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May 17, 2010

J. Richard Collier, General Counsel Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, TN 37243-0505

filed electronically in docket office on 05/18/10

Re: TRA Docket No. 10-00083

**Legislative and Consumer Comments** 

Dear General Collier:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 14, 2010 regarding the referenced matter. Although I later became aware of some of the events you mention, our firm did not represent Nexus Communications, Inc. ("Nexus") during the time pertinent to the phone calls and comments you describe. Our file indicates we did not communicate with anyone on behalf of Nexus until May 4, 2010, several days following your receipt of the email from Ms. Mason. For this reason, I have forwarded your letter to Mr. Steven Fenker, a licensed attorney, to allow him an opportunity to respond directly to the content of the email.

After our employment, I became aware that a number of members of the General Assembly, and possibly TRA staff, had received numerous calls, emails and letters from Nexus subscribers and supporters expressing concern over the possibility of loss of Lifeline service. It has been my experience most staff people responsible for dealing with the high volume of communications in such a grass roots effort usually resent being diverted from their regular work day and for this I offer an apology on behalf of Nexus.

According to the terms of our firm's engagement by Nexus, the primary objective of our services is to communicate with members of the General Assembly and explain the circumstances surrounding the contacts made by Nexus subscribers and mend any ill will which might have been unintentionally created. To date, we have been encouraged by the reception we have received from every member and it is my understanding several have written letters of support. Although I am abundantly aware such letters should not and will not affect the Authority's decision in the pending docket,

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I have always been impressed by the Authority's willingness to hear and consider comments from the members and anyone from the general public. This openness is truly a credit to the TRA in times when government is often criticized for lack of transparency.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

FARRIS MATHEWS BOBANGO, PLC

Charles B. Welch, Jr.

cc: Chairman Sara Kyle
Director Eddie Roberson
Director Kenneth C. hill

Director Mary W. Freeman

Docket No. 10-00083