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March 14, 2008

# VIA ELECTRONIC FILING AND OVERNIGHT MAIL

Honorable Jones, Chairman Attn: Sharla Dillon, Dockets Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, TN 37243-9021 (615) 741-3939

filed electronically in docket office 03/14/08

Docket No. 08-00040

Re:

BLC Management, LLC d/b/a Angles Communication Solutions

**ETC** Designation

Dear Ms. Dillon:

Enclosed please find for filing an original and four (4) copies of BLC Management, LLC d/b/a Angles Communication Solutions' Application for a Certificate as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier. I have also enclosed a check in the amount of \$25.00 payable to the "Tennessee Regulatory Authority" for the filing fee and a CD-ROM containing an electronic copy of this filing.

I have also enclosed an extra copy of this letter to be date stamped and returned to me in the enclosed, self-addressed, postage prepaid envelope.

If you have any questions or if I may provide you with any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted

Lance J.M. Steinhart

Attorney for BLC Management, LLC d/b/a Angles Communication Solutions

Enclosures

cc:

Mr. Brian Cox

#### BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSON

APPLICATION OF	)	
BLC MANAGEMENT, LLC D/B/A	)	
ANGLES COMMUNICATION SOLUTIONS	)	
FOR CERTIFICATION AS AN ELIGIBLE	)	DOCKET NO.
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER	À	

# APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION AS AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER

BLC Management, LLC d/b/a Angles Communication Solutions ("BLC" or the "Applicant"), pursuant to Section 214(e)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the "Act")<sup>1</sup> and Sections 54.101 through 54.207 of the Rules of the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"),<sup>2</sup> and the rules and regulations of the Tennessee Public Service Commission (the "Commission"), hereby applies to the Commission for certification as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") throughout the BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a AT&T of Tennessee service territories (the "Designated Service Area") for the purpose of receiving federal universal service support. A list of each wire center which the Applicant is requesting ETC status in the State of Tennessee is attached hereto as Exhibit 1. The Applicant is seeking only low income support, and is not requesting high cost support. As demonstrated below, BLC satisfies all of the statutory and regulatory requirements for designation as an ETC in the Designated Service Area. Furthermore, designation of BLC as an ETC in the Designated Service Area will serve the public interest. Accordingly, BLC respectfully requests that the Commission grant this Application.

<sup>47</sup> U.S.C. § 214(e)(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.101-54.207.

All correspondence, communications, pleadings, notices, orders and decisions relating to this Application should be addressed to:

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### I. Background

1. BLC is a Tennessee limited liability company<sup>3</sup>. A copy of the Applicant's Articles of Organization is on file with the Commission and incorporated herein by reference. The Applicant was granted a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity To Provide Competing Local and Long Distance Telecommunications Services Within the State of Tennessee in Case No. 03-00575 per Order issued on January 14, 2004. The principal office of the Applicant is located at 11121 Highway 70, Suite 202, Arlington, Tennessee 38002. The telephone number of the Applicant is (901) 373-3103. The Applicant provides local exchange and exchange access services in the Designated Service Area using a combination of resale and unbundled network elements, or unbundled network equivalents obtained through commercial agreements ("UNEs") that allows end-to-end switching delivery of calls.

BLC was organized in the State of Tennessee on February 23, 2001

- 2. As set forth in Section 214(e)(2) of the Act, the Commission "shall upon its own motion or upon request designate a common carrier that meets the requirements of [Section 214(e)(1)] as an eligible telecommunications carrier for a service area designated by the State commission." Upon designation as an ETC, the carrier shall be eligible to receive universal support in accordance with Section 254 of the Act.<sup>5</sup>
- 3. The requirements for designation as an ETC set forth in Section 214(e)(1) are that the carrier must:
  - (A) offer the services that are supported by Federal universal support mechanisms 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 services offered by another eligible telecommunications carrier); and
  - (B) advertise the availability of such services and the charges therefore using the media of general distribution.<sup>6</sup>

# II. BLC Satisfies the Requirements for Designation as an ETC to Serve the Designated Service Area

- 4. BLC is a common carrier as that term is defined in the Act.<sup>7</sup> The Applicant provides competitive local telecommunications services in the Designated Service Area pursuant to Case No. 03-00575 referenced above.
- 5. BLC offers all of the supported services enumerated under Section 254(c) using facilities obtained as UNEs, or the equivalents thereof, through commercial agreements. According to FCC Rules, facilities obtained as UNEs satisfy the requirement that an ETC

<sup>47</sup> U.S.C. § 214(e)(2); see 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(b) (FCC Rules citing the Act's requirements).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1).

