1	STATE OF MISSOURI
2	PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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6	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
7	Hearing
8	May 31, 2006 Jefferson City, Missouri
9	Volume 2
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12 13	In the Matter of the Application) of Northwest Missouri Cellular) Limited Partnership for)
14	Designation as a) Telecommunications Company) Carrier Eligible for Federal)Case No. TO-2005-0466
15 16	Universal Service Support) Pursuant to Section 254 of the) Telecommunications Act of 1996)
17	
18	NAMON DEDDELL D. '.1'
19	NANCY DIPPELL, Presiding, DEPUTY CHIEF REGULATORY LAW JUDGE
20	JEFF DAVIS, Chairman, CONNIE MURRAY,
21	STEVE GAW, ROBERT M. CLAYTON, III,
22	LINWARD "LIN" APPLING, COMMISSIONERS
23	
24	REPORTED BY:
25	PAMELA FICK, RMR, RPR, CCR #447, CSR MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES

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1 PROCEEDINGS
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- 2 (EXHIBIT NOS. 1, 2 NP, 2 HC, 3 NP, 3 HC,
- 3 4 NP, 4 HC, 5 NP, 5 HC, 6 NP, 6 HC, 7, 8 NP, 8 HC,
- 4 9 NP, 9 HC, 10 NP, 10 HC, 11 NP AND 11 HC WERE MARKED
- 5 FOR IDENTIFICATION BY THE COURT REPORTER.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Let's go ahead and
- 7 go on the record. Okay. Good morning. This is
- 8 Case No. TO-2005-0466, in the matter of the Application
- 9 of Northwest Missouri Cellular, Limited Partnership,
- 10 for Designation as a Telecommunications Company
- 11 Carrier Eligible for Federal Universal Service Support
- 12 Pursuant to Section 254 of the Telecommunications Act
- 13 of 1966 (sic).
- 14 My name is Nancy Dippell and I'm the
- 15 Regulatory Law Judge assigned to this matter. I have
- 16 a little bit of laryngitis, so listening to me for
- 17 three days is going to be kind of grating, so you
- 18 might want to keep things moving along, get it over
- 19 with quickly.
- We are here today for an evidentiary
- 21 hearing and we're gonna begin with entries of
- 22 appearance and then go to the opening statements and
- 23 cross-examination in the order that the parties have
- 24 proposed.
- 25 We've premarked exhibits before we went

1 on the record, so let's go ahead with entries. Let's

- 2 begin again with Staff.
- 3 MR. HAAS: Good morning. The Staff
- 4 appears by William K. Haas. My address is Post
- 5 Office Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.
- 6 JUDGE DIPPELL: Office of Public
- 7 Counsel?
- 8 MR. DANDINO: Good morning, your Honor.
- 9 Michael Dandino, Office of the Public Counsel, Post
- 10 Office Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102,
- 11 representing the Office of Public Counsel and the
- 12 public.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Northwest Missouri?
- 14 MR. DeFORD: Thank you, your Honor.
- 15 Paul S. DeFord with the law firm of Lathrop & Gage,
- 16 2345 Grand Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri 64108,
- 17 appearing on behalf of applicant Northwest Missouri
- 18 Cellular.
- 19 JUDGE DIPPELL: Spectra?
- 20 MR. STEWART: Good morning, your Honor.
- 21 Charles Brent Stewart with the law firm of Stewart &
- 22 Keevil, L.L.C., 4603 John Garry Drive, Suite 11,
- 23 Columbia, Missouri 65203, appearing on behalf of
- 24 Spectra Communications Group, L.L.C., d/b/a
- 25 CenturyTel and CenturyTel of Missouri, L.L.C.

- JUDGE DIPPELL: Holway?
- 2 MR. ENGLAND: Thank you, your Honor.
- 3 Let the record reflect the appearance of W. R. England
- 4 and Sondra B. Morgan of the law firm of Brydon,
- 5 Swearengen & England, Post Office Box 456, Jefferson
- 6 City, Missouri 65102, appearing on behalf of Holway
- 7 Telephone Company.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: And AT&T?
- 9 MR. GRYZMALA: Good morning, your Honor.
- 10 Bob Gryzmala on behalf of Southwestern Bell
- 11 Telephone, L.P., d/b/a AT&T Missouri, One AT&T
- 12 Center, Room 3516, St. Louis, Missouri 63101.
- 13 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. I will
- 14 remind everybody to speak into their microphones.
- 15 It's your preference whether you come to the podium
- 16 to ask your questions or whether you stay at your
- 17 seats. I'll leave that up to you as long as you
- 18 speak into the microphone.
- 19 Well, let's go ahead and begin with
- 20 opening statements, then. And we'll begin with
- 21 Northwest Missouri Cellular.
- 22 MR. DeFORD: Thank you, your Honor. I'm
- 23 here today representing applicant Northwest Missouri
- 24 Cellular. This case is about Northwest's request to
- 25 be granted eliqible telecommunication carrier status

- 1 so they can draw money from the Federal Universal
- 2 Service Fund to improve service coverage in its
- 3 facilities.
- 4 Northwest is one of only two wireless
- 5 carriers that offer service exclusively in Missouri
- 6 and in predominantly rural areas of the state. I
- 7 would submit to you that these are exactly the type
- 8 of companies that the USF is intended to support.
- 9 I would also submit to you that there is
- 10 no legitimate doubt that Northwest provides all of
- 11 the services necessary to be granted ETC status.
- 12 Even under Staff's critical analysis of the statutory
- 13 requirements, it concluded that Northwest provides
- 14 the necessary services.
- The only real issue for consideration
- 16 here is whether it is in the public interest to grant
- 17 Northwest ETC status. I believe the evidence clearly
- 18 establishes that the public interest would be
- 19 furthered by granting Northwest's application.
- 20 Competition will be enhanced and high
- 21 speed wireless data service will be deployed in rural
- 22 Missouri. Because Northwest provides service only in
- 23 rural Missouri, the Commission can be certain that
- 24 all monies received will be accounted for and spent
- 25 to the benefit of rural Missouri.

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1 Northwest has provided a detailed
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- 2 five-year build-out plan even though the Commission's
- 3 pending ETC rule requires only a two-year plan.
- 4 Finally, Northwest is explicitly
- 5 committed to meet each requirement of the
- 6 Commission's pending ETC rule. Frankly, I don't know
- 7 what more the company could do, so I would ask that
- 8 the Commission expeditiously grant Northwest's
- 9 application. Thank you.
- 10 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. Public
- 11 Counsel?
- 12 MR. DANDINO: Good morning, your Honor.
- 13 May it please the Commission. The Office of the
- 14 Public Counsel has generally supported extending ETC
- 15 status to wireless carriers. We believe that new
- 16 technology should not automatically disqualify a
- 17 carrier for USF support, but the key aspect is,
- 18 provided it meets the USF criteria and demonstrates
- 19 that such grant of ETC status is in the public
- 20 interest.
- 21 As we all know, the purpose of USF is to
- 22 support a local service at just, reasonable and
- 23 affordable rates in high-cost areas and also for
- 24 low-income -- to allow low-income people to get on
- 25 the public switch network and stay on that network.

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1 With new technology there's not a
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- 2 justified abandonment of rights obtained under the
- 3 old technology of landline; specifically, billing and
- 4 collection rights, adequacy and quality of service
- 5 and grievance and complaint resolution.
- 6 Even when the price cap companies and
- 7 the companies are -- price cap companies are
- 8 classified as competitive companies, they are still
- 9 bound by these consumer protections. Certainly, we
- 10 want these consumer protections to apply to a
- 11 wireless ETC.
- 12 There should be a clear, unambiguous and
- 13 unequivocal statement by the company that they will
- 14 adopt -- will accept and adopt these consumer
- 15 protections. Specifically, I would say that they
- 16 would accept and adopt as a condition of ETC status
- 17 those provisions within the Commission's rule.
- 18 I think the Commission has worked very
- 19 diligently on -- on fashioning this rule and I think
- 20 it embodies the public interest, the statement of
- 21 what is the public interest and what this Commission
- 22 expects for an applicant to meet the USF
- 23 qualifications.
- Once again, I bring my favorite statute
- 25 to the Commission, Section 392.185, the purposes and

- 1 intent of the General Assembly for the
- 2 telecommunications chapter. These nine points, these
- 3 nine goals, these nine purposes are -- or once again,
- 4 should be the focus of this Commission when making a
- 5 public -- public interest evaluation.
- If you look through all these:
- 7 "Promoting universally available and affordable
- 8 telecommunications service, efficiency and
- 9 availability of telecommunications service, diversity
- 10 in telecommunications service and product throughout
- 11 the state, reasonable charges, flexible regulation of
- 12 the competitive companies, full and fair competition
- 13 as a substitute for regulation, but," once again,
- 14 "when consistent with the protection of ratepayers
- 15 and otherwise consistent with the public interest."
- And No. 7 is a very important one that I
- 17 think for this case in particular, "to promote parity
- 18 of urban and rural telecommunication services." I
- 19 think it's important because the -- in the same way
- 20 that wireless communication is available throughout
- 21 the metropolitan areas, so too for ETC status, it
- 22 should be available throughout the service area that
- 23 the -- that the applicant applies for.
- Once again, "promote economic,
- 25 educational healthcare and cultural enhancements."

1 This occurs. Industry looks for where the people are

- 2 located, these -- and where first class
- 3 telecommunications services are available. ETC
- 4 status can provide that support for that service.
- 5 Public Counsel does not specifically
- 6 support the applicant's application in this present
- 7 form. There were a number of questions that Public
- 8 Counsel raised in its rebuttal testimony and in
- 9 review of the supplemental direct and the surrebuttal
- 10 testimony.
- 11 Ms. Meisenheimer, on behalf of Public
- 12 Counsel, has still indicated certain deficiencies,
- 13 certain questions, unanswered questions that she sees
- 14 in the testimony. Perhaps we'll get the answers here
- 15 today. But I think Ms. Meisenheimer points these out
- in her rebuttal, and I would hope that the Commission
- 17 considers these points.
- I think that what Public Counsel is
- 19 asking for is that the customers in this proposed
- 20 service area have the same rights, obligations and
- 21 protections as does the customers, the wireline
- 22 customers. I think Public Counsel asks for nothing
- 23 more than that, and I think the Commission should
- 24 insist upon that. Thank you.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Mr. Haas?

