FILED
JUN 26 2023
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
G.P.S.C.

COMMISSIONERS:

TRICIA PRIDEMORE, Chairman
TIM G. ECHOLS, Vice-Chairman
FITZ JOHNSON
LAUREN "BUBBA" McDONALD
JASON SHAW

REECE McALISTER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SALLIE TANNER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Georgia Public Service Commission

(404) 656-4501
(800) 282-5813

244 WASHINGTON STREET, SW
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334-5701

FAX: (404) 656-2341
psc.ga.gov

DOCKET# 43713
DOCUMENT# 204914

Docket No. 43713

In Re: Application of Trailwave Fiber, Inc. for Limited Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier to Receive Rural Digital Opportunity Fund I (Auction 904) Support for Voice and Broadband Services

ORDER APPROVING RELINQUISHMENT OF ETC DESIGNATION

I. Background

On January 6, 2021, Trailwave Fiber, Inc. ("Trailwave Fiber") filed with the Georgia Public Service Commission ("Commission") its Application for Limited Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier to Receive Rural Digital Opportunity Fund I (Auction 904) Support for Voice and Broadband Services.

On May 27, 2021, the Commission issued an order granting ETC designation to Trailwave Fiber.

On May 23, 2023, Trailwave Fiber filed its Petition of Trailwave Fiber, Inc. to Relinquish Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation ("Petition"). In its Petition, Trailwave Fiber states:

> Due, in part, to the balkanized, non-contiguous nature of the RDOF CBGs[1] awarded to Trailwave, Trailwave determined that proceeding with the RDOF program would not be in Trailwave's best interests. Therefore, Trailwave notified the FCC of its surrender of the RDOF awarded CBGs on May 25, 2022 (attached as Exhibit A). Accordingly, Trailwave did not receive RDOF funding, did not expand its network under the RDOF program, and has provided no supported voice or broadband services relying on its ETC designation or utilizing any RDOF funds. In short, Trailwave no longer needs to retain its ETC designation, which was sought

[1] Census block groups

for the limited purpose of enabling Trailwave to participate in the RDOF program. No customers or telecommunications carriers will be impacted by Trailwave's relinquishment of its ETC designation. As such, the Commission should permit Trailwave to relinquish its now-obsolete ETC designation.

Petition, p. 2. Attachment omitted.

Trailwave Fiber asserts that it meets the requirements for relinquishment set forth in 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(4) because other ETCs serve all the census block groups where Trailwave Fiber was authorized as an ETC. *Id.* at 2-3. Trailwave Fiber requests that the Commission grant its Petition and enter an order confirming relinquishment of its ETC designation in all areas within the State of Georgia. *Id.* at 3.

II. Staff Recommendation

Staff concluded that Trailwave Fiber met the requirements for relinquishment and recommended approval of Trailwave Fiber's request.

III. Commission Decision

The Commission adopts the Staff's recommendation for the reasons stated therein.

* * * * *

WHEREFORE, it is

ORDERED, that the ETC designation of Trailwave Fiber, Inc. is hereby relinquished.

ORDERED FURTHER, that a motion for reconsideration, rehearing, oral argument, or any other motion shall not stay the effective date of this Order, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

ORDERED FURTHER, that jurisdiction over this matter is expressly retained for the purpose of entering such further Order(s) as this Commission may deem just and proper.

The above by action of the Commission in Administrative Session on the 20th day of June 2023.

Sallie Tanner
Executive Secretary

6-26-23
DATE

Tricia Pridemore
Chairman

6/26/23
DATE