<sup>6</sup> Id.

See 47 U.S.C. § 153(10) ("the term 'common carrier' or 'carrier' means any person engaged as a common carrier for hire, in interstate or foreign communication by wire or radio or in interstate or foreign radio transmission of energy....).

provide the supported services using either its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's services. Accordingly, the Applicant satisfies the requirement set forth in Section 214(e)(1)(A).

- 6. The services that are supported by Federal universal support mechanisms under section 254(c) are enumerated in the rules of the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") at 47 C.F.R. § 54.101(a)(1)-(9). These services are:
  - a) Voice grade access to the public switched network. "Voice grade access" is defined as a functionality that enables a user of telecommunications services to transmit voice communications, including signaling the network that the caller wishes to place a call, and to receive voice communications, including receiving a signal indicating there is an incoming call. For the purposes of this part, bandwidth for voice grade access should be, at a minimum, 300 to 3,000 Hertz;
  - b) Local usage. "Local usage" means an amount of minutes of use of exchange service, prescribed by the FCC, provided free of charge to end users;
  - c) Dual tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent. "Dual tone multi-frequency" (DTMF) is a method of signaling that facilitates the transportation of signaling through the network, shortening call set-up time;
  - d) Single-party service or its functional equivalent. "Single-party service" is telecommunications service that permits users to have exclusive use of a

Section 54.201(f) of the FCC's Rules states, "[f]or the purposes of this section, the term 'own facilities' includes, but is not limited to, facilities obtained as unbundled network elements pursuant to Part 51 of this chapter, provided that such facilities meet the definition of the term 'facilities' under this subpart." 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(f). The term "facilities" under Section 54.201 is defined as "any physical components of the telecommunications network that are used in the transmission or routing of the services that are designated for support pursuant to

wireline subscriber loop or access line for each call placed, or, in the case of wireless telecommunications carriers, which use spectrum shared among users to provide service, a dedicated message path for the length of a user's particular transmission;

- Access to emergency services. "Access to emergency services" includes access to services, such as 911 and enhanced 911, provided by local governments or other public safety organizations. 911 is defined as a service that permits a telecommunications user, by dialing the three-digit code "911," to call emergency services through a Public Service Access Point (PSAP) operated by the local government. "Enhanced 911" is defined as 911 service that includes the ability to provide automatic numbering information (ANI), which enables the PSAP to call back if the call is disconnected, and automatic location information (ALI), which permits emergency service providers to identify the geographic location of the calling party. "Access to emergency services" includes access to 911 and enhanced 911 services to the extent the local government in an eligible carrier's service area has implemented 911 or enhanced 911 systems;
- f) Access to operator services. "Access to operator services" is defined as access to any automatic or live assistance to a consumer to arrange for billing or completion, or both, of a telephone call;

subpart B of this part." 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(e). BLC's use of UNEs, or equivalents thereof, meets this definition of "facilities."

- g) Access to interexchange service. "Access to interexchange service" is defined as the use of the loop, as well as that portion of the switch that is paid for by the end user, or the functional equivalent of these network elements in the case of a wireless carrier, necessary to access an interexchange carrier's network;
- h) Access to directory assistance. "Access to directory assistance" is defined as access to a service that includes, but is not limited to, making available to customers, upon request, information contained in directory listings; and
- i) Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers.

- 7. Upon certification as an ETC, BLC will participate in, and offer, LifeLine and Link-Up programs to qualifying low-income consumers and publicize the availability of Lifeline and Link-Up services in a manner reasonably designed to reach those likely to qualify for those services, as required by FCC Rules.<sup>9</sup> A copy of proposed tariff revisions is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.
- 8. BLC will advertise the availability of the above-referenced services and the charges for those services in the Designated Service Area using media of general distribution, as required by FCC Rules.<sup>10</sup>

# III. Area for Which ETC Certfication Is Requested

12. BLC has served and will continue to serve the exchanges where it leases UNEs or resells the services of the non-rural telephone companies in the state of Tennessee. BLC does not seek certification as an ETC in any areas served by rural telephone companies.