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1 MR. HAAS: Good morning. May it please
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- 2 the Commission. My name is William Haas and I'm
- 3 appearing on behalf of the Staff.
- 4 In its application, Northwest Missouri
- 5 Cellular has requested the Commission to designate it
- 6 as an eligible telecommunications carrier. An ETC
- 7 designation will make Northwest Missouri Cellular
- 8 eligible to receive federal universal service
- 9 support.
- 10 Federal Statute 47 USC Section 214(e)
- 11 authorizes a State Commission to designate a carrier
- 12 as an ETC. The Federal Communications Commission has
- 13 adopted rules for ETC applications coming before it.
- 14 The FCC has encouraged states to adopt similar
- 15 guidelines to allow for a more predictable ETC
- 16 designation process among the states.
- The Commission's new rule, 4 CSR 243.570,
- 18 Requirements for Carrier Designation as Eligible
- 19 Telecommunications Carriers, mostly follows the FCC's
- 20 requirements for a carrier to receive ETC
- 21 designation. The Commission's ETC rule becomes
- 22 effective on June 30th.
- 23 The parties to this case have used the
- 24 Commission's new rule to analyze Northwest Missouri
- 25 Cellular's application. Because the Staff has

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1 identified several shortcomings in Northwest Missouri
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- 2 Cellular's application, vis-a-vis the Commission's
- 3 ETC rules, the Staff recommends that the Commission
- 4 reject Northwest Missouri Cellular's application.
- 5 Paragraph (2) (A) 8 of the new rule
- 6 requires, among other things, a statement that the
- 7 carrier will satisfy the consumer privacy protection
- 8 standards in the federal rules. Northwest Missouri
- 9 Cellular does not make this commitment.
- 10 Paragraph (2) (A) 10 in the new Commission
- 11 rules requires the carrier's commitment to offer a
- 12 local usage plan comparable to those offered by the
- 13 incumbent local exchange carrier. Northwest Missouri
- 14 Cellular currently offers a comparable plan but has
- 15 not committed to continue offering a comparable plan.
- The rebuttal testimony of Staff witness
- 17 McKinnie pointed out Northwest Missouri Cellular's
- 18 failure to make these commitments, but Northwest
- 19 Missouri Cellular's witnesses still did not make
- 20 these commitments in its surrebuttal testimony.
- 21 The FCC requires an ETC application to
- 22 include a five-year plan that describes with
- 23 specificity proposed improvements or upgrades to be
- 24 funded by the high-cost support. Because of the
- 25 uncertainty of forecasting expenditures five years

- 1 out, the Commission's ETC rule requires at rule
- 2 paragraph (2)(A)2 only a two-year plan. That
- 3 two-year plan is to demonstrate with specificity that
- 4 high-cost universal support shall only be used for
- 5 the provision, maintenance and upgrading of the
- 6 facilities and services for which the support is
- 7 intended.
- 8 Appendix P to the surrebuttal testimony
- 9 of Northwest Missouri Cellular, witness Bundridge
- 10 demonstrates that Northwest Missouri Cellular does
- 11 not plan to spend all year 2 support for supported
- 12 facilities and services.
- Paragraph (2) (A) 5 of the new rule
- 14 requires a demonstration that the Commission's grant
- 15 of the applicant's request for ETC designation would
- 16 be consistent with the public interest, convenience
- 17 and necessity.
- In its application, Northwest Missouri
- 19 Cellular states that designating it as an ETC will
- 20 enhance consumer welfare by promoting competition.
- 21 The FCC, however, has concluded that increased
- 22 competition by itself is not sufficient to satisfy
- 23 the public interest in rural areas.
- 24 Moreover, there do not appear to be
- 25 large coverage gaps in Northwest Missouri Cellular's

- 1 service area. Northwest Missouri Cellular suggests
- 2 that the expansion of its E-911 wireless coverage in
- 3 these most rural areas is in the public interest.
- 4 However, Northwest Missouri Cellular has provided --
- 5 has provided no evidence showing whether there are
- 6 911 or E-911 wireless coverage gaps in its requested
- 7 ETC area.
- 8 In conclusion, the Staff recommends that
- 9 the Commission reject Northwest Missouri Cellular's
- 10 application for ETC designation. Northwest Missouri
- 11 Cellular has not made all of the commitments
- 12 necessary to specify the requirements of the
- 13 Commission's ETC rule even after Staff's rebuttal
- 14 testimony specifically identified areas where a
- 15 commitment was lacking, nor has Northwest Missouri
- 16 Cellular demonstrated that granting an ETC
- 17 designation would be consistent with the public
- 18 interest, convenience and necessity. Thank you.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. CenturyTel?
- 20 MR. STEWART: May it please the
- 21 Commission. Good morning. I'm Brent Stewart
- 22 representing CenturyTel in this proceeding.
- 23 This case is the first eligible
- 24 telecommunications carrier case to be heard since the
- 25 Commission concluded its ETC rulemaking proceeding

- 1 and sent its new ETC rule to the Missouri Secretary
- 2 of State for publication in the Code of State
- 3 Regulations. That this new rule should be used by
- 4 the Commission in this case as part of its evaluation
- 5 of the application has not been contested by any of
- 6 the parties.
- 7 In fact, Northwest received a
- 8 modification of the original procedural schedule in
- 9 this case in order to file supplemental direct
- 10 testimony to address the Commission's new rule.
- 11 However, even with the additional
- 12 information provided in Northwest's supplemental
- 13 direct testimony, no party to this proceeding other
- 14 than the applicant NW supports NW's application as
- 15 currently submitted.
- While our specific reasons may differ
- 17 slightly, every party other than Northwest Cellular
- 18 has prefiled testimony showing that Northwest still
- 19 has not fully met the requirements of the
- 20 Commission's new ETC rule, nor the underlying and
- 21 applicable provisions of federal law as outlined in
- 22 the Federal Communication Commission's March 17th ETC
- 23 designation order and prior orders in Virginia
- 24 Cellular and Highland Cellular.
- This case is extremely important because

- 1 this will be the Commission's very first opportunity
- 2 to apply the terms of its new ETC rule to an ETC
- 3 application. The way and level of rigor in which the
- 4 Commission chooses to apply this new rule in this
- 5 proceeding no doubt will significantly impact all
- 6 future ETC application requests.
- 7 As discussed in the prefiled rebuttal
- 8 testimony of CenturyTel witness Mr. Brown, and I
- 9 believe that's been marked as Exhibit 9, CenturyTel
- 10 believes that the Commission should apply its new ETC
- 11 rule provisions and any applicable federal law in a
- 12 uniform manner to all prospective ETC applicants to
- 13 determine if approval of a particular application
- 14 would be in the public interest.
- 15 Consistent with federal requirements,
- 16 this should be a very fact-specific exercise and
- 17 should be based on the strength or weakness of each
- 18 ETC applicant's specific and comparative ETC
- 19 evidentiary showing, and especially in the context of
- 20 the use of scarce public funds, the level of public
- 21 accountability obtained from the applicant and the
- 22 applicant's enforceable commitment to USF principles.
- The Commission in this case necessarily
- 24 will need to determine how it's going to handle
- 25 requests from multiple wireless providers for ETC

- 1 designation in the same wire center. For example,
- 2 this is not a hypothetical situation. All of the
- 3 wire centers for which Northwest Cellular has
- 4 requested ETC designation also -- have also had
- 5 pending ETC designation requests from US Cellular in
- 6 Case No. TO-2005-0384.
- 7 The evidence that CenturyTel will be
- 8 presenting follows the following basic outline. The
- 9 criteria established by the FCC in its ETC
- 10 designation order forms a solid basis for determining
- 11 when designating an additional ETC is in the public
- 12 interest.
- 13 And the criteria outlined in the
- 14 Commission's ETC designation rules are generally
- 15 consistent with those identified by the FCC and,
- 16 indeed, provide even more concrete standards directly
- 17 applicable to Missouri from which to make the
- 18 necessary public interest determinations.
- 19 CenturyTel witness Brown will provide
- 20 evidence why the Commission should exercise great
- 21 care when evaluating requests from multiple wireless
- 22 carriers for ETC status in the same wire center
- 23 areas.
- 24 Fundamentally, the Commission must
- 25 assure that the incremental public benefit from

- 1 designating an additional wireless ETC outweighs the
- 2 incremental public costs that designating an
- 3 additional wireless carrier for the receipt of
- 4 high-cost support will create.
- 5 While admittedly, the -- Northwest
- 6 Cellular's application meets some of the criteria
- 7 outlined in the Commission's new rule, and I will
- 8 admit, certainly represents a more complete showing
- 9 than that made by US Cellular, it still falls far
- 10 short of meeting many of the relevant criteria that
- 11 this Commission has established for determining that
- 12 the grant of the application would be in the public
- 13 interest.
- 14 Specifically, CenturyTel is focusing on
- 15 Section (2) (A)1 through 3. The application does not,
- 16 with specificity, demonstrate how universal service
- 17 high-cost support will be used to improve coverage,
- 18 service quality or capacity on a wire-center-by-wire-
- 19 center basis throughout the requested ETC service
- 20 area.
- 21 The application, while it does contain
- 22 maps, it does not contain detailed maps indicating
- 23 the coverage area before and after improvements and
- 24 existing tower site locations specifically with
- 25 regard to signal strength. And wireless signal

1 strength is an important aspect of a wireless ETC

- 2 application.
- 3 To the extent that the maps are
- 4 provided, they do not show how consumers in rural and
- 5 high-cost areas of the ETC service area will receive
- 6 service and signal quality comparable to that
- 7 available in more urban areas as specifically
- 8 required by the Commission's new rule.
- 9 The construction plan provided by
- 10 Northwest Cellular does not provide the necessary
- 11 information for this Commission to determine that
- 12 support will be used only for its intended purposes.
- 13 And as we will discuss later on in
- 14 testimony, the proposed expenditures for the first
- 15 two years for additional tower construction and
- 16 expansion appear to be significantly less than the
- 17 amount of high-cost support that Northwest Cellular
- 18 would receive in those first two years if granted ETC
- 19 status.
- 20 With this in mind, it is CenturyTel's
- 21 position that not only has the applicant not met all
- 22 the requirements of the rule, but granting its
- 23 application would not, in fact, be in the public
- 24 interest. Thank you.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. Holway?

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1 MR. ENGLAND: Thank you, Judge. May it
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- 2 please the Commission. My name is Trip England and I
- 3 represent intervenor Holway Telephone Company in this
- 4 case.
- 5 And if I may just take a brief moment to
- 6 describe the Holway Telephone Company. It is a small
- 7 rural telephone company serving approximately 580
- 8 access lines in the Missouri communities of Maitland
- 9 and Skidmore. It is a truly rural telephone company.
- 10 It is characterized by low density and high cost to
- 11 serve.
- 12 Rates currently for Holway customers are
- 13 \$13 a month for residential service and \$22 a month
- 14 for business service, and those rates are set by this
- 15 Commission and cannot be changed without the approval
- 16 of this Commission.
- 17 Holway currently provides
- 18 state-of-the-art telephone services to the
- 19 communities of Maitland and Skidmore. It provides
- 20 single-line service, digital switching and DSL
- 21 service or high speed data to all of its customers,
- 22 or at least it's available to all of its customers.
- 23 Holway's service currently meets or
- 24 exceeds all PSC quality of service standards as set
- 25 forth in Chapter 32 of its rules as well as complying

1 with all billing standards as set forth in Chapter 33

- 2 of its rules.
- 3 Holway is unaware of any customer within
- 4 its certificated area who has been denied service and
- 5 who has requested service. As a result of its
- 6 commitment to provide ubiquitous, high quality
- 7 service in the communities of Maitland and Skidmore,
- 8 and more particularly as a result of the actual
- 9 investments and expenses that Holway incurs, it
- 10 receives a substantial amount of Universal Service
- 11 Fund support.
- 12 The testimony of Holway's witness
- 13 Warinner will show that on an annualized basis,
- 14 Holway receives in excess of \$400,000 a year in
- 15 Universal Service Fund support.
- 16 If granted ETC status, Northwest
- 17 Missouri Cellular will receive the same per-line
- 18 amount of universal service support as does Holway.
- 19 And the only difference is that Northwest Missouri
- 20 Cellular will have not had to make any investments to
- 21 obtain that per-line support.
- As a result, both the FCC and now this
- 23 Commission have established rules that are to be
- 24 rigorously applied to applications such as Northwest
- 25 Missouri Cellular's to ensure that monies --

- 1 competitive ETCs received will, on a going-forward
- 2 basis, be spent appropriately and primarily for
- 3 providing service in rural high-cost areas.
- 4 As the attorneys before me suggest, the
- 5 parties, at least the intervening parties, have found
- 6 fault with Northwest Missouri Cellular's application
- 7 and in various regards believe that it falls short of
- 8 satisfying the Commission rules. Without getting
- 9 into a specific rule-by-rule analysis, I would like
- 10 to focus on what I believe is an additional
- 11 requirement, and that is the public interest test.
- 12 I believe Mr. Stewart and others have
- 13 characterized it as a test to compare the incremental
- 14 costs of granting additional eligible
- 15 telecommunication to carrier status and rural
- 16 high-cost areas versus the purported or perceived
- 17 benefits from such a grant of ETC status.
- The costs, at least in this case, are
- 19 fairly obvious. The testimony of Northwest Missouri
- 20 Cellular tells you that they intend or expect to
- 21 receive approximately \$1.5 million a year in
- 22 Universal Service Fund monies if they are granted ETC
- 23 status.
- 24 What isn't clear is the indirect cost
- 25 associated with a grant of the additional ETC in

