



TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
502 Deaderick St. 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

December 14, 2018

Mr. Keith Carnahan
President and CEO
Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC
1625 Highway 100,
Centerville, TN 37033

RE: Application for State-issued Certificate of Franchise Authority (Docket No. 18-00119)

Dear Mr. Carnahan:

On November 8, 2018, the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("TPUC") received your application on behalf of Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC ("ML") to issue a state-issued certificate of franchise authority pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-301, *et seq.*, also known as the Competitive Cable and Video Services Act (the "CCVSA").

Upon review, it has been determined that the application complies with the statutory requirements of the CCVSA and is therefore complete. Further action will be taken on the application as delineated within the CCVSA and you will soon receive information concerning the review of SVE's qualifications. Should you have any questions or concerns in this matter, please contact me at (615) 770-6889 or the address listed above. Thank you for your interest and cooperation.

Sincerest Regards,

John Hutton

John Hutton
Telecom/Utilities Consultant
john.hutton@tn.gov

C: Via email
Docket File

TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

502 Deaderick Street, 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

December 14, 2018

IN RE:

APPLICATION OF MERIWETHER LEWIS CONNECT,
LLC FOR A STATE-ISSUED CERTIFICATE OF
FRANCHISE AUTHORITY

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DOCKET NO.
18-00119

CERTIFICATE OF FRANCHISE AUTHORITY

On November 8, 2018, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-301, *et seq.*, also known as the Competitive Cable and Video Services Act ("CCVSA"), Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC ("ML") filed with the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("TPUC") its application for a State Issued *Certificate of Franchise Authority*. Pursuant to the CCVSA, issuance of this state-issued Certificate of Franchise Authority hereby conveys:


1. A nonexclusive grant of authority to provide cable or video service in the areas set forth in the application;¹

2. A nonexclusive grant of authority to construct, maintain and operate facilities through, along, upon, over and under any public rights-of-way, subject to the laws of the state of Tennessee, including the lawful exercise of police powers of the municipalities and counties in which such service is delivered;

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 & 2 above, this grant of authority is subject to lawful operation of the cable and video service by the Applicant or its successor in interest; and,

4. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs 1 & 2 above, this grant of authority does not confer upon the holder of the state-issued certificate of franchise authority the right to place facilities on private property without the owner's consent to such placement, except that nothing herein shall alter the condemnation authority provided pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-21-204 for internal improvements or as provided in title 29, chapter 16 of the Tennessee Code.

BE IT HEREBY ISSUED.



Earl R. Taylor, Executive Director

¹ According to the Application, ML's service area will be the Cities of Centerville, Tennessee Ridge, Erin, McEwen, New Johnsonville, Waverly, Hohenwald, Camden and Lobelville, TN and portions of unincorporated Hickman County as well as Houston, Humphreys, Lewis and Perry Counties, TN.

TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION



502 Deaderick Street, 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

November 16, 2018

Mr. Keith Carnahan
President & CEO
Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC
1625 Highway 100, P.O. Box 240,
Centerville, TN 37033

RE: Docket No. 18-00119: *Application of Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC for a State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority*

Dear Mr. Carnahan:

On November 8, 2018, the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("Commission or TPUC") received your application for a state-issued certificate of franchise authority ("Franchise"), filed on behalf of Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC ("ML"), pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-301, *et seq.* Upon further review, ML has not demonstrated that it is an entity that is deemed qualified by operation of law, as listed in Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-305(d)(3). Absent a showing that ML qualifies as an entity pursuant to the aforementioned statute, ML must then demonstrate that it meets the requisite criteria set forth in Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-305(d)(2) prior to being issued a certificate of franchise authority.

The Commission respectfully requests that ML file, in this docket, all information that it would like the Commission to consider in making a determination of financial qualifications to provide video or cable service (i.e., most recent Annual Financial Report of parent). Sufficient information concerning managerial and technical qualifications was provided in the application and no further information is required concerning these qualifications. In addition, as set forth in Tenn. Code Ann. 7-59-305(d)(2), please submit ML's plan to comply with the requirements of § 7-59-311 concerning deployment of services. As further provided by statute, the § 311 plan, as well as the financials are confidential. Therefore, the Commission reminds ML to take appropriate steps in filing its plan and financial report to maintain and ensure confidentiality. (i.e., provide confidential information in a separate envelope stamped proprietary).

Please send the requested information, noting Docket No. 18-00119 clearly on each document, to the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ATTN: Docket Room, 502

Deaderick St. 4th Floor, Nashville, TN 37243. If you have questions concerning this request or need additional information, please contact John Hutton (615) 770-6889.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Foster", written over the printed name.

