

**SKYBEAM, LLC**

By: /s/ Richard Hanno  
Richard Hanno  
Senior Director of Legal Affairs  
61 Inverness Drive East  
Suite 250  
Englewood, CO 80112

## Exhibit

### Service Area Covered by Existing Skybeam, LLC ETC Designation



## VERIFICATION

I, James O'Brien, Chief Executive Officer of Skybeam, LLC, hereby certify under penalty that I have read the foregoing Application of Skybeam, LLC for an Order Confirming Relinquishment of Its Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation, and that the statements of fact contained therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

June 25, 2025



James O'Brien  
Chief Executive Officer

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Richard Hanno, hereby certify that on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025, a true and correct copy of the foregoing “Application of Skybeam, LLC for an Order Confirming Relinquishment of its Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation” was mailed via U.S. mail, postage prepaid, to the following:

Southwestern Bell Telephone Co.  
d/b/a AT&T Kansas  
816 Congress Avenue  
Suite 1100  
Austin, TX 78701-2471

Connect Parent Corporation  
d/b/a Brightspeed  
1120 S. Tryon Street  
Suite 700  
Charlotte, NC 28203

/s/ Richard Hanno  
Richard Hanno