- 1 these areas. And by the indirect costs, I refer to
- 2 the strain that will incrementally be placed on the
- 3 Universal Service Fund and its long-term
- 4 sustainability.
- 5 While admittedly, Northwest Missouri
- 6 Cellular's grant of ETC status will not break the
- 7 bank, collectively at some point additional ETC --
- 8 ETCs, excuse me, in rural high-cost areas will put a
- 9 strain on the Universal Service Fund and will
- 10 jeopardize its long-term sustainability --
- 11 sustainability, excuse me.
- Now, what are the benefits to be
- 13 achieved by a grant of ETC status in this particular
- 14 case? We are told that there will be increased
- 15 customer choice. But the testimony of Mr. Warinner
- 16 will show that there is one landline company in the
- 17 Holway exchange, that being Holway, that already
- 18 provides high quality, ubiquitous telephone service.
- 19 In addition to Northwest Missouri
- 20 Cellular, there are five other wireless carriers
- 21 providing service in the areas served by Holway
- 22 Telephone Company. In fact, there is robust
- 23 competition in the wireless area in the Holway
- 24 exchanges.
- The only new services that Northwest

- 1 Missouri Cellular appears committed to provide are
- 2 two Lifeline services and another service that they
- 3 call the ILEC compatible or comparable or equivalent
- 4 plan. And essentially, ILEC equivalent plan is the
- 5 same as the first Lifeline plan except without the
- 6 Lifeline discounts.
- 7 Northwest Missouri Cellular does not
- 8 explain with any specificity what new technologies it
- 9 plans to roll out if it is designated an ETC and
- 10 receives these Universal Service Funds, and it is not
- 11 clear that its coverage will be significantly
- 12 improved, particularly in the exchanges served by
- 13 Holway Telephone Company.
- 14 Finally, when asked what their
- 15 projection would be of additional customers in the
- 16 new area -- or excuse me, in these areas as a result
- of a grant of ETC status, Northwest Missouri was
- 18 unable to identify any such increase.
- 19 The Commission also needs to carefully
- 20 consider the two-year expenditure plan which
- 21 Northwest Missouri Cellular has submitted in this
- 22 case. Specifically, it needs to consider, are these
- 23 expenditures truly in addition to what it otherwise
- 24 would have expended in these areas without Universal
- 25 Service Fund support.

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I would submit to you that it is not
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- 2 clear what the baseline investment and expenses would
- 3 be without Universal Service Fund support, so it is
- 4 difficult to determine whether the incremental
- 5 expenditures with Universal Service Fund truly meet
- 6 or exceed the additional monies to be received.
- 7 In closing, Holway would suggest that
- 8 when you weigh the real benefits of granting ETC
- 9 status to Northwest Missouri Cellular against the
- 10 cost, they just don't stack up. It is simply not in
- 11 the public interest in this case.
- 12 And in the words of Mr. Warinner, he
- 13 states at page 20 of his direct testimony, "In this
- 14 case there appears to be little, if any, benefit to a
- 15 grant of ETC status, as the same carriers will be
- 16 providing essentially the same services at the same
- 17 rates."
- We believe that when you examine this
- 19 case and apply the rigorous standards that both the
- 20 FCC and now you have applied, that you will conclude
- 21 that the application should be denied. Thank you.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: AT&T?
- MR. GRYZMALA: May it please the
- 24 Commissioners. Good morning. On behalf of AT&T and
- on behalf of me personally, let me thank you for the

- 1 opportunity to appear before you.
- 2 Our interest is limited but, in our
- 3 company's view, important. We represent, in essence,
- 4 one wire center in this case. It's the Stanberry
- 5 Wire Center in northwest Missouri. We serve
- 6 approximately [redacted] or so lines in the Stanberry
- 7 Wire Center, customers, residents and business.
- 8 Our position is that the Commission
- 9 should deny the application of Northwest Cellular for
- 10 ETC designation in the Stanberry Wire Center for many
- of the reasons that have already been pointed out by
- 12 co-counsel.
- 13 However, for purposes of my opening
- 14 statement, while there are several legal frameworks
- 15 from which to view this case, the most important
- of all would be the Commission's new ETC rules.
- 17 as the Commission well knows, Section 214(e) of
- 18 the act guides the decision-making of the
- 19 Commission.
- The FCC issued a March 17, 2005 ETC
- 21 designation order which -- whose factors and criteria
- 22 are not binding on the states even though the FCC
- 23 encouraged that the states adopt them. And the
- 24 Commission in Missouri, the Commission here, did the
- 25 right thing in our view and adopted standards that

- 1 are stringent and virtually identical to those of the
- 2 FCC.
- 3 And as Mr. Brent Stewart accurately
- 4 pointed out, this is the first opportunity to apply
- 5 those standards to a case at hand. We have US
- 6 Cellular still pending. You'll recall that case was
- 7 earlier tried before the rules were adopted by the
- 8 Commission.
- 9 For purposes of my opening statement,
- 10 therefore, I want to focus on just the few discrete
- 11 areas of particular concern to us under the
- 12 Commission's rules.
- 13 They have to do with the applicant's
- 14 required proof and Northwest shortcomings in that
- 15 regard, regarding first the improved signal coverage;
- 16 second, emergency preparedness; third, its Lifeline
- 17 offerings; and fourth, whether it meets the public
- 18 interest.
- 19 Very briefly, our position is that the
- 20 rule's requirement that the applicant demonstrate
- 21 that it will improve coverage, service quality or
- 22 capacity in the Stanberry Wire Center has not been
- 23 met here. It is not at all clear that there is any
- 24 additional signal coverage of any significance that
- 25 would be afforded to residents in the Stanberry

- 1 area.
- 2 As Mr. Haas pointed out, there appears
- 3 there are not large coverage gaps in Northwest's ETC
- 4 area already, and that is true in the Stanberry Wire
- 5 Center. Under our view of the evidence submitted by
- 6 Northwest, we question and have briefed this point,
- 7 Northwest's ability to remain functional in emergency
- 8 situations.
- 9 The Commission's rule requires that the
- 10 applicant be able to reroute traffic when facilities
- 11 are damaged and that it be capable of managing
- 12 traffic resulting from emergency situations or mass
- 13 calling or spike situations.
- 14 Our evidence has been to point out the
- 15 shortcomings of Northwest's application, i.e., that
- 16 they do not have that capacity or to the extent that
- 17 they have it, they have not demonstrated it to the
- 18 Commission.
- 19 Thirdly, regarding Lifeline, the
- 20 Commission requires that an applicant commit to
- 21 Lifeline discounts at rates, terms and conditions
- 22 comparable to those of the ILEC serving underneath
- 23 them, if you will. And in the case of Stanberry Wire
- 24 Center, that is AT&T Missouri.
- 25 And as we have pointed out in our brief

- 1 and in our evidence, Northwest Missouri's application
- 2 falls short of the mark because the rates for which
- 3 they offer Lifeline service are not comparable to
- 4 those of AT&T Missouri, notwithstanding their
- 5 exhibits showing otherwise, and we have pointed out
- 6 why that is the case.
- 7 And finally, we also find very
- 8 problematic for the Commission to conclude that
- 9 Northwest has met the public interest. You know,
- 10 there has been discussion, we heard it from -- we
- 11 heard it from Mr. DeFord's opening statement, the
- 12 value of increased competition and consumer choice.
- 13 And while that may have been a driving factor quite
- 14 some time ago, the tide has turned.
- As Mr. Haas pointed out, the FCC has
- 16 made very clear that the value of increased
- 17 competition by itself is unlikely to satisfy the
- 18 public interest test. That's where we are today
- 19 given the change in thinking about the long-term
- 20 sustainability of the fund. So be careful when you
- 21 hear words about increased consumer choice,
- 22 additional competition out there in rural Missouri.
- 23 We also find it concerning that the
- 24 applicant makes certain representations that there
- 25 will be additional public benefits. But we agreed

- 1 with Mr. McKinnie's observation that, for example, if
- 2 a wireless carrier other than Northwest provides
- 3 wireless coverage in areas where Northwest does not
- 4 currently serve, residential customers already reap
- 5 the benefits of calling 911. That's just one example
- 6 in which the presence of other wireless competitors
- 7 already in the area has an impact on this
- 8 application, and others have pointed that out.
- 9 In the end, your Honor, our position
- 10 remains, that Northwest's application fails to meet the
- 11 requirements of the law, and in particular, those
- 12 requirements embedded in the Commission's new ETC
- 13 rules, and therefore the application should be denied.
- 14 Thank you.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. Let's go
- 16 ahead and begin with Northwest Missouri's case.
- 17 MR. DeFORD: Thank you, your Honor.
- 18 We'd call Kathryn Zentgraf.
- 19 (Witness sworn.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Go ahead, Mr. DeFord.
- 21 MR. DeFORD: Thank you, your Honor.
- 22 KATHRYN ZENTGRAF testified as follows:
- 23 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. DeFORD:
- Q. Good morning, Ms. Zentgraf. Could you
- 25 state your name for the record.

- 1 A. Kathryn Zentgraf.
- 2 Q. Could you spell your last name for the
- 3 reporter?
- 4 A. Z-e-n-t-g-r-a-f.
- 5 Q. Ms. Zentgraf, by whom are you employed
- 6 and in what capacity?
- 7 A. Presently I have taken a position as of
- 8 May 1st with Chariton Valley Corporation as their
- 9 Director of Business Operations. I also do still
- 10 have Zentgraf Consulting as well.
- 11 Q. And have you caused to be prepared and
- 12 filed in this case direct testimony which has been
- 13 premarked as Exhibit 1?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Do you have any corrections or revisions
- 16 to that testimony you'd like to make at this time?
- 17 A. I do have revisions. On page 1, I
- 18 have moved to Macon, Missouri, so my address is
- 19 1607 Sherwood, Macon, Missouri 63552.
- Q. It changed from Hawaii, right?
- 21 A. Correct. The commute.
- 22 Q. Any other changes or revisions?
- 23 A. I do have a revision on page 15, lines
- 24 13 through 19. It discusses about the pending
- 25 rulemaking, and I believe now it is -- that rule is

- 1 pending and should be complete on June 30th, I
- 2 believe it is now. I think it's no longer in
- 3 process.
- 4 Q. And are there any other changes or
- 5 revisions that you need to make at this time?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. If I were to ask you the questions that
- 8 are set forth in this testimony, would your answers
- 9 be substantially the same?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And would those answers be true and
- 12 correct to the best of your information and belief?
- 13 A. Yes.
- MR. DeFORD: I would offer Exhibit 1 and
- 15 tender the witness for cross-examination.
- 16 JUDGE DIPPELL: Is there any objection
- 17 to Exhibit No. 1?
- 18 (NO RESPONSE.)
- 19 JUDGE DIPPELL: Seeing none, I will
- 20 receive it into evidence.
- 21 (EXHIBIT NO. 1 WAS RECEIVED INTO
- 22 EVIDENCE AND MADE A PART OF THE RECORD.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Is there
- 24 cross-examination from Public Counsel?
- MR. DANDINO: Yes, your Honor.

