

24-00054

Exhibit I

Sworn Pre-Filed Testimony

**BEFORE THE
TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

**APPLICATION OF RIPPLE FIBER
TENNESSEE LLC FOR A CERTIFICATE TO
PROVIDE COMPETING LOCAL
TELEPHONE SERVICES**

PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF LANCE VAN DER SPUY

**SAMPLE INFORMATION THAT MUST BE INCLUDED IN A SWORN
PRE-FILED TESTIMONY**

I, Lance van der Spuy, do hereby testify as follows in support of the application of Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC (Ripple Fiber) for a Certificate of convenience and necessity as a competing telecommunications services provider to provide telecommunication services throughout the State of Tennessee.

Q: Please state your full name, business address, and position.

A: My name is Lance van der Spuy. My business address is 6000 Fairview Road, Southpark Towers, Suite 300, Charlotte, NC 28014. I am President of Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC.

Q: Please briefly describe your duties.

A: I direct each department head, facilitate strategic alignment with success metrics, including business expansion, revenue growth, stakeholder engagement, and customer retention.

Q: Please describe your business experience and educational background.

A: I am a qualified Chartered Accountant and registered CPA in Arizona. I received a Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting, Tax & Audit. I have over 15 years of experience in business management, demonstrating expertise in operational excellence, financial proficiency, and corporate entrepreneurship

Q: Are all statements in Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC's application true and correct to the best of your knowledge, information, and belief?

A: Yes. All statements in Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC's application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Q: Please describe the current corporate structure of Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC.

A: Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC is a sole member LLC wholly owned by Ripple Fiber LLC.

Q: Does Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC possess the requisite managerial, financial, and technical abilities to provide the services for which it has applied for authority?

A: Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC possesses the requisite managerial, financial, and technical abilities to provide the services for which it has applied for authority.

Q: Please describe Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC's financial qualifications.

A: Ripple Fiber has the financial resources to adequately provide service in Tennessee, as exhibit by the financial information disclosed in Exhibit F. Ripple Fiber maintains a steady business and the cost of provision of service in Tennessee will not strain its resources.

Q: Please describe Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC's managerial and technical qualifications.

A: Ripple Fiber is managed by a competent team of professionals with extensive experience in the telecommunications industry. Their experience and qualifications are detailed in Exhibit E.

Q: What services will Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC offer?

A: Ripple Fiber plans to offer facilities based and resold local exchange services and unregulated services to both residential customers and business customers.

Q: Will Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC offer service to all consumers within its service area?

A: Ripple Fiber intends to provide service to all consumers within its service area.

Q: Does Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC plan to offer local exchange telecommunications services in areas served by any incumbent local exchange telephone company with fewer than 100,000 total access lines?

A: Ripple Fiber intends to offer service statewide to the extent open to competition.

Q: Will the granting of a certificate of convenience and necessity to Ripple Fiber LLC serve the public interest?

A: Grant of certificate of convenience and necessity to Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC will serve the public interest and benefit the telecommunications market of Tennessee.

Grant of the Application will further the goals of the Tennessee Legislature and further the public interest by expanding the availability of competitive telecommunications services in the State of Tennessee. In addition, intrastate offering of these services is in the public interest because the services will provide Tennessee customer increased efficiencies and cost savings. Authorizing Ripple Fiber to provide local exchange telecommunications services will enhance materially the

telecommunications infrastructure in the State of Tennessee and will facilitate economic development.

Q: Does Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC intend to comply with all TRA rules, statutes, and orders pertaining to the provision of telecommunications services in Tennessee, including those for disconnection and reconnection of service?

A: Yes. Ripple Fiber will comply with all TRA rules, statutes, and orders pertaining to the provision of telecommunications services in Tennessee, including those for disconnection and reconnection of service.

Q: Has any state ever denied Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC or one of its affiliates authorization to provide intrastate service?

A: No. No state has ever denied Ripple Fiber or one of its affiliates authorization to provide intrastate service.

Q: Has any state ever revoked the certification of Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC or one of its affiliates?

A: No. No state has ever revoked the certification of Ripple Fiber or one of its affiliates.

Q: Has Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC or one of its affiliates ever been investigated or sanctioned by any regulatory authority for service or billing irregularities?

A: No, Ripple Fiber and its affiliate have never been investigated or sanctioned by any regulatory authority for service or billing irregularities.

Q: Who is knowledgeable about Ripple Fiber Tennessee LLC's operations and will serve as Ripple Fiber LLC's regulatory and customer service contact?

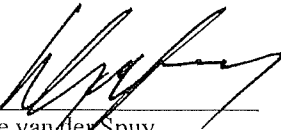
A: Ripple Fiber's primary contact for operations, regulatory, and customer service issues will be Josh Runyan, Chief Legal Officer.

Q: Please explain in detail Ripple Fiber LLC's proposed procedures for responding to information requests from the TRA and its staff.

Q: Does this conclude your testimony?

A: Yes.

I swear that the foregoing testimony is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Lance van der Spuy
President
Ripple Fiber LLC

Respectfully submitted this 16 day of December, 2024.

Notary Public State of North Carolina

County of Mecklenburg

My commission expires 4-3-28