David Foster, Director
Utilities Division

cc: Docket No.18-00119



TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Andrew Jackson Building
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

November 19, 2018

Erin
ATTN: Mayor Paul Bailey
P.O. Box 270,
Erin, TN 37061

RE: **NOTICE** of TPUC Receipt of Application for or Amendment to Certificate of Franchise Authority and **OFFICIAL REQUEST** for Information

Dear Mayor :

On November 8., 2018, Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC ("ML") filed with the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("TPUC" or "Department") an application for a State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority to provide cable and/or broadband service in an area that includes your city. By this time, you should have already received notice from ML of its intention to serve your area. You may access this and other related filings on the TPUC's website at <http://www.tn.gov/tra/dockets/1800119.htm>. The Department is required to send this notice so that you may act to preserve your Public, Educational and Governmental ("PEG") channels and PEG access support payments under Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309.¹

If an incumbent cable TV provider currently serves your municipality,² and that provider's franchise requires that it provide PEG channels or access payments, then you may be able to receive the same number of PEG channels and equivalent support payments from ML. But, in order to claim these benefits, you must provide the TPUC with information about the PEG channels negotiated under your incumbent provider's franchise *within ten (10) days* from the date you received notice from ML that it intended to provide cable or video service to your municipality, specifically:

- (1) The number of PEG channels that have been activated by the incumbent;
- (2) The number of PEG channels that are authorized to be activated under the incumbent franchise; and,
- (3) The amount of any fee or other payment for PEG access support required under the incumbent franchise.³

Please send the above information to:

Tennessee Public Utility Commission
ATTN: Docket Room (18-00119)
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243

If you have already forwarded this information to the TPUC upon receipt of the notice from the applicant or state-issued franchise service provider in accordance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309(a), please disregard this request. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me at (615) 770-6889 or at the address listed above. Thank you for your cooperation and prompt attention in this matter.

Sincerest Regards,

John Hutton
Telecommunications Consultant

¹ See Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-314(b)(1).

² This means the franchised cable service provider with the most subscribers in your municipality on January 1, 2008, whether or not the local franchise agreement had expired on July 1, 2008 (Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309(a)(1)).

³ See Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309(a)(1).



TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Andrew Jackson Building
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

November 19, 2018

Hickman County
ATTN: Mayor Mark Bentley
114 North Central Ave. Suite 204
Centerville, TN 37033

RE: **NOTICE** of TPUC Receipt of Application for or Amendment to Certificate of Franchise Authority and **OFFICIAL REQUEST** for Information

Dear Mayor :

On November 8., 2018, Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC ("ML") filed with the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("TPUC" or "Department") an application for a State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority to provide cable and/or broadband service in an area that includes your county. By this time, you should have already received notice from ML of its intention to serve your area. You may access this and other related filings on the TPUC's website at <http://www.tn.gov/tra/dockets/1800119.htm>. The Department is required to send this notice so that you may act to preserve your Public, Educational and Governmental ("PEG") channels and PEG access support payments under Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309.¹

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Tennessee Public Utility Commission
ATTN: Docket Room (18-00119)
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243

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Telecommunications Consultant

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TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Andrew Jackson Building
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

November 19, 2018

Hohenwald
ATTN: Mayor Danny McKnight
118 West Linden Ave.
Hohenwald, TN 38462

RE: **NOTICE** of TPUC Receipt of Application for or Amendment to Certificate of Franchise Authority and
OFFICIAL REQUEST for Information

Dear Mayor :

On November 8., 2018, Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC ("ML") filed with the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("TPUC" or "Department") an application for a State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority to provide cable and/or broadband service in an area that includes your city. By this time, you should have already received notice from ML of its intention to serve your area. You may access this and other related filings on the TPUC's website at <http://www.tn.gov/tra/dockets/1800119.htm>. The Department is required to send this notice so that you may act to preserve your Public, Educational and Governmental ("PEG") channels and PEG access support payments under Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309.¹

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Please send the above information to:

Tennessee Public Utility Commission
ATTN: Docket Room (18-00119)
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243

If you have already forwarded this information to the TPUC upon receipt of the notice from the applicant or state-issued franchise service provider in accordance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309(a), please disregard this request. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me at (615) 770-6889 or at the address listed above. Thank you for your cooperation and prompt attention in this matter.