- 1 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. DANDINO:
- 2 Q. Good morning, Ms. Zentgraf.
- 3 A. Good morning.
- 4 Q. Or I guess it should be aloha. I was a
- 5 little bit confused about your corrections on page 15
- 6 through 19.
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Are you deleting those pages or --
- 9 A. No.
- 10 O. I don't understand.
- 11 A. I'm sorry. Page 15, lines 13 through
- 12 19. It discussed the process of the rulemaking for
- 13 the ETC designation that the Commission was working
- on, and so now I believe it is pending, and on
- June 30th, I believe it goes into effect.
- 16 Q. Okay. I -- I apologize. I
- 17 misunderstood. Now, do you believe that the -- do
- 18 you believe that those rules should apply to this
- 19 application?
- 20 A. I do.
- 21 Q. You had a different opinion before. Was
- 22 that based solely on that they have not been approved
- 23 yet?
- 24 A. I don't recall saying that I didn't
- 25 approve of that.

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1 Q. Do you -- okay. Do you believe that
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- 2 those -- the Commission's rules for ETC status and
- 3 the conditions are reasonable?
- 4 A. Yes, I do.
- 5 Q. And as a telecommunications consultant,
- 6 you're recommending that your client adopt and
- 7 endorse those rules?
- 8 A. Yes, I do.
- 9 Q. In your testimony you speak of dead
- 10 spots?
- 11 A. Correct.
- 12 Q. What exactly is a dead spot?
- 13 A. A dead spot is a location where there is
- 14 not adequate signal for a customer to actually use
- 15 their wireless device.
- 16 Q. Okay. Does Northwest -- how do they
- 17 determine the location of these dead spots?
- 18 A. Well, there's -- and I'm sure Jon Reeves
- 19 can explain with the engineering side, but normally
- 20 when any customer is driving through a market, you'll
- 21 know that -- you can actually look on your phone and
- 22 tell if there's service or if there's not service.
- 23 Maps also provided will show that there's lack of
- 24 coverage in certain areas where the cell sites don't
- 25 overlap.

- 1 Q. So Northwest maintains maps where there
- 2 are dead spots?
- 3 A. I think the maps that were provided
- 4 shows like a coverage that -- a minimal signal
- 5 coverage across their entire market, that is correct,
- 6 and I believe that was provided.
- 7 Q. But in terms of specifically identifying
- 8 where there is a dead spot, do they have a map or --
- 9 A. I would assume that on that map you will
- 10 be able to see where there is no coverage in that
- 11 area to actually be able to use the signal. That's
- 12 where there's no color on that actual map.
- 13 Q. Okay. And would that indicate what
- 14 the -- this whole size of that dead spot is?
- 15 A. Relative to the map, yes, it would.
- 16 Q. And do the characteristics of a dead
- 17 spot vary depending on night and day or wet and dry
- 18 or hot and cold?
- 19 A. No, but it does by terrain, believe it
- 20 or not. Spring versus winter, you know, summer
- 21 versus winter, leaves on trees will make things
- 22 change. Wireless is a line of sight, so of course,
- 23 you know, when there's leaves in the way in the
- 24 summertime, that will make a difference than in the
- 25 wintertime.

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1 Q. Is the -- is building a new cell tower
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- 2 or building a new cell tower the only way to
- 3 eliminate a dead spot?
- 4 A. Correct. To have an antenna providing
- 5 that service is the only way. You know, the antenna
- 6 has to go on a tower.
- 7 MR. DANDINO: That's all I have. Thank
- 8 you.
- 9 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. Staff?
- 10 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. HAAS:
- 11 Q. Good morning, Ms. Zentgraf.
- 12 A. Good morning.
- Q. What is your employment?
- 14 A. I have -- I still own Zentgraf
- 15 Consulting as well as I am Director of Business
- 16 Operations for Chariton Valley Corporation, Macon,
- 17 Missouri.
- 18 Q. And what is your role in this case?
- 19 A. I am a telecommunications consultant by
- 20 Zentgraf Consulting.
- 21 Q. On page 15 of your testimony, you made a
- 22 change to note that the Commission's rule takes
- 23 effect June 30th. And around lines 17 and 18, 19,
- 24 you state that Northwest Missouri Cellular assumes it
- 25 will be afforded a reasonable time to comply with any

- 1 requirements that are not in effect when the ETC
- 2 filing was made.
- 3 How much time will Northwest Missouri
- 4 Cellular need to comply with rules if it's granted
- 5 ETC designation?
- 6 A. Well, since we know that that rule is
- 7 pending and it will be effective June 30th, I believe
- 8 that Roger Bundridge's testimony said that it would
- 9 comply immediately and responded as such in the
- 10 surrebuttal testimony.
- 11 Q. At page 24, line 18, you refer to two
- 12 cellular licenses and six personal communication
- 13 service licenses. First, what is a cellular license?
- 14 A. Cellular license is a license that was
- 15 auctioned in the early -- or the late '80s to an A
- 16 and a B carrier. The B side was normally associated
- 17 with the wireline carrier. The B side -- or the A
- 18 side was an entrepreneurial license. Then later, the
- 19 PCS licenses were also auctioned as well.
- 20 Q. What is a -- what is a PSC license --
- 21 PCS?
- 22 A. The PCS, personal communication service.
- 23 The cellular licenses were auctioned off in the 800
- 24 megahertz license range where the PCS was auctioned
- 25 in the 1900 megahertz. So it's just a different

- 1 frequency but it does provide the same services.
- 2 Q. Have eight licenses been issued for the
- 3 areas in which Northwest seeks ETC designation?
- 4 A. Yes, it's my understanding.
- 5 Q. Are there dead spots in the areas in
- 6 which Northwest seeks designation where none of these
- 7 licenses provides wireless 911 coverage?
- 8 A. First off, I don't believe that all
- 9 licenses have been built in those areas because your
- 10 license doesn't necessarily mean there's a carrier
- 11 there that's providing the service.
- 12 As far as being able to tell you if a
- 13 carrier that is in that area, what they serve, that's
- 14 highly confidential information. I can't call up one
- of the carriers and request them to send me a map
- 16 that shows me where their tower locations are and
- 17 where they actually serve. So it is impossible for
- 18 me to tell you what another company is delivering as
- 19 far as wireless service.
- 20 Q. Are cellular phones compatible with the
- 21 PCS license?
- 22 A. They may. There are phones out there
- 23 today, there's -- of course, there's four technical --
- 24 technologies. You have your analog service that
- 25 everyone had in the very beginning on cellular, you

- 1 also have CDMA, TDMA and GSM. There are some phones
- 2 that will work in both the 800 and the 1900 license
- 3 range. Some are just 1900 and some are just 850.
- 4 Q. At the bottom of page 5 and going onto
- 5 page 6 of your testimony, you state that, "From the
- 6 language of the statute, the Commission must
- 7 designate more than one carrier of an ETC in an area
- 8 served by a nonrural telephone company if the
- 9 requesting carrier meets the requirements of Section
- 10 214(e)(1) of the act."
- 11 And then you continue, "With respect to
- 12 areas served by a rural telephone company, the
- 13 Commission may make the ETC designation if it finds
- 14 that the designation is consistent with the public
- 15 interest, convenience and necessity."
- Have you read the FCC's March 2005 ETC
- 17 order?
- 18 A. It's been a while, but yes, I have.
- 19 Q. And in that order, doesn't the
- 20 Commission -- the FCC say that a public interest
- 21 standard also applies in nonrural areas?
- 22 A. I can't answer that for certainty.
- 23 Q. Does the Missouri ETC rule distinguish
- 24 between rural and nonrural carrier areas?
- 25 A. I can't answer that without looking at

- 1 it with certainty.
- 2 Q. How many licenses have been issued for
- 3 the Northwest Missouri Cellular area?
- 4 A. I believe there are five licenses today.
- 5 MR. HAAS: Thank you. That's all the
- 6 questions.
- 7 JUDGE DIPPELL: CenturyTel?
- 8 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. STEWART:
- 9 Q. Thank you. Good morning.
- 10 A. Good morning.
- 11 Q. Just have a few questions that are
- 12 mostly clarification. On page 15, line 23 of your
- 13 direct testimony, you cite a dollar figure that
- 14 Northwest Cellular expects to receive on an annual
- 15 basis if it's granted ETC status. First of all, is
- 16 that -- is that figure currently classified as highly
- 17 confidential?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. Okay. And so that would be, what, 1.468
- 20 million?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. And that's an annual number?
- 23 A. Correct.
- Q. Has that dollar figure changed since you
- 25 first filed your direct testimony?

- 1 A. I have not reviewed it since I filed
- 2 this direct testimony.
- 3 Q. So as far as you know, barring some
- 4 unexpected change, that dollar figure would still be
- 5 a good number for purposes of this proceeding; is
- 6 that correct?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. Kind of following up on a couple
- 9 questions Mr. Haas asked you, on page 24 and 25 of
- 10 your direct testimony you reference other wireless
- 11 carriers licensed to serve in the same area as NW.
- 12 And I know -- and I certainly can understand why you
- 13 wouldn't know what they could provide, but could you
- 14 tell us who they are?
- 15 A. I would probably like to default that to
- 16 Roger. He is in that market. I don't want to miss
- 17 anyone that is possibly up in that area. I mean, I
- 18 can -- I know Sprint is in the area, I know Dobson is
- 19 in the area, T-Mobile, but I'm not sure of the other
- 20 two.
- Q. What about US Cellular?
- 22 A. US Cellular is there, that's correct.
- Q. And there's a total of, you think, like
- 24 five or eight or --
- 25 A. I believe there's five up there

- 1 presently.
- 2 Q. Five. Okay. Would you agree with me --
- 3 and this is kind of gleaning the bulk of your
- 4 testimony -- but would you agree with me that a
- 5 carrier designated as an ETC should use its USF
- 6 support that it receives in a manner consistent with
- 7 the federal act and currently applicable FCC rules
- 8 and regulations?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. On page 6 to 9 of your direct testimony,
- 11 you list, I believe, nine services and functions that
- 12 are to be supported by USF funds and I think you cite
- 13 to Section 254(c) of the Act which would be the
- 14 statute, and then the FCC Rule 54.101(a). Are you at
- 15 that?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Okay. That FCC rule you've cited there,
- 18 that hasn't changed since the time you filed your
- 19 direct testimony, has it?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. Are you aware that Mr. Bundridge has
- 22 filed testimony where he states that NW's USF funds
- 23 will be used to deploy something he calls EVDO, or
- 24 evolution data only services?
- 25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. Is that the same thing as broadband or
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- 2 roughly the same?
- 3 A. It's data.
- 4 Q. Is EVDO or broadband included in Rule 54
- 5 101(a) or Section 254(c) as one of the USF supported
- 6 services?
- 7 A. No, it is not.
- MR. STEWART: Thank you. That's all I
- 9 have.
- 10 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. Holway?
- MR. ENGLAND: Thank you, your Honor.
- 12 Your Honor, I've got some questions of the witness on
- 13 the USF amount, but it's gonna get into highly
- 14 confidential information that was provided to me in
- 15 response to a data request, so I'd request that we go
- 16 into in-camera, rather, and have an exhibit marked,
- 17 please.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Do you have
- 19 any -- is it gonna be best to start with that?
- 20 MR. ENGLAND: I think all of my
- 21 questions --
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay.
- 23 MR. ENGLAND: -- are essentially gonna
- 24 be proprietary or highly confidential information.
- 25 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. I would ask that