# IV. Granting BLC's Application Will Serve the Public Interest

13. Congress requires that the Commission grant competitive ETC applications in non-rural areas.<sup>11</sup> No specific public interest test is mentioned, as is the case for areas served by rural telephone companies.<sup>12</sup> Thus, the Act provides that the Commission "shall" designate BLC as an ETC upon finding that the Applicant meets the nine-point list of services and that it agrees to advertise the supported services throughout the Designated Service Area. Notwithstanding, the designation of BLC as an ETC will serve the public interest.

See 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.401-54.417; 54.405(b)& 54.411(d)...

See 47 C.F.R. §§ 54..201(d)(2).

See 47 U.S.C. 214(e)(2).

See Id.

- 14. A central purpose of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was to "promote competition and reduce regulation ... [thereby securing] lower prices and higher quality services ... and encourage the rapid deployment of new telecommunications technologies." Designation of BLC as an ETC would further these goals. Granting ETC status to BLC would allow the Applicant to obtain federal universal service support, which it will use to offer innovative telecommunications services at competitive prices to non-rural consumers in the Designated Service Area.
- 15. BLC will announce and advertise telecommunications services as an ETC where it provides service in its Designated Service Area in Tennessee and will publicize the availability of Lifeline and Link-Up services in a manner reasonably designed to reach those likely to qualify for those services. Accordingly, more low-income Tennessee residents will be made aware of the opportunities afforded to them under the Lifeline and Link-Up programs and will be able to take advantage of those opportunities by subscribing to BLC's service.
- 16. BLC will provide universal service as an ETC in all of its Designated Service Area.
- 17. BLC is willing to accept carrier of last resort obligations throughout the universal service areas in which BLC is designated as an ETC by the Commission.
- 18. BLC is aware that it may seek USF funding only with respect to those customers that it serves through the use of its own facilities (including UNE-P or equivalent facilities).
- 19. BLC will provide equal access to long distance carriers, to the extent to which it is able to do so.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> The Telecommunications Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56, 56 (1996).

- 20. Under FCC guidelines, an ETC Applicant must submit a five-year plan that describes with specificity proposed improvements or upgrades to the applicant's network on a wire center-by-wire center basis throughout its proposed Designated Service Area. The only circumstance warranting deviation from this requirement is where an applicant's requested ETC serving territory would qualify it to receive no "high cost" USF support, but only "low income" USF support. Because BLC seeks ETC designation solely for purposes of reimbursement for provision of subsidized Lifeline and Link-Up services to eligible customers, submission of a Five-Year Network Improvement Plan is not required at this time. Since Lifeline support is designed to reduce the monthly cost of telecommunications services for eligible consumers, and is distributed on a per-customer basis and is directly reflected in the price that the eligible customer pays, it is assured that all support received by the carrier is used to provide Lifeline services to consumers, thus promoting Lifeline and the availability of telephone service to low income users, which is clearly in the public interest.
- 21. Applicant offers a local usage plan comparable to the one offered by the incumbent LEC in the service areas for which it seeks designation.

- 22. Under FCC guidelines, an ETC Applicant must demonstrate that it will satisfy applicable consumer protection and service quality standards. 47 CFR §54.202(a)(3); FCC ETC Order at Para 28. Applicant will satisfy all such standards. As part of its certification requirements for providing local exchange services, Applicant must abide by the service quality and consumer protection rules. In addition, Applicant commits to reporting information on consumer complaints per 1,000 lines on an annual basis consistent with the FCC's ETC Order. Applicant in general commits to satisfying all such applicable state and federal requirements related to consumer protection and service quality standards.
- 23. Under FCC guidelines, an ETC Applicant must demonstrate its ability to remain functional in emergency situations. 47 CFR §54.202(a)(2); FCC ETC Order at Para 25. Since Applicant is providing service to its customers through the use of ILEC leased facilities, this arrangement allows Applicant to provide to its customers the same ability to remain functional in emergency situations as currently provided by the ILECs to their own customers, including access to a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, rerouting of traffic around damaged facilities, and the capability of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations.
- 24. Under FCC guidelines, an ETC Applicant must commit to provide service throughout its proposed designated service area to all customers making a reasonable request for service. FCC ETC Order at Para 22; 47 CFR §54.202(a)(1)(i). Applicant commits to provide service throughout its proposed ETC-designated service area to all customers making a reasonable request for service.