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Telecommunications Consultant

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TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Andrew Jackson Building
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

November 19, 2018

Houston County
ATTN: Mayor James Bridges
P. O. Box 366,
Erin, TN 37061

RE: **NOTICE** of TPUC Receipt of Application for or Amendment to Certificate of Franchise Authority and **OFFICIAL REQUEST** for Information

Dear Mayor :

On November 8,, 2018, Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC ("ML") filed with the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("TPUC" or "Department") an application for a State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority to provide cable and/or broadband service in an area that includes your county. By this time, you should have already received notice from ML of its intention to serve your area. You may access this and other related filings on the TPUC's website at <http://www.tn.gov/tra/dockets/1800119.htm>. The Department is required to send this notice so that you may act to preserve your Public, Educational and Governmental ("PEG") channels and PEG access support payments under Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309.¹

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Please send the above information to:

Tennessee Public Utility Commission
ATTN: Docket Room (18-00119)
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243

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John Hutton
Telecommunications Consultant

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TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Andrew Jackson Building
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

November 19, 2018

Humphreys County
ATTN: County Executive Jessie R. Wallace
102 Thompson St. Rawlings Bldg. RM 1
Waverly, TN 37185

RE: **NOTICE** of TPUC Receipt of Application for or Amendment to Certificate of Franchise Authority and **OFFICIAL REQUEST** for Information

Dear Mr. Wallace :

On November 8, 2018, Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC ("ML") filed with the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("TPUC" or "Department") an application for a State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority to provide cable and/or broadband service in an area that includes your county. By this time, you should have already received notice from ML of its intention to serve your area. You may access this and other related filings on the TPUC's website at <http://www.tn.gov/tra/dockets/1800119.htm>. The Department is required to send this notice so that you may act to preserve your Public, Educational and Governmental ("PEG") channels and PEG access support payments under Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309.¹

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Tennessee Public Utility Commission
ATTN: Docket Room (18-00119)
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243

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TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Andrew Jackson Building
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

November 19, 2018

Lewis County
ATTN: Mayor Jonah Keltner
110 North Park Ave.
Hohenwald, TN 38462

RE: NOTICE of TPUC Receipt of Application for or Amendment to Certificate of Franchise Authority and OFFICIAL REQUEST for Information

Dear Mayor :

On November 8,, 2018, Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC ("ML") filed with the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("TPUC" or "Department") an application for a State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority to provide cable and/or broadband service in an area that includes your county. By this time, you should have already received notice from ML of its intention to serve your area. You may access this and other related filings on the TPUC's website at <http://www.tn.gov/tra/dockets/1800119.htm>. The Department is required to send this notice so that you may act to preserve your Public, Educational and Governmental ("PEG") channels and PEG access support payments under Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309.¹

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Tennessee Public Utility Commission
ATTN: Docket Room (18-00119)
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
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TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Andrew Jackson Building
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

November 19, 2018

Linden
ATTN: Mayor Wess Ward
P.O. Box 46,
linden, TN 37096

RE: NOTICE of TPUC Receipt of Application for or Amendment to Certificate of Franchise Authority and OFFICIAL REQUEST for Information

Dear Mayor :

On November 8,, 2018, Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC ("ML") filed with the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("TPUC" or "Department") an application for a State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority to provide cable and/or broadband service in an area that includes your city. By this time, you should have already received notice from ML of its intention to serve your area. You may access this and other related filings on the TPUC's website at <http://www.tn.gov/tra/dockets/1800119.htm>. The Department is required to send this notice so that you may act to preserve your Public, Educational and Governmental ("PEG") channels and PEG access support payments under Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309.¹

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Tennessee Public Utility Commission
ATTN: Docket Room (18-00119)
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243

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TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Andrew Jackson Building
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

November 19, 2018

Lobelville
ATTN: Mayor Robby J. Moore
P.O. Box 369
Lobelville, TN 37097

RE: **NOTICE** of TPUC Receipt of Application for or Amendment to Certificate of Franchise Authority and
OFFICIAL REQUEST for Information

Dear Mayor :

On November 8,, 2018, Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC ("ML") filed with the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("TPUC" or "Department") an application for a State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority to provide cable and/or broadband service in an area that includes your city. By this time, you should have already received notice from ML of its intention to serve your area. You may access this and other related filings on the TPUC's website at <http://www.tn.gov/tra/dockets/1800119.htm>. The Department is required to send this notice so that you may act to preserve your Public, Educational and Governmental ("PEG") channels and PEG access support payments under Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309.¹

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Tennessee Public Utility Commission
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TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Andrew Jackson Building
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

November 19, 2018

McEwen
ATTN: Mayor Cecil Ross
9586 Hwy 70 East
McEwen, TN 37101

RE: NOTICE of TPUC Receipt of Application for or Amendment to Certificate of Franchise Authority and OFFICIAL REQUEST for Information

Dear Mayor :

On November 8., 2018, Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC ("ML") filed with the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("TPUC" or "Department") an application for a State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority to provide cable and/or broadband service in an area that includes your city. By this time, you should have already received notice from ML of its intention to serve your area. You may access this and other related filings on the TPUC's website at <http://www.tn.gov/tra/dockets/1800119.htm>. The Department is required to send this notice so that you may act to preserve your Public, Educational and Governmental ("PEG") channels and PEG access support payments under Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309.¹

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TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Andrew Jackson Building
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