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people who are not authorized to hear the highly
 1
     confidential testimony leave the room. We're gonna
 2
     go to the in-camera portion.
 4
                  (REPORTER'S NOTE: At this point, an
     in-camera session was held, which is contained in
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 6
     Volume 3, pages 52 through 65 of the transcript.)
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JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. All right. AT&T,
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- 2 did you have cross-examination?
- 3 KATHRYN ZENTGRAF testified as follows:
- 4 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. GRYZMALA:
- 5 Q. Good morning, Ms. Zentgraf.
- 6 A. Good morning.
- 7 Q. Just a couple of things. In your direct
- 8 testimony and here on the stand, you alluded to two
- 9 cellular licensees in the area; that is, in the area
- 10 of -- in which ETC designation is sought.
- 11 A. Uh-huh.
- 12 Q. And you refer to six personal
- 13 communication services, PCS licensees, likewise
- 14 licensed in the same area?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. And later -- and I did not hear all of
- 17 this, but later you said there are five up there, and
- 18 you mentioned Sprint, Dobson, US Cellular, T-Mobile.
- 19 Did you mean to suggest those are firms to -- to your
- 20 knowledge that are providing service?
- 21 A. Correct.
- Q. What is the fifth?
- 23 A. Northwest.
- Q. Okay. The applicant?
- 25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. Okay.
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- 2 A. And I believe you as well, AT&T may be
- 3 there as well. So there may be six.
- 4 Q. May be?
- 5 A. I would ask Roger Bundridge to verify
- 6 for sure.
- 7 Q. Five for sure, possibly six?
- 8 A. Exactly.
- 9 Q. Okay. Very good. Thanks. Are you
- 10 aware whether it's possible to go on the web, click
- 11 on various wireless providers, websites, identify the
- 12 area in which you're interested in by locale, say,
- 13 for example, by zip code and determine whether that
- 14 wireless carrier provides service or offers service
- 15 in that zip code area?
- 16 A. Yes, I've actually done that.
- 17 Q. Okay. Very good. It's accessible?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And it's publicly available?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Thank you. On page 25 of your direct,
- 22 you discuss the FCC's Nextel order -- it's a longer
- 23 name than that but the handle is the Nextel order --
- 24 when you were asked how can the Commission find that
- 25 the grant to Northwest of ETC would be in the public

- 1 interest. Do you recall that?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And without being bound, the Nextel
- 4 order speaks in some generalities about the value of
- 5 increased competition, correct?
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. And you heard the opening statements and
- 8 references to the fact that in the FCC's March 17th,
- 9 2005 ETC designation order, the Commission then
- 10 concluded that the value of increased competition by
- 11 itself is unlikely to satisfy the public interest
- 12 test, correct?
- 13 A. By itself, I agree.
- 14 Q. Okay. Are you aware of any FCC
- 15 precedent after March 17, 2005, which holds otherwise
- 16 than the ETC designation order?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. Okay. Thank you. And one brief
- 19 question on a matter on which you've already been
- 20 asked a bit about. At page 5 you mentioned in your
- 21 direct testimony, you stated that the Commission must
- 22 designate more than one carrier as an ETC in an area
- 23 served by a nonrural telephone company like AT&T
- 24 Missouri if the applicant meets 214 (e)(1). Do you
- 25 recall that testimony?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Now, if this Commission were to have --
- 3 and I think I heard you to say that you were not
- 4 entirely clear as to whether the FCC or this
- 5 Commission had adopted a public interest standard
- 6 that would be applicable to a ETC application
- 7 relative to a nonrural telephone company; is that
- 8 correct?
- 9 A. That's correct.
- 10 O. You were not aware of that?
- 11 A. That's correct.
- 12 Q. Okay. Let's assume that this Commission
- 13 and the FCC have concluded that the public interest
- 14 must be shown regardless of whether the carrier is a
- 15 nonrural -- regardless of whether the ETC applicant
- 16 seeks ETC designation in a rural carrier's area or a
- 17 nonrural carrier's area, okay?
- 18 A. Okay.
- 19 Q. So with that assumption, would you agree
- 20 that your testimony on page 5 would have to be
- 21 altered?
- 22 A. Yes.
- MR. GRYZMALA: Okay. Give me just a
- 24 moment to check my notes. Thank you very much.
- 25 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

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1 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. Questions
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- 2 from the bench for Ms. Zentgraf, Commissioner Murray?
- 3 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Thank you, Judge.
- 4 QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER MURRAY:
- 5 Q. Good morning.
- 6 A. Good morning.
- 7 Q. I just have a few questions. The
- 8 parties who -- the other parties that are opposing
- 9 the ETC designation have stated that Northwest
- 10 Missouri Cellular has not made certain commitments
- 11 that are necessary. Do you have any comment as to
- 12 why those commitments have not been made or do you
- 13 dispute that you have not made them?
- 14 A. I disagree. I believe that after the
- 15 clarifications of both the supplemental direct and
- 16 the surrebuttal, I believe that Northwest Missouri
- 17 Cellular has agreed to all the stipulations that have
- 18 been requested of them.
- 19 Q. Do you under -- do you know why the
- 20 other parties would say that you haven't? I mean,
- 21 how -- how do they support that you have not made
- 22 those commitments?
- 23 A. I thought we were clear, especially in
- 24 our surrebuttal testimony of correcting any questions
- 25 that they possibly had. For instance, there was

- 1 concern that, yes, we offered a Lifeline and Linkup
- 2 plan, but that we would not -- that there was concern
- 3 that it would not be continued.
- 4 We did state that, yes, we will continue
- 5 to offer those plans to those customers in the
- 6 surrebuttal testimony, so it was stated as that, as
- 7 well as I think we had figured on our side had we not
- 8 continued it, the chances of our renewal -- renewed
- 9 certification would not have happened.
- 10 So I think there was just some
- 11 misunderstanding like how many minutes are included
- 12 in Lifeline and Linkup plans. I think our answer was
- 13 not understood, so we made sure that it was
- 14 understood that, yes, it is unlimited air time for
- 15 the Lifeline and Linkup plans that we offered.
- 16 Q. And what other commitments are you
- 17 alleged to have not made?
- 18 A. I don't have the actual rebuttal
- 19 testimony in front of me and the surrebuttal, but in
- 20 reading those, you know, there was some questions as
- 21 far as the reporting on the customers would, you
- 22 know, if -- we had complaints, that is pretty much
- 23 covered in the new rule that the Missouri Public
- 24 Service Commission is about to have -- go into effect
- 25 on June 30th and it is -- we completely went through

- 1 every line and stated that we would agree to follow
- 2 and abide by those rules.
- 3 Q. So is there, in your opinion is there
- 4 anything within the Missouri rules, ETC rules, that
- 5 you have not committed to comply with?
- 6 A. No, there is nothing in there that I
- 7 know of that we have not agreed to comply with. And
- 8 I believe Roger Bundridge will be more than happy to
- 9 testify the same as the representative from his
- 10 country -- company that he will abide by everything
- 11 that's in that rule.
- 12 Q. Okay. I keep saying "you" as a
- 13 representative of Northwest Missouri. The -- one of
- 14 the parties talked about the two-year plan not being
- 15 specific enough. Do you know if the two-year plan is
- 16 required to be more specific than the five-year plan
- 17 would have been?
- 18 A. No. I know that the Missouri rule came
- 19 back at two-year instead of five-year which, of
- 20 course, the FCC rule stated five-year. We tried to
- 21 be as specific enough to show where those cell sites
- 22 needed to be built, but it is a plan, in my
- 23 estimation, and if we find that we went out and gave
- 24 a five-year plan to the Commission so you could see
- 25 five years, we didn't do just the two-year, then

- 1 maybe --
- 2 Q. I'm gonna stop you and ask you that when
- 3 you were doing that, was that at a time in which the
- 4 rule had not yet been completed?
- 5 A. It had not been completed. And even
- 6 afterwards we didn't revise either. We didn't go
- 7 back and say, well, we'll just make it two-year. We
- 8 went ahead and committed to even continue with a
- 9 five-year rolling plan.
- 10 And it is a -- a plan, because we may
- 11 find that in year 3 we were going to build a site
- 12 that technically needs to be scooted up to year 2.
- 13 And so if that's the case, just like new subdivisions
- 14 are being built, factories are being built.
- 15 If something comes into the area and
- 16 it's not being serviced, that's something that we're
- 17 going to have to change to make sure that we can
- 18 provide service to those areas that may not have
- 19 service today.
- 20 Q. If I recall correctly, there were
- 21 several comments that -- and I believe it was by
- 22 cellular providers, that the five-year plan -- a
- 23 two-year plan would be preferable to a five-year plan
- 24 to be required in the rule. Do you recall whether
- Northwest Missouri made any comments on that?

1 A. I do not know if they made any comments

- 2 during that.
- 3 Q. Someone raised the issue of multiple
- 4 wireless carriers applying for ETC status within the
- 5 same exchanges. What is your view on that, how this
- 6 Commission should handle multiple applications by
- 7 wireless carriers for ETC status?
- 8 A. Personally, I think that -- that for the
- 9 Commission to try to regulate that is extremely
- 10 difficult. I think the FCC and the Universal Service
- 11 Administration is looking at that. I think it's
- 12 something that they understand that needs to be
- 13 looked at. But to try to bring that -- incorporate
- 14 that into this hearing to determine whether Northwest
- 15 Missouri meets the ETC qualification isn't equitable.
- 16 Q. Is it your opinion that there are
- 17 significant problems with the Universal Service
- 18 Funding mechanism as it exists today?
- 19 A. I think we could all look at the
- 20 universal service mechanism today and say that there
- 21 needs to be changes.
- 22 Q. But as it exists today, isn't it our
- 23 obligation to follow the rules that have been set out
- 24 by the FCC and those that this Commission has
- 25 adopted, and in terms of granting ETC status

- 1 regardless of what it may do to the fund because the
- 2 fund is poorly devised?
- A. Exactly. I wholeheartedly agree. I do
- 4 believe that that's what we need to do. We need to
- 5 follow the rules that are in play today. We can't
- 6 stop how the fund is being done today. Not to say
- 7 that it isn't gonna be looked at tomorrow, and when
- 8 it does, it may change for all of us.
- 9 Q. That's my personal opinion, that it
- 10 definitely should change dramatically. But I also
- 11 think that we have a fund in place today that we have
- 12 to implement the way it is designed today and --
- 13 A. I agree.
- 14 Q. -- there are several ILECs here who are
- 15 contesting granting ETC status which is my
- 16 recollection that the ILECs can contest any ETC
- 17 status designation.
- But the arguments that are made to
- 19 demonstrate that Universal Service Funding is not
- 20 necessary for -- or not in the public interest for
- 21 Northwest Missouri Wireless or another wireless
- 22 carrier, for example, would not those same arguments
- 23 demonstrate that Universal Service Funding is no
- 24 longer necessary at all to promote the public
- 25 interest in those exchanges?

- 1 A. It could be construed in that manner.
- 2 You know, without ETC status and USF funding for
- 3 Northwest Missouri, Lifeline customers will not be
- 4 given a choice for them to be able to receive
- 5 wireless services if that is their choice because
- 6 they can't afford to do so. And right there to me is
- 7 depriving a whole group of people of not being able
- 8 to make a choice into what type of service that they
- 9 would like to have.
- 10 O. And if the Universal Service
- 11 Fund mechanism -- funding mechanism were revised in a
- 12 way that the funds would reach directly to those
- 13 customers who needed it rather than carriers, would
- 14 that not solve that problem?
- 15 A. I think there would probably have to be
- 16 more discussion on that than for me to try to answer
- 17 that on the fly.
- 18 Q. I doubt if the Commissioners would like
- 19 that. Then I think this is my last question, or
- 20 maybe last couple of questions here.
- 21 Does the CDMA that Northwest Missouri
- 22 will be providing, provide any next-generation
- 23 capabilities that are not offered by current wireless
- 24 services?
- 25 A. CDMA is the next generation. CDMA and

- 1 GSM. TDMA is the technology that has been left by
- 2 the wayside we'll say. The large carriers veered
- 3 away from it. And so that's why the small carriers
- 4 that have been providing service with TDMA is now
- 5 going to TDMA and GSM.
- And yes, the types of services that is
- 7 coming along has changed dramatically in the last
- 8 three to five years, and in the next three to five
- 9 it's gonna grow exponentially as well.
- 10 Q. In terms of comparison with the services
- 11 that are available otherwise in these exchanges or
- 12 currently in these exchanges where you're seeking ETC
- 13 designation, are there capabilities that you will
- 14 offer, that Northwest Missouri will offer that are
- 15 not currently offered?
- 16 A. That might be a better question for
- 17 Roger since he's much more familiar with his own
- 18 market.
- 19 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: All right. Thank
- 20 you. I believe that's all I have.
- 21 JUDGE DIPPELL: Commissioner Clayton,
- 22 did you have any questions for this witness?
- 23 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: Not at this
- 24 time.
- 25 JUDGE DIPPELL: Commissioner Appling?