# V. Relief Requested

For the foregoing reasons, BLC respectfully requests that the Commission grant its application and designate the Applicant as an ETC for the Designated Service Area.

Respectfully submitted,

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# Exhibit 1 Wire Centers

Exhibit E

Exhibit E		
Company	RateCenter	Switch
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	FORK RIDGE	MDBOKYMADS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	ETOWAH	ETWHTNMTRS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	DECATUR	DCTRTNMTRS5
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	BENTON	BNTNTNMTRS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	CHATTNOOGA	CHTGTNHTDS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	SURGOINSVL	SRVLTNMADS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	SWEETWATER	SWTWTNMTDS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	MADISONVL	MDVITNMTDS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	SODDYDAISY	SDDSTNMARS5
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	SPRINGCITY	SPCYTNMTRS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	COPPERBSIN	CRHLTNCBRS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	BULLS GAP	BLGPTNMARS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	CHATTNOOGA	CHTGTNNSDS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	WHITWELL	WHWLTNMARS5
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	CHATTNOOGA	CHTGTNDTDS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	SNEEDVILLE	SNVLTNMARS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	ATHENS	ATHNTNMADS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	DAYTON	DYTNTNMADS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	CHARLESTON	CHTNTNMTRS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	JELLICO	JLLCTNMARS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	CHATTNOOGA	CHTGTNNSDS1
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	CHATTNOOGA	CHTGTNSEDS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	SO PITTSBG	SPBGTNMARS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	CHATTNOOGA	CHTGTNMVDS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	CHATTNOOGA	CHTGTNRODS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	CHATTNOOGA	CHTGTNRBDS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	CHATTNOOGA	CHTGTNSMRS5
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	LAFOLLETTE	LFLTTNMADS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	ROGERSVL	RRVLTNMADS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	JASPER	JSPRTNMTDS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	CHATTNOOGA	CHTGTNBRDS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	GEORGETOWN	CLEVTNMADS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	WATERTOWN	WTTWTNMARS5
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	EAGLEVILLE	EAVLTNMARS5
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	NASHVILLE	NSVLTNAARS5
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	PORTLAND	PTLDTNMARS5
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	NASHVILLE	NSVLTNCDRS5
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	NASHVILLE	NSVLTNWMDS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	HARTSVILLE	HTVLTNMARS5
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	SPRINGFLD	SPFDTNMADS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	TRIUNE	TRINTNMARS5
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	NASHVILLE	NSVLTNAPDS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	NASHVILLE	NSVLTNMT84T
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	GALLATIN	GALLTNMADS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	SMYRNA	SMYRTNMADS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	LEBANON	LBNNTNMADS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	GREENBRIER	GNBRTNMARS5
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	NASHVILLE	NSVLTNINCG0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	CRSPLORLND	CRPLTNMARS0
BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL	NASHVILLE	NSVLTNBWDS0

BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL **NASHVILLE** WHITEHOUSE **NASHVILLE ADMSCDARHL NASHVILLE CARTHAGE** NASHVILLE DICKSON **PLEASANTVW** FRANKLIN **NASHVILLE** CHARLOTTE ASHLAND CY **FRANKLIN FAIRVIEW HENDERSNVL** NASHVILLE **OLDHICKORY** GOODLETSVL **NASHVILLE NASHVILLE NASHVILLE MURFREESBO NASHVILLE NASHVILLE** KINGSTNSPG NASHVILLE **BOLIVAR GREENFIELD** MICHIE **TIPTONVL** RIDGELY **DYERSBURG** MCKENZIE MIDDLETON SO FULTON TROY **HORNBEAK** CAMDEN **BIG SANDY NEWBERN RIPLEY PARIS SELMER GLEASON BOLIVAR** BELLS **DYER MILAN HENNING** KENTON

