STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its Office on Jefferson City on the 9th day of March, 2022.

In the Matter of Northeast Missouri Rural Telephone Company d/b/a NEMR Telecom's Application for Expansion of its Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier for Purposes of Receiving Rural Digital Opportunity Fund and Motions for Expedited Treatment and Waiver

File No. IA-2021-0221

ORDER GRANTING REVISED EXPANDED DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER

Issue Date: March 9, 2022

Effective Date: April 8, 2022

On February 24, 2021, the Commission granted Northeast Rural Telephone Company d/b/a NEMR Telecom (NEMR Telecom) request for authority to expand its existing Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) designation. NEMR Telecom had recently been awarded federal Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) support to build broadband facilities in more rural areas, and sought to expand its ETC designation to include the census blocks it was awarded.

The Commission granted NEMR Telecom authority in the census blocks that it sought, but on February 22, 2022, that company filed a motion indicating that it has learned that the Census Block Groups for which it was designated by the Commission as an ETC did not match the Census Block Groups for which it has been (or will be) awarded RDOF support. For that reason, NEMR Telecom asks the Commission to issue a revised order granting it expanded designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the Census Block Groups described in Revised Exhibit 2, attached to its motion. NEMR Telecom also asks the Commission to rescind its grant of expanded designation described in the February 24, 2021 order.

The Commission directed its Staff to file a recommendation and Staff did so on March 1, 2022. Staff recommends the Commission grant NEMR Telecom's request for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier to receive federal high-cost and low-income support for census blocks identified in Revised Exhibit 2. Staff also recommends the Commission rescind its February 24, 2021 order that granted that authority in the incorrect census blocks. The Commission will grant NEMR Telecom's motion.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Commission's February 24, 2021 Order Granting Expanded Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier is rescinded.

2. NEMR Telecom's Motion for Revised Order Granting Expanded Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier is granted.

3. NEMR Telecom is granted ETC designation in all census block groups described in Revised Exhibit 2 to its motion, which is attached to this order.

4. This order shall become effective on April 8, 2022.



Morris I Woodul

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Silvey, Chm., Rupp, Coleman, Holsman, and Kolkmeyer CC., concur.

Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 9th day of March, 2022.



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Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION March 9, 2022

File/Case No. IA-2021-0221

Missouri Public Service Commission

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Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,

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Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.