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1 COMMISSIONER APPLING: Judge, I think I
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- 2 have one question.
- 3 QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER APPLING:
- 4 Q. Good morning.
- 5 A. Good morning.
- 6 Q. How you doing?
- 7 A. Wonderful.
- 8 Q. Good. I just have one question I think.
- 9 You know, when I look out in this audience this
- 10 morning, I think everybody is saying no to your
- 11 application.
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. That make you feel pretty good this
- 14 morning?
- 15 A. I don't know about feeling pretty good.
- 16 Q. Well, the question I have, you know, is
- 17 whether you're rushing your application, if you-all
- 18 would be better off waiting another year on this
- 19 application? Are you rushing it? Talk to me a
- 20 little bit about that.
- 21 A. I don't think I understand "rushing." I
- 22 mean, I believe that we are at a stage today where --
- Q. Well, let me -- let me rephrase the
- 24 question. Are you-all ready to do this and satisfy
- 25 the public interest in this?

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1 A. Yes, I believe Northwest Missouri is 100
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- 2 percent ready to provide this coverage to the
- 3 communities in which it serves. They are wanting to
- 4 fill in the areas in the rural areas in which they
- 5 serve. They do not serve any metropolitan areas.
- 6 There's no St. Louis or Kansas City's embedded in
- 7 their market. They live and work in their same
- 8 communities, and it does benefit those consumers as
- 9 we fill in the holes.
- I know there's a lot of concern that,
- 11 well, is Holway being served if we don't put a cell
- 12 site there? Well, those Holway customers aren't
- 13 gonna just stay in a vacuum and be right in Holway.
- 14 They travel those communities just like you and I
- 15 travel. And when their phone doesn't work when
- 16 they're traveling, that's an issue or when they're
- 17 trying to get ahold of residents that live in areas
- 18 that doesn't have service.
- 19 Now that they will have service, they
- 20 will be able to communicate with those folks. And
- 21 realize, Northwest Missouri has to earn the customer.
- 22 If that customer is unhappy for whatever reason and
- 23 leaves, if nothing more than financial, Northwest
- 24 loses the USF funding for that customer. Likewise,
- 25 right now, the way USF is structured, the ILEC will

- 1 not lose the USF funding because they get a block of
- 2 dollars and then it's divided by the number of
- 3 customers that they have.
- 4 Q. Uh-huh.
- 5 A. And not saying they don't have incentive
- 6 because they do have incentive. They too work and
- 7 live in those communities and provide service to
- 8 their customers as well.
- 9 But it does -- Northwest earns their
- 10 customers and that's what they want to do, they want
- 11 to provide service to the rural people so they can
- 12 live in the rural areas and still communicate.
- I mean, it's a huge economic advantage
- 14 for people to be able to still use their phones and
- 15 not live in a metropolitan city. So they want that
- 16 same flexibility and that same communication that
- 17 everybody else has.
- 18 COMMISSIONER APPLING: Thank you,
- 19 Kathryn. I just wanted to hear your thoughts on why
- 20 everybody is standing up against you this morning.
- 21 Thank you.
- THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. I think this is a
- 24 good place for us to take a short break and then
- 25 we'll return if there's any further Commission

1 questions and then recross and redirect. So let's go

- 2 ahead and take a break until 10:30 and let's go off
- 3 the record.
- 4 (A RECESS WAS TAKEN.)
- 5 JUDGE DIPPELL: Let's go ahead and go
- 6 back on the record. I don't believe there were any
- 7 further questions from the bench for this witness, so
- 8 we will go to recross based on questions from the
- 9 bench. And since Mr. Dandino has not returned,
- 10 Staff?
- MR. HAAS: No questions.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: CenturyTel?
- MR. STEWART: No questions, your Honor,
- 14 but I do want to correct the record. I wish
- 15 Commissioner Murray was back.
- 16 CenturyTel has not opposed every ETC
- 17 case. We actually did not oppose the Mark Twain
- 18 case, which I guess was resolved back in December.
- 19 So with that clarification, that's all I have.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Holway?
- 21 MR. ENGLAND: No questions, thank you.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: AT&T?
- MR. GRYZMALA: No questions, thank you.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: You have perfect timing,
- 25 Mr. Dandino. Did you have recross?

- 1 MR. DANDINO: No questions.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Any redirect from
- 3 Northwest Missouri?
- 4 MR. DeFORD: Just a couple, your Honor.
- 5 REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. DeFORD:
- 6 Q. I believe you had a discussion with
- 7 Mr. Dandino about how dead spots could be filled, and
- 8 I think that you indicated that the only way to fill
- 9 dead spots was to build new towers. Is there any
- 10 other way that you can think of now that you could
- 11 fill a dead spot?
- 12 A. You can on a per-customer basis by
- 13 putting in amplifiers, you can put in repeaters to be
- 14 able to -- especially on a per-customer basis to be
- 15 able to enhance a signal that otherwise they would
- 16 have difficulty receiving.
- 17 Q. And is that something that would be
- 18 appropriate use for ETC funds?
- 19 A. Definitely.
- 20 Q. And I think you also had a discussion
- 21 with Mr. Stewart and Mr. Gryzmala about the
- 22 availability or actually the other licensees that
- 23 were providing service or were at least authorized to
- 24 provide service in the same territory as Northwest?
- 25 A. Correct.

- 1 Q. And I think Mr. Gryzmala may have even
- 2 asked you if you were familiar with the website that
- 3 you could check to see if you could get service from
- 4 those carriers?
- 5 A. Yes. In fact, when reviewing rebuttal
- 6 testimony, there was some -- a statement made that,
- 7 of course, US Cellular was requesting ETC designation
- 8 in all of the service area that Northwest -- and I
- 9 don't remember whose rebuttal testimony that was.
- I happened to go out and look on US
- 11 Cellular's website and looked up Maryville, and you
- 12 cannot get service from US Cellular in Maryville,
- 13 so...
- Q. And that may be true of the other
- 15 licensees up there as well?
- 16 A. Yes. I did not -- I didn't go through
- 17 all of them. I just wanted to verify that US
- 18 Cellular couldn't, but I didn't check all of the
- 19 towns in all of the areas.
- 20 Q. So the fact that they're licensed
- 21 doesn't necessarily mean they're providing service or
- 22 available for customers?
- 23 A. Correct.
- Q. I think you also had a conversation with
- 25 Commissioner Murray about the designation of multiple

- 1 ETCs?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Could you clarify how you think the
- 4 Commission should address the request for, for
- 5 example, a second ETC in the territory that Northwest
- 6 services?
- 7 A. I think that they're going to have to
- 8 look at it on a case-by-case basis. I think they're
- 9 gonna have to look at the area being served and
- 10 they're going to have to decide on a case-by-case
- 11 basis what's in the best interest.
- 12 Q. So its specific build-out plans --
- 13 A. Exactly.
- 14 Q. -- and the specific plans that they're
- 15 offering to customers would be relevant?
- 16 A. Exactly.
- 17 MR. DeFORD: Thank you, your Honor.
- 18 That's all I have.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: All right, then. I
- 20 believe that's all for you, Ms. Zentgraf. I
- 21 appreciate your testimony. You may be excused.
- MR. DeFORD: Your Honor, I ask that she
- 23 be excused from the hearing entirely so that she can
- 24 catch her flight to Hawaii.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: I will not grant that

- 1 kind of permission. I will excuse her from the
- 2 hearing.
- MR. ENGLAND: One goes, we all go.
- 4 JUDGE DIPPELL: I will say that
- 5 Ms. Zentgraf's credibility is in question due to her
- 6 move from Hawaii.
- 7 MR. DeFORD: I'm not so sure that that's
- 8 credibility as much as sanity.
- 9 JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Let's go
- 10 ahead then and move on to your next witness,
- 11 Mr. DeFord.
- MR. DeFORD: I'd call Roger Bundridge,
- 13 please.
- 14 (Witness sworn.)
- 15 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. DeFORD:
- 16 Q. Good morning, Mr. Bundridge. Could you
- 17 please state your name for the record.
- 18 A. Roger Bundridge.
- 19 Q. And if you could spell your last name
- 20 for the court reporter?
- 21 A. It's B, B as in boy, u-n-d-r-i-d-g-e.
- 22 Q. Mr. Bundridge, by whom are you employed
- 23 and in what capacity?
- 24 A. I am the General Manager of Northwest
- 25 Missouri Cellular.

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1 Q. And have you caused to be prepared and
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- 2 filed in this case direct testimony, supplemental
- 3 direct testimony and surrebuttal testimony that I
- 4 believe have been respectively marked for
- 5 identification as Exhibits 2, 3 and 4, and I believe
- 6 you have both nonproprietary and highly confidential
- 7 testimony in each?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Do you have any corrections or revisions
- 10 that you would like to make to that testimony at this
- 11 time?
- 12 A. Yes, I do. In the -- I believe it's
- 13 direct. Hold on just a moment. Yes. In the direct
- 14 testimony, I have three corrections. The first is on
- 15 page 4, line 7. It says Missouri 5 which actually is
- 16 Missouri 1.
- Page 10, line 2, same thing. Missouri
- 18 five which should be Missouri one.
- 19 And the third would be page 23, line 8,
- 20 same thing, Missouri five and it should be Missouri
- 21 one.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: I'm sorry. What was
- 23 that last page number?
- THE WITNESS: Page 23 and that's line 8.
- 25 BY MR. DeFORD:

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1 Q. And then with those corrections, if I
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- 2 were to ask you those same questions here today,
- 3 would your answers be substantially the same?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 O. And would those answers be true and
- 6 correct to the best of your information and belief?
- 7 A. Yes. And also I do have -- those were
- 8 three corrections. There is also a revision.
- 9 Q. Oh, okay.
- 10 A. I was just looking here. I had it there
- 11 at my desk. On the -- okay, page 4, approximately
- 12 line 16. When we had filed, we were in the process
- 13 of implementing phase 2 for Nodaway County. That has
- 14 since been put in place.
- In addition, Gentry County, we are
- 16 phase 1 and phase 2 911 for that county. And
- 17 Atchison County, we are currently phase 1. This has
- 18 all been since we had filed the application.
- 19 Q. Any other revisions or corrections?
- 20 A. No, not at this time.
- 21 Q. And with those revisions and
- 22 corrections, would your answers be the same and true
- 23 and correct to the best of your information and
- 24 belief?
- 25 A. Yes.

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1 MR. DeFORD: With that, I would offer
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- 2 Exhibits 2, 3 and 4 and tender the witness for cross.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Is there any objection
- 4 to Exhibit No. 2?
- 5 (NO RESPONSE.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Seeing none, I will
- 7 receive it into evidence. Is there any objection to
- 8 Exhibit No. 3?
- 9 (NO RESPONSE.)
- 10 JUDGE DIPPELL: And I will receive that
- 11 into evidence. Is there any objection to Exhibit
- 12 No. 4?
- 13 (NO RESPONSE.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Seeing none, I will
- 15 receive it into evidence as well.
- 16 (EXHIBIT NOS. 2, 3 AND 4 WERE RECEIVED
- 17 INTO EVIDENCE AND MADE A PART OF THE RECORD.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Is there
- 19 cross-examination from Public Counsel?
- 20 MR. DANDINO: Yes, your Honor, thank
- 21 you.
- 22 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. DANDINO:
- Q. Mr. Bundridge, good morning.
- A. Good morning.
- 25 Q. You're not headed for Hawaii today?