**BROWNSVL** 

**NSVLTNBHRS5** WHHSTNMARS0 **NSVLTNBVDS0** ACHLTNMTRS0 **NSVLTNHHRS5 CRTHTNMARS5** NSVLTNMTDS0 **DKSNTNMTDS0** PSVWTNMTRS0 **FKLNTNCCRS5 NSVLTNMTDS3** CHRLTNMTDS0 ASCYTNMADS0 FKLNTNMADS0 FRVWTNMTRS5 HDVLTNMADS0 **NSVLTNCHDS0 OLHCTNMARS5** GDVLTNMARS0 NSVLTNMCDS0 **NSVLTNWCDS0** NSVLTNMTDS1 MRBOTNMADS0 NSVLTNSTDS0 NSVLTNDODS0 WHBLTNMTDS0 **NSVLTNUNDS0 BLVRTNMADS1 GNFDTNMTDS0** CRNTMSMADS2 TPVLTNMARS0 RDGLTNMARS5 **DYBGTNMADS0** MCKNTNMARS0 MDTNTNMADS0 FLTNKYMADS0 TROYTNMTRS5 HRNBTNMTRS5 CMDNTNMADS0 **BGSNTNMARS0 NWBRTNMARS5** RPLYTNMADS0 PARSTNMADS1 SLMRTNMTDS0 **GLSNTNMARS0 BLVRTNMADS0** BLLSTNMARS0 DYERTNMTRS0 MILNTNMARS0 HNNGTNMARS5 KNTNTNMARS5 **BWVLTNMADS1** 

BELLSOUTH TELECOMM INC DBA SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TEL MEDINA **GIBSON HUMBOLDT HALLS** TRENTON **UNION CITY** SAVANNAH **BETHEL SPG** LEXINGTON **JACKSON CEDARGROVE JACKSON HENDERSON** WESTSWEETW **BENTCREEK ROCKWOOD** LAKE CITY **OLIVER SPG GATLINBURG** MARYVILLE LOUDON CLINTON **JEFFERSNCY** DANDRIDGE **NORRIS** CHESTNUTHI **KNOXVILLE KNOXVILLE** WHITE PINE KNOXVILLE KINGSTON **KNOXVILLE GREENBACK HARRIMAN SEVIERVL KNOXVILLE** SOLWAY MASCOT **KNOXVILLE** KNOXVILLE LENOIRCITY MAYNARDVL **BEAN STATN MARYVILLE** WESTWHITEV **MEMPHIS MEMPHIS** SOMERVILLE COVINGTON **MEMPHIS MEMPHIS MEMPHIS** 

MEDNTNMADS0 **GBSNTNMTRS0** HMBLTNMADS1 **HLLSTNMTRS5** TRTNTNMADS0 **UNCYTNMADS0** SVNHTNMTDS0 BTSPTNMARS0 LXTNTNMADS1 JCSNTNNSDS0 HNTGTNMADS0 JCSNTNMADS0 HNSNTNMTRS0 SWTWTNMTRS0 HRFRTNMARS0 **RKWDTNMADS0** LKCYTNMADS0 OLSPTNMARS0 GTBGTNMTDS0 TWNSTNMARS5 LODNTNMARS5 **CLTNTNMADS0** JFCYTNMADS1 **DNRGTNMADS0** NRRSTNMARS0 NWPTTNMTDS0 KNVLTNMADS0 KNVLTNYHCG0 WHPITNMADS0 KNVLTNFCDS0 KGTNTNMTDS0 KNVLTNWHDS0 **GRNBTNMARS5** HIMNTNMADS0 SVVLTNMTDS0 KNVLTNBEDS0 **OKRGTNMTDS0** MSCTTNMTDS0 KNVLTNMADS1 MAVLTNMADS0 LNCYTNMADS0 MYVLTNMARS0 MRTWTNMADS0 FIVLTNMARS5 WHVLTNMTRS0 MMPHTNELBB0 MMPHTNFRDS0 SOVLTNMTDS0 CVTNTNMTDS1 MMPHTNCTDS0 MMPHTNMTDS0 MMPHTNMACG1

