BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

IN KE:		
PETITION OF 1TENNESSEE)	DOCKET NO. 18-00096
BROADBAND, TV AND TELEPHONE)	
COOPERATIVE, INC. FOR)	
ESTABLISHMENT OF TERRITORIAL)	
BOUNDARIES		

IN DE.

PETITION FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE OF GIBSON ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION AND GIBSON CONNECT, LLC

Gibson Electric Membership Corporation ("GEMC") and Gibson Connect, LLC ("Gibson Connect"), by and through their undersigned counsel, hereby seek leave to intervene in the above-captioned proceeding pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 4-5-310 and 65-2-107. In support of this petition, GEMC and Gibson Connect (collectively, "Petitioners") state as follows:

- 1. GEMC is a Tennessee electric membership cooperative authorized and organized under Tennessee law, specifically Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-25-101 *et seq.*, to operate and to provide services in northern West Tennessee, and GEMC maintains its corporate offices at 1207 South College Street, Trenton, Tennessee 38382.
- GEMC is also authorized to operate and provide services in Southwest Kentucky under Tennessee and Kentucky law.
- 3. Pursuant to the Tennessee Broadband Accessibility Act, Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-25-134, GEMC formed a wholly owned subsidiary, Gibson Connect, to provide broadband voice and internet access and related services within GEMC's service area.

- 4. As explicitly authorized by the Tennessee Broadband Accessibility Act, Gibson Connect has already begun deploying broadband facilities and providing broadband voice and internet access services within GEMC's service area.
- 5. In its Petition, InfoStructure, Inc. d/b/a Click1.net ("Infostructure") claims that it has converted to a non-profit telephone cooperative and requests the Commission to grant it exclusive territorial boundaries that overlap with a portion of GEMC's service area and, thus, a portion of the area in which Gibson Connect is authorized to provide broadband voice and internet access and related services.
- 6. In communications with Petitioners and in related litigation currently pending in Gibson County Chancery Court, Infostructure has taken the position that its purported conversion to a telephone cooperative will prevent GEMC and Gibson Connect from providing broadband voice and internet access and related services within Infostructure's claimed territorial boundaries.
- 7. The Petitioners strongly dispute Infostructure's claims. Accordingly, the subject of this proceeding may directly affect Petitioners' operations in the State of Tennessee.
- 8. Petitioners' legal rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other legal interests may be determined in this proceeding.
- 9. Because of their direct interest in this proceeding, Petitioners respectfully seek to intervene in this matter.
- 10. The interests of justice and the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings will not be impaired by allowing the requested intervention.
- 11. Should the requested intervention be granted, all notices, pleadings, orders, documents and the like in this proceeding should be provided to:

W. Brantley Phillips, Jr. (18844)
Russell S. Baldwin (19288)
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and

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Based on the foregoing considerations, Petitioners request the Commission to grant this request for intervention.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorneys for Gibson Electric Membership Corporation and Gibson Connect LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy has been forwarded via U.S. Mail to the following on this the 1st day of October, 2018.

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