- 1 A. No, I'm not. I wish.
- 2 Q. I'm having trouble knowing -- with your
- 3 nine -- \$9.70 rate for Lifeline. What do you
- 4 consider to be the local calling scope with that 9.70
- 5 versus, you know, the standard contract you have for
- 6 wireless? Could you differentiate those?
- 7 A. With the 9.70 plan, we have
- 8 differentiated that plan to be designated within the
- 9 ILEC territory and we will set that -- that up so
- 10 that they are pooling from a cell site located within
- 11 that rate center versus a current -- current plans
- 12 that we offer.
- 13 We provide multiple plans that have
- 14 mobility with them, nationwide roaming, regional
- 15 roaming. So to differentiate the two, the -- the
- 16 Lifeline plan is limited as far as any mobility of
- 17 where the usage will occur.
- 18 Q. So it's basically fixed as of -- to the
- 19 wireline ILEC?
- 20 A. Correct.
- 21 Q. Okay. And so if you make a call from
- 22 the -- from the -- wherever the person is located --
- 23 A. Uh-huh.
- Q. -- if they're located in the ILEC
- 25 territory and they're calling let's say an EAS, the

- 1 ILECs's EAS route and another ILEC, you know, would
- 2 that be a toll call?
- 3 A. We will -- I guess to better understand
- 4 your question, you're talking calling outside of
- 5 our -- their exchange area, correct? I mean, could
- 6 you use an example where I understand it better?
- 7 Q. Okay. You have an -- ILEC has a certain
- 8 territory?
- 9 A. Right.
- 10 Q. Okay. And if I understand, your 9.70
- 11 rate --
- 12 A. Uh-huh.
- 13 Q. -- would cover any call within that?
- 14 A. Correct.
- Okay. And in addition to the -- to the
- 16 ILEC's territory is an EAS route to, let's say, a
- 17 neighboring ILEC territory. I'll say a neighboring
- 18 LEC territory.
- 19 A. Uh-huh.
- 20 Q. And that is considered, EAS is
- 21 considered mandatory -- is a mandatory route and
- 22 would be considered as a -- as a part of the local
- 23 call-in for the ILEC. So if I was calling from the
- 24 ILEC into my EAS LEC, a position in there, would it
- 25 be a toll call?

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1 A. Not knowing where this territory is at
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- 2 for each particular rate center, I can't answer that
- 3 question.
- 4 Q. Well, let's assume something then. If
- 5 that -- if -- if it's -- if that EAS -- if the
- 6 ILEC -- if ILEC location --
- 7 A. Uh-huh.
- 8 Q. -- is within the rate center but the EAS
- 9 is without -- outside of that rate center, would it
- 10 be a toll call then?
- 11 A. If it's within our -- the way that we've
- 12 set up these -- that we will set up these plans is
- 13 that if it's within our five-county serving area,
- 14 there's no toll there. So if the EAS is within that
- 15 five-county area that we have, then there will not be
- 16 any toll there.
- 17 Q. Okay. So if it's -- so it includes
- 18 everything within the five-county?
- 19 A. Correct.
- 20 Q. So to a fixed point in a five-county to
- 21 another fixed point in a five-county?
- 22 A. Any -- yes, or any area they -- I mean,
- 23 it doesn't have to be necessarily a fixed area
- 24 they're calling to; anywhere within our five counties
- 25 that they would be making that toll call.

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1 Q. Well, I mean, when I say fixed, maybe I
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- 2 should explain it. Let's say the customer's home --
- 3 A. Uh-huh.
- 4 Q. -- or major location, where it's billed,
- 5 I guess --
- A. Uh-huh.
- 7 Q. -- is what we would say. So where it's
- 8 billed to another -- let's put it this way: From the
- 9 billing address, it has to have one of those, right?
- 10 A. Uh-huh.
- 11 Q. In order to get the 9.70, right?
- 12 A. We will set it up so that we are looking
- 13 at within a range. So it's not necessarily gonna be
- 14 the home, it's gonna be a cell site within that rate
- 15 center they're gonna set it up. So within an area
- 16 there, correct. Not necessarily the billing address,
- 17 but --
- 18 Q. Okay. But I mean, so any -- anywhere
- 19 within that -- the home cell site?
- 20 A. Correct.
- 21 Q. Okay. And that's -- that's available, a
- 22 call to any wireless outside of that cell site as
- 23 long as it falls within those five counties?
- 24 A. Correct. And that's wireless or
- 25 wireline, whichever they are calling.

- 1 Q. Okay. Is that -- is it dialed on a
- 2 seven-digit or ten-digit?
- 3 A. It would be a seven-digit.
- 4 JUDGE DIPPELL: Mr. Bundridge, could I
- 5 get you to speak into the microphone?
- 6 THE WITNESS: Okay. Sorry.
- 7 JUDGE DIPPELL: I know you're kind of
- 8 turned toward him.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Okay. It would be a
- 10 seven-digit number.
- 11 BY MR. DANDINO:
- 12 Q. Okay. And if the EAS route falls
- 13 outside that five-county area, that would be a toll
- 14 call then?
- 15 A. I'm presuming so.
- Q. You're not sure?
- 17 A. I'm not -- I'm not sure.
- 18 Q. So in some cases, calls within the ILEC
- 19 calling scope, you know, will be toll calls under
- 20 your wireless program, Lifeline?
- 21 A. As I currently -- I can't answer that
- 22 question not knowing where these routes that they
- 23 have are in place. I'm pretty confident, though,
- 24 that we will not have that situation arise, but not
- 25 knowing where the EAS routes are specifically, I

- 1 can't answer that at this time.
- 2 Q. And the example that I gave you where
- 3 the EAS, the target EAS -- I mean, the EAS route was
- 4 outside of the five-county area --
- 5 A. Uh-huh.
- 6 Q. -- and it was -- it would probably be a
- 7 toll call. You know, that -- that's a different --
- 8 A. In that -- in those cases, though, if we
- 9 were to do this, we -- we do have the ability to
- 10 allow those areas. I -- I can honestly say that we
- 11 would not restrict or we'd not -- we wouldn't apply a
- 12 toll to an area where the ILEC is providing a
- 13 toll-free call today. We would basically open up
- 14 those routes.
- I mean, to answer your question, we're
- 16 not gonna restrict -- we would open that up and we
- 17 would have the ability to do that.
- 18 Q. How would you open those routes up?
- 19 A. We would basically, through our switch,
- 20 we would look at the -- those particular rate centers
- 21 or where those calls are going and we would bill to
- 22 restrict or allow those calls to occur at that
- 23 location.
- Q. Would it also require building another
- 25 tower, cell tower?

- 1 A. No.
- Q. If -- can consumers get the \$9.70
- 3 Lifeline if they request not to enter a contract? I
- 4 was unclear of that.
- 5 A. Yes. The purpose of our contracts is
- 6 basically we subsidize handsets, we have an investment
- 7 in the handsets. And consumers have a choice to decide
- 8 on a one-year contract or a two-year contract.
- 9 In some cases, upon availability, we
- 10 even have used phones where -- we have a technician
- 11 on-hand. As we get phones returned into us, we can
- 12 make repairs and make sure the phones are properly
- 13 working and that can also be an option to a -- to a
- 14 potential customer.
- But if their choice is not to enter our
- 16 contract, they don't have to -- they don't have to
- 17 enter the contract, but the purpose of that agreement
- 18 is to assure us that we will receive the amount of
- 19 money we're subsidizing in that handset back to us,
- 20 so...
- Q. When you say "subsidized," no USF funds
- 22 are going for the handset; is that correct?
- 23 A. Correct.
- Q. Now, is there -- even though they don't
- 25 have the customer's -- Lifeline customer does not

1 have a contract, is there a termination fee if they

- 2 cancel service?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. If they have a contract, is there a
- 5 termination fee?
- 6 A. If the Lifeline customer chooses -- I
- 7 mean, we have multiple options as we had mentioned.
- 8 If they choose a -- an outside plan -- the -- with
- 9 the Lifeline customer in a unlimited plan, we
- 10 basically are limiting our liability as far as this
- 11 customer taking this phone and using it outside of
- 12 our market. This is where we incur a lot of extra
- 13 expenses as far as a customer roaming out of our
- 14 market.
- 15 By offering an unlimited plan and a
- 16 local only plan, we really have no need to put a
- 17 contractual obligation there in place. If the
- 18 customer chooses, though, not to take one of these
- 19 unlimited plans and they choose to take an
- 20 alternative plan that we offer, a nationwide plan or
- 21 whatever it might be, and apply their Lifeline
- 22 support to those plans, then at that point we would
- 23 look at a credit check and a contractual obligation.
- 24 And we would do that basically to make sure that we
- 25 were limiting our liability with that customer using

- 1 the service outside of our network.
- 2 Q. Are there certain plans that you have
- 3 that a Lifeline customer could not subscribe to,
- 4 other than international?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. So from -- from the, I guess, the '65
- 7 Chevy Impala to the Rolls Royce edition, everything's
- 8 available to the customer?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 O. You said a credit check. I notice in
- 11 your supplemental testimony that you said you're not
- 12 charging the Lifeline customer for a credit check,
- 13 but you're still gonna run a check -- credit check
- 14 for the Lifeline customer?
- 15 A. We would if we have the liability that I
- 16 mentioned where we allowed them to take an
- 17 alternative plan that would allow roaming and -- and
- 18 the ability where it would increase our liability as
- 19 far as their usage.
- 20 But as far as a customer using a
- 21 Lifeline plan as an unlimited plan, our liability, we
- 22 know right there that we have no restrictions as far
- 23 as their usage, as far as them going over their
- 24 minutes and incurring more charges. So we know where
- 25 we stand, I guess, as far as the amount of money they

- 1 could charge up against us, as far as using it
- 2 outside of our network and incurring charges to us.
- 3 Q. You can't put a toll restriction on
- 4 that?
- 5 A. Yes, but toll and roaming are two
- 6 different things. Toll is when you're in your market
- 7 making calls out to the outside world. Roaming is
- 8 the -- you know, you're off of our network using
- 9 another tower's -- another company's service and
- 10 they're charging us a predetermined rate that we
- 11 agreed upon for that usage.
- 12 Q. And so you -- you have no control over
- 13 the roaming?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. It's just a --
- 16 A. Correct. We can't restrict how much
- 17 they roam.
- 18 Q. What do you charge for a credit check?
- 19 You said that there's a free credit check?
- 20 A. We don't charge for credit checks.
- 21 Q. Oh, okay. So no charge for credit
- 22 checks. That's -- you're not really giving the
- 23 Lifeline customer anything different than is
- 24 available to all customers, right?
- 25 A. Correct.