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# Exhibit 2 Proposed Tariff Revisions

#### 3.4.8 General

- 3.4.8.1 Low-Income Programs consist of two programs, Lifeline and Link Up. The Company participates in both of these assistance programs to increase the availability of telecommunications services to all consumers in its service areas. Basic terms and conditions are in compliance with the FCC's order on Universal Service in FCC 97-157, which adopts the Federal-State Joint Board's recommendations in CC Docket 96-45, which complies with the Telecommunications Act of 1934 (as amended). Specific terms and conditions are as prescribed by the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (TRA) and are as set forth in this tariff.
- 3.4.8.2 Lifeline is supported by the federal universal support mechanism.

#### 3.4.9 Definitions

- 3.4.9.1 The following terms shall be defined as follows:
  - A. Qua lifying low-income subscriber a subscriber who meet the low-income eligibility criteria established by the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (TRA).
  - B. Toll blocking a service that does not allow the completion of outgoing direct-dialed toll calls.

#### 3.4.10 Lifeline

#### 3.4.10.1 General

A. Lif eline reduces an eligible customer's monthly Federal Subscriber Line Charge and the rates for local service. An eligible customer receives credit for the Federal Subscriber Line Charge as well as a credit towards their residential local exchange access line rate.

#### 3.4.10.2 Regulations

- A. Lif eline is available to all residential customers who meet and provide proof of the eligibility criteria as a participant in one of the following programs:
  - Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), previously know as AFDC
  - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
  - Food Stamps

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- Medicaid, as provided under TennCare
- B. Additionally, a customer with total gross annual income that does not exceed 125% of the federal poverty income guidelines may apply directly to the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (TRA) for Lifeline eligibility certification.
- C. Participants in Lifeline will not be subject to disconnection of their local service for nonpayment of toll charges.

## 3.4.10.3 Territory

A. Lif eline is available to all eligible residential customers residing in the base rate areas of all of the BellSouth exchanges as shown and defined in the Incumbent's current and effective tariff on file with the Commission.

#### 3.4.10.4 Terms and Conditions

- A. Lif eline is provided only to the customer's principle residence. The customer must not be served by more than one local exchange carrier.
- B. One low-income credit is available per household and applicable to the primary residential connection only. The named subscriber must be a current recipient of any of the low-income assistance programs identified in 3.4.10.2, A and B proceeding.
- C. Proof of eligibility in any of the qualifying low-income assistance programs should be provided to the Company at the time of application for service. The Lifeline credit will not be established until the Company has received proof of eligibility.
- D. When, for any reason, a customer is determined to be ineligible, the Company will contact the customer. If the customer cannot provide eligibility documentation, the Lifeline account will be disconnected or the Lifeline discounts will be removed.
- E. Certification of eligibility in any of the qualifying low-income assistance programs will be required for any account that has been disconnected prior to the reestablishment of the service.
- F. Toll restriction is provided on all eligible accounts at no charge.

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#### 3.4.10.5 Credits

A. The following credits will apply for each customer eligible for Lifeline.

(1)	Federal	Subscriber	Line	Charge	Credit	\$6.50
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(2)	Tier 2	Federal	Credit	\$1.75	,
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\$3.50 (3) Tier 3 State Credit

(4) Tier 3 Federal Matching Credit \$1.75

(5) Tier 4 Credit (Tribal Lands)

\$0.00

#### Link-Up (Lifeline Connection Assistance) 3.4.11

#### 3.4.11.1 General

A. Link -Up is a connection assistance program for qualifying lowincome consumers that consist of a reduction in the customary charges for connecting telecommunications services and a deferred schedule for payment of charges assessed for connecting service.

#### 3.4.11.2 Regulations

- A. The same eligibility requirements, as outlined in 3.4.10.2, A and B proceeding, will apply for Link-Up.
- B. This credit is only available on the installation of a single residential access line at the principle residence of the eligible customer.
- C. To receive the credit, proof of eligibility must be provided prior to the installation of service.

#### 3.4.11.1 Rates

A. The applicable discount is half of the service connection charge, as specified in 3.1.2 of Budget Phones Tennessee Tariff No. 1, or \$30.00 whichever is less.

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