November 19, 2018

New Johnsonville
ATTN: Mayor David Cagle
323 Long St.
New Johnsonville, TN 37134

RE: **NOTICE** of TPUC Receipt of Application for or Amendment to Certificate of Franchise Authority and
OFFICIAL REQUEST for Information

Dear Mayor :

On November 8,, 2018, Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC ("ML") filed with the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("TPUC" or "Department") an application for a State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority to provide cable and/or broadband service in an area that includes your city. By this time, you should have already received notice from ML of its intention to serve your area. You may access this and other related filings on the TPUC's website at <http://www.tn.gov/tra/dockets/1800119.htm>. The Department is required to send this notice so that you may act to preserve your Public, Educational and Governmental ("PEG") channels and PEG access support payments under Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309.¹

If an incumbent cable TV provider currently serves your municipality,² and that provider's franchise requires that it provide PEG channels or access payments, then you may be able to receive the same number of PEG channels and equivalent support payments from ML. But, in order to claim these benefits, you must provide the TPUC with information about the PEG channels negotiated under your incumbent provider's franchise *within ten (10) days* from the date you received notice from ML that it intended to provide cable or video service to your municipality, specifically:

- (1) The number of PEG channels that have been activated by the incumbent;
- (2) The number of PEG channels that are authorized to be activated under the incumbent franchise; and,
- (3) The amount of any fee or other payment for PEG access support required under the incumbent franchise.³

Please send the above information to:

Tennessee Public Utility Commission
ATTN: Docket Room (18-00119)
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243

If you have already forwarded this information to the TPUC upon receipt of the notice from the applicant or state-issued franchise service provider in accordance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309(a), please disregard this request. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me at (615) 770-6889 or at the address listed above. Thank you for your cooperation and prompt attention in this matter.

Sincerest Regards,

John Hutton
Telecommunications Consultant

¹ See Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-314(b)(1).

² This means the franchised cable service provider with the most subscribers in your municipality on January 1, 2008, whether or not the local franchise agreement had expired on July 1, 2008 (Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309(a)(1)).

³ See Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309(a)(1).



TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Andrew Jackson Building
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

November 19, 2018

Perry County
ATTN: Mayor John Carroll
P.O. Box 16,
Linden, TN 37096

RE: **NOTICE** of TPUC Receipt of Application for or Amendment to Certificate of Franchise Authority and
OFFICIAL REQUEST for Information

Dear Mayor :

On November 8,, 2018, Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC ("ML") filed with the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("TPUC" or "Department") an application for a State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority to provide cable and/or broadband service in an area that includes your county. By this time, you should have already received notice from ML of its intention to serve your area. You may access this and other related filings on the TPUC's website at <http://www.tn.gov/tra/dockets/1800119.htm>. The Department is required to send this notice so that you may act to preserve your Public, Educational and Governmental ("PEG") channels and PEG access support payments under Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309.¹

If an incumbent cable TV provider currently serves your municipality,² and that provider's franchise requires that it provide PEG channels or access payments, then you may be able to receive the same number of PEG channels and equivalent support payments from ML. But, in order to claim these benefits, you must provide the TPUC with information about the PEG channels negotiated under your incumbent provider's franchise *within ten (10) days* from the date you received notice from ML that it intended to provide cable or video service to your municipality, specifically:

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TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Andrew Jackson Building
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

November 19, 2018

Tennessee Ridge
ATTN: Mayor Stony Ridge Odom
P.O. Box 207
Tennessee Ridge, TN 37178

**NOTICE of TPUC Receipt of Application for or Amendment to Certificate of Franchise Authority and
OFFICIAL REQUEST for Information**

Dear Mayor :

On November 8., 2018, Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC ("ML") filed with the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("TPUC" or "Department") an application for a State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority to provide cable and/or broadband service in an area that includes your city. By this time, you should have already received notice from ML of its intention to serve your area. You may access this and other related filings on the TPUC's website at <http://www.tn.gov/tra/dockets/1800119.htm>. The Department is required to send this notice so that you may act to preserve your Public, Educational and Governmental ("PEG") channels and PEG access support payments under Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309.¹

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TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Andrew Jackson Building
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

November 19, 2018

Waverly
ATTN: Mayor Wallace B. Frazier
P.O. Box 70,
Waverly, TN 37185

RE: **NOTICE** of TPUC Receipt of Application for or Amendment to Certificate of Franchise Authority and
OFFICIAL REQUEST for Information

Dear Mayor :

On November 8., 2018, Meriwether Lewis Connect, LLC ("ML") filed with the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("TPUC" or "Department") an application for a State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority to provide cable and/or broadband service in an area that includes your city. By this time, you should have already received notice from ML of its intention to serve your area. You may access this and other related filings on the TPUC's website at <http://www.tn.gov/tra/dockets/1800119.htm>. The Department is required to send this notice so that you may act to preserve your Public, Educational and Governmental ("PEG") channels and PEG access support payments under Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309.¹

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