

## TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY



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60 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

T.R.A. DOCKET ROOM

## MEMORANDUM

TO: All Members of the General Assembly and Staff

FROM: Sara Kyle, Chairman

DATE: April 29, 2010


RE: Funding for Wireless Telecommunications Service

Under the name Reachout Wireless, Nexus Communication, Inc. has been providing wireless telecommunications service to Tennessee residents who qualify for the Lifeline and Link-up programs. A question has arisen between Nexus and the federal Universal Service Administration Company (USAC) as to whether Nexus is properly certified in Tennessee as a wireless Eligible Telecommunications Carrier, and therefore whether it is eligible for universal service funds. Because of an emergency petition filed by Nexus, it has become a matter for the Directors of the Authority to consider at the next Authority Conference.

The following are talking points that could be used by you and your staff when dealing with questions from constituents:

- 1) The funding of the service, which includes 68 free minutes every month for eligible Tennessee residents, comes from the federal universal service fund.
- 2) A telecommunications service provider must be properly certified in order to qualify for reimbursement from the fund.
- 3) Nexus/Reachout Wireless has petitioned the Tennessee Regulatory Authority to rule on its certification; this is a legal issue and because this matter is currently pending before the Authority in Docket No. 10-00083, we can't discuss this case in any further detail.
- 4) Please ask for name and contact information, write down any comments they may make, and provide that information to Tevin Thompson, Deputy Chief of Consumer Services, Tennessee Regulatory Authority, ext. 158 or Mary Kraycirik at ext. 192, so that it can then be filed in the docket for public review.

Thank you all for your thoughtful consideration of this matter.



Sara Kyle, Chairman