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Mr. David Foster
Utilities Division Chief
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
502 Deaderick Street
4th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243

Re: Docket No. 16-00078
Application of SkyBest Communications, Inc., for a Certificate
to Provide Competing Local Telecommunications Services in Tennessee

Dear Mr. Foster:

Our Tennessee counsel, Mr. Keith Blair, has provided to me your letter dated August 16, 2016, wherein you request clarification on some information that we had earlier provided in our response letter dated August 3, 2016. I am the CEO of SkyLine Membership Corporation, the parent company for SkyBest Communications, Inc. I am also the President of SkyBest Communications. I assumed this role with Skyline/SkyBest in 2008. I will attempt to address the concerns of your most recent letter but if you need additional information, please let me know.

After reviewing your inquiry further, I do note the mistake that was made in our August 15, 2016, response when we discussed the different filings, revocations, and reinstatements that have occurred with both the office of Tennessee Secretary of State and the Tennessee Regulatory Authority. SkyBest Communications, Inc. has performed an extensive search for information that would explain our failure to respond to the TRA communications directed to us in 2005, when the TRA sought compliance of particular statutory requirements of SkyBest due from their Authority to provide operator services or resell telecommunication services in Tennessee. Although our search has not adequately produced a precise explanation, I do concur with Mr. Blair's suggestion, detailed in his letter to Mr. David Foster on August 15, 2016, that the problem arose with communication between SkyLine and our then, registered agent for service, Mr. J.L. Shumate. I was not the CEO at that time, but I will attempt to explain what I feel occurred.

Prior to SkyLine enlisting the services of Mr. Keith Blair to be our registered agent in the state of Tennessee, Mr. J. L. Shumate, a SkyLine Membership Corporation board member representing our Johnson County, TN service area, was the registered agent in Tennessee. During the 2004-2007 timeframe, Mr. Shumate became ill and it is my opinion that he received the notification but did not act on it appropriately. However, this explanation does not forego our responsibility in this matter.

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Please allow me to discuss our company and its mission. SkyLine Telephone Membership Corporation was established in 1951 to provide telecommunications services to rural communities. SkyLine is the parent company of SkyBest Communications, Inc. With over 700 telecom cooperatives in the United States, SkyLine is the eighth (8th) largest cooperative with respect to access lines. For over 20 years, SkyLine/SkyBest has been providing deregulated services that include Broadband, Video, and Security Systems. In addition, we have a 47% ownership in a cellular company, Carolina West Wireless (CWW). CWW has over 70,000 customers in North Carolina and owns spectrum throughout western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee. In 2010, in an effort to stay abreast of Tennessee regulatory issues, SkyLine became a Tier 1 member of the Tennessee Telecommunications Association (TTA). In 2016, we completed our fiber-to-the-premise (FTTP) project in which all of our 850 square miles of service area now has FTTP capability. It is worth noting that every customer in the Shady Valley, TN exchange is working on fiber technology. SkyLine recently became an affiliate of Codero Inc., a cloud-based company that provides hosted storage solutions. We have several other affiliate companies that help us provide ancillary hosted and non-hosted solutions, such as Access/On, a statewide fiber network. Through the Access/On network, we are connected to PalmettoNet in South Carolina and ValleyNet in Virginia and have had connectivity discussions with IRIS in Tennessee.

Philanthropically, we have awarded over \$500,000 of college scholarships to students throughout our region, including Johnson County Tennessee. Through our Technology Grant Program we have placed SmartBoards in every classroom in the schools throughout our region, including Shady Valley Elementary school. We contribute annually to school athletic needs for uniforms and other items.

Our awards are numerous for our efforts in economic development and community advancement. SkyLine/SkyBest was recently awarded the Alfred Adams Award of Economic Development by the Boone Chamber of Commerce in Watauga County, NC. This week, we will accept the "Business of the Year" award from the Avery County Chamber of Commerce. At an upcoming industry conference at the end of this month, the National Telecommunications Industry Association (NTCA) will present SkyLine/SkyBest with a Smart Rural Community Showcase award. I hope you can see that SkyLine/SkyBest is a progressive company dedicated to bringing the most technically advanced products and services to all of our customers, even in the most rural setting.

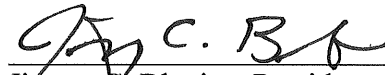
In short, it is evident that Skyline/SkyBest had administrative issues in fulfilling the corporate existence requirements mandated by the State of Tennessee and in fulfilling our statutory requirements on our prior filings with the Tennessee Regulatory Authority. With new local counsel in Tennessee to assist us in this respect, we believe that SkyBest does have the requisite technical, managerial and leadership qualities to fulfill the statutory requirements for a CLEC operation in Tennessee as requested with our application seeking the same. I am sorry

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that I cannot explain more fully what occurred with the prior revocations other than to say that proper attention was evidently not made but it should be noted that changes have been made to rectify such issues. Should additional information be required including a face to face meeting to further discuss any such concerns in considering our application to offer CLEC services, we would welcome the opportunity.

Hopefully, SkyBest will be given an opportunity to receive a CLEC license in the state of Tennessee. I appreciate your kind attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jimmy C. Blevins", is written over a horizontal line.

Jimmy C. Blevins, President
August 29, 2016