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1 Q. Now, I'm not sure that you -- you had
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- 2 said whether you're familiar with all the EAS routes
- 3 in that area. Specifically, do you know if New
- 4 Hampton and the Bethany exchange here are EAS route?
- 5 A. I can't answer that.
- 6 Q. You just don't have that information?
- 7 A. No, I don't.
- 8 Q. Take a look at -- and this is your --
- 9 this is your supplemental direct testimony, sir. And
- 10 I'm looking at page 8, line 19. And let me know when
- 11 you're there.
- 12 A. Okay.
- 13 Q. Now, if you look at the question there,
- 14 I'm having trouble. If you're looking at a statement
- 15 that the carrier -- or will NWMC comply with (2)(A)8,
- 16 a statement that, "The carrier will satisfy consumer
- 17 privacy standards as provided in the" -- and then a
- 18 section of CFR, "and service quality standards as
- 19 applicable."
- 20 And I've looked over your answer between
- 21 pages 8 and -- 8 and 9 and 10, and I really don't see
- 22 anything that says yes. Is that a no then? Is your
- 23 answer no, that you're not going to abide by those
- 24 standards?
- 25 A. We will abide by those standards. We

- 1 mentioned that we have adopted the CTI code, consumer
- 2 code. We are not a member of the CTI organization,
- 3 but we do believe in the policy they put in place and
- 4 we do follow that code.
- 5 Also, February 1st of '06, we filed with
- 6 the FCC a certification of CPNI which is the consumer
- 7 proprietary network information. I have a copy of
- 8 that here. We're basically -- we are stating with
- 9 the FCC that we are providing privacy to our
- 10 customers' information.
- 11 Q. The standards for the -- for the -- the
- 12 industry standards, they're not the same as -- as the
- 13 service quality standards that the Commission has
- 14 established; is that correct?
- 15 A. I can't answer that fully.
- 16 Q. Okay. Have you read the rules -- or
- 17 the -- reviewed the standards or service quality
- 18 standards that the Commission requires for -- for its
- 19 wireline -- wireline companies?
- 20 A. Yes, I have. It's been a while but I
- 21 have read through it.
- 22 Q. Okay.
- 23 A. There wasn't anything that stood out to
- 24 me, alarming.
- 25 Q. Do you think that all ETC customers,

- 1 whether they're customers of a wireline or wireless,
- 2 should enjoy the same rights for billing and
- 3 collection, termination of service, grievance and
- 4 complaint process, service quality that -- that a
- 5 wireline company -- they should both have the same
- 6 rights and obligations?
- 7 A. Yes, I do.
- 8 Q. And so you're saying that you will abide
- 9 by the service quality standards that the Public
- 10 Service Commission has in their -- in their
- 11 regulations?
- 12 A. Yes. And we will abide by them and by
- 13 the FCC ruling that I mentioned we filed, we stated
- 14 that we -- we are and will be continuing to follow
- 15 those standards.
- 16 Q. And you're gonna follow the -- the
- 17 Public Service Commission standards stated in the
- 18 regulations for billing and collections for wireline
- 19 companies?
- 20 A. Yes, when they're adopted.
- 21 Q. No, I'm -- they're already adopted.
- 22 A. We currently -- well, we currently do,
- 23 yes.
- Q. Okay. Now, I'm not just talking about
- 25 the ETC --

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1 A. Uh-huh.
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- 2 Q. -- requirements.
- 3 A. Right.
- 4 Q. There's another section of the Public
- 5 Service Commission regulations that provide for
- 6 rights for the -- residential customer rights for
- 7 billing and collection?
- 8 A. Uh-huh.
- 9 Q. Are you familiar with those?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And you're going to accept and adopt
- 12 those as a condition of the ETC designation if this
- 13 Commission so approves your designation?
- 14 A. Yes, I will.
- 15 Q. And the same with the grievance and
- 16 complaint process?
- 17 A. Yes, I will.
- 18 Q. Termination of service process?
- 19 A. Yes, we will.
- 20 Q. You're agreeing to accept and adopt
- 21 that?
- 22 A. (Nodded head.)
- MR. DANDINO: That's all I have, your
- 24 Honor. Thank you, sir.
- 25 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

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1 JUDGE DIPPELL: Is there
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- 2 cross-examination by Staff?
- 3 MR. HAAS: Yes, your Honor.
- 4 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. HAAS:
- 5 Q. Good morning, Mr. Bundridge.
- 6 A. Good morning.
- 7 Q. Once again, what is your position with
- 8 Northwest Missouri Cellular?
- 9 A. I am the General Manager.
- 10 Q. And as the General Manager, are you
- 11 authorized to make commitments to this Commission on
- 12 behalf of Northwest Missouri Cellular?
- 13 A. Yes, I am.
- 14 Q. Did you read Mr. McKinnie's rebuttal
- 15 testimony where he specifically identifies areas
- 16 where Northwest Missouri Cellular did not provide the
- 17 commitments required by the Commission's new ETC
- 18 rule?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And at page 8, Mr. McKinnie points out
- 21 that Northwest had not complied with paragraph (2)(A)8
- 22 of the Commission's ETC rule. That paragraph
- 23 requires an ETC application to include a statement
- 24 that the carrier will satisfy consumer privacy
- 25 standards as provided in 47 CFR subpart (u). Why

- 1 hasn't Northwest made that commitment to this
- 2 Commission?
- A. As I just mentioned, we -- we actually
- 4 are abiding -- we mentioned that we're abiding by the
- 5 CTI code. The CTI code, but also I just mentioned
- 6 here that we are following the FCC guidelines. But
- 7 specific -- specific to your question there, I can't
- 8 address that at this time.
- 9 Q. At page 8 Mr. McKinnie points out that
- 10 Northwest has not complied with paragraph (2)(A)10 of
- 11 the Commission's rule. That paragraph requires an
- 12 ETC application to include a commitment to offer a
- 13 local usage plan comparable to those offered by the
- 14 incumbent local exchange carrier in the areas for
- 15 which the carrier seeks designation.
- 16 Why hasn't Northwest Missouri Cellular
- 17 made that commitment?
- 18 A. We have made that commitment.
- 19 Q. Can you point to me where you've made
- 20 that commitment?
- 21 A. We -- we not only are -- made that
- 22 commitment, but we are offering a -- a ETC -- or a
- 23 Lifeline plan that allows -- we have options. We
- 24 have one option where we can -- we can actually have
- 25 an ILEC equivalent plan.

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1 The second one, we actually have the
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- 2 ability to -- and that would be an unlimited plan
- 3 that would also extend the toll coverage area to our
- 4 entire five counties. The second would be an
- 5 unlimited plan that also provides mobility within our
- 6 market, also provides toll-free calling within the
- 7 five counties.
- 8 And then we also have the ability for
- 9 the consumer to choose any of the other plans that we
- 10 have that provides nationwide roaming or regional
- 11 roaming and -- at their -- at their discretion.
- 12 Q. Mr. Bundridge, I understand that
- 13 Northwest Missouri Cellular is offering these plans,
- 14 but my question is, why won't you make a commitment
- 15 to this Commission to continue offering those -- an
- 16 ILEC similar plan if you are granted ETC designation?
- 17 A. I don't recall ever having any kind of
- 18 statement where we said we would not offer it. I
- 19 mean, we're gonna -- we're not putting these out
- 20 there to just say here they are today and they're not
- 21 gonna be offered down in the future. This is
- 22 something that we're gonna commit to and we're going
- 23 to continue to offer. We're gonna have to offer it
- 24 to -- in our application every year and in our
- 25 filings.

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1 So I guess it's kind of -- I don't
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- 2 understand why somebody would read into we're just
- 3 gonna offer them initially and then withdraw them.
- 4 So that's why, I guess, that question might not have
- 5 been addressed.
- 6 Q. Mr. Bundridge, at page 8 of your own
- 7 supplemental direct testimony near the top of page 8,
- 8 you include the statement that, "Northwest Missouri
- 9 Cellular commits to continue the same form of
- 10 distribution to publicize the availability of its
- 11 services," and in that sentence you use the word
- "commit," right?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And I guess my question is, why weren't
- 15 you willing to use the word "commit" with these two
- 16 other paragraphs?
- 17 A. I can't answer that.
- 18 Q. If Northwest Missouri Cellular is
- 19 granted ETC designation, what level of USF support
- 20 does Northwest expect to receive?
- 21 A. We would expect to receive support
- 22 within our entire licensed area.
- 23 Q. How many dollars does Northwest Missouri
- 24 Cellular expect to receive?
- 25 A. As Ms. Zentgraf had pointed out, I

- 1 believe annually somewhere along the lines of 1.4
- 2 million a year.
- 3 Q. Would you please turn to "Highly
- 4 Confidential Appendix P" to your surrebuttal
- 5 testimony. Doesn't that exhibit show that Northwest
- 6 proposes to spend less than one million four on USF
- 7 items in year 2?
- 8 A. Yes. But as we had pointed out that
- 9 our -- what we have planned as far as budgetary
- 10 purposes, we have a net -- to provide network
- 11 improvements is a rolling plan and that's depending
- 12 upon our needs, and those needs may alter.
- As Ms. Zentgraf had pointed out, we have
- 14 a five-year plan. Those plans change, obviously,
- 15 from year to year as needs arise. As we had
- 16 mentioned, alternative businesses or other needs
- 17 could arise to cause us to adjust the amounts of
- 18 money that would need to be spent on our
- 19 infrastructure.
- What we have put in place is what we
- 21 plan to do over a five-year period. A lot of the
- 22 construction that we do doesn't just start and end
- 23 within that year. A lot of it is ongoing. Sometimes
- 24 it takes up to a year to get a cell site in,
- 25 depending on some of the requirements. So this is a

- 1 budgetary number that we have in place.
- 2 Q. In your surrebuttal testimony at page 5,
- 3 line 21, you state, "The budget as presented is a
- 4 guide to how that service and coverage is currently
- 5 expected to be expended. In the event that revenues
- 6 are higher, Northwest Missouri Cellular will be able
- 7 to increase the pace at which the network expands
- 8 beyond that already identified."
- 9 Given that Northwest Missouri Cellular
- 10 does not plan to spend all year 2 USF funds on USF
- 11 items, how would Northwest be able to increase the
- 12 pace at which the network expands in the event that
- 13 revenues are higher?
- A. As I mentioned, this is a budgetary
- 15 number that's been put in place and we certainly --
- or I certainly have enough improvements that we need
- 17 within our current network that we will be adjusting
- 18 this rolling five-year plan as -- as we need.
- 19 As we -- as Ms. Zentgraf pointed out,
- 20 there's needs that arise where we might need to take
- 21 something out of year 3, apply it to year 2. This,
- 22 as I just mentioned, is a five-year plan.
- 23 Q. Just by way of background, please
- 24 explain the difference between 911 wireless service
- 25 and E-911 wireless service.

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1 A. E-9 -- E-911 is, the "E" is enhanced
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- 2 wireless services. In our case with mobility and as
- 3 I -- as I had mentioned phase 1 and phase 2, phase 1
- 4 is where the public service answering point will
- 5 receive a callback number for the call coming in,
- 6 where phase 2 actually provides a location base.
- 7 This is in reference to the enhanced.
- 8 Q. Are there dead spots in the area in
- 9 which Northwest Missouri Cellular seeks designation
- 10 where there currently is no 911 wireless coverage
- 11 from any wireless carrier?
- 12 A. Without having service with some of the
- 13 other providers in the area, I can't say that there
- 14 is not. From my personal experience in -- within our
- 15 market drive-testing it myself, knowing where our
- 16 competition's towers are at, there certainly could be
- 17 that case.
- 18 Q. Would Mr. Reeves have information on
- 19 that? Or I can ask him, I guess.
- 20 A. He could, but as I just mentioned, you
- 21 know, I personally have driven our market, and since
- 22 we are a rural area, I definitely keep track of any
- 23 new services that go in place. I would say that I'm
- 24 probably more qualified just because I live within
- 25 the five counties and I'm within the area quite a

- 1 bit. I would say that there are dead spots that
- 2 definitely are not being served by 911 by all service
- 3 providers.
- 4 Q. As you've driven the area, can you tell
- 5 me where those areas are now, do you recall?
- 6 A. There's -- there's definitely service
- 7 issues to the northern border, central northern
- 8 border. There's a few areas throughout the market
- 9 that -- that have some areas that I would say that
- 10 are not covered by some of the other providers as far
- 11 as 911 in relation to where their towers are located.
- 12 Q. What is a PSAP?
- 13 A. This -- this is the public service
- 14 answering point. This is the 911 administrators
- 15 within each county.
- 16 Q. Does Northwest Missouri Cellular have
- any pending requests from a PSAP seeking E-911
- 18 coverage?
- 19 A. No, we don't.
- 20 Q. On direct testimony you -- you've made
- 21 revisions to your testimony to explain where the
- 22 phase 1 and phase 2 updates have been made.
- 23 A. Uh-huh.
- Q. And I guess it's redundant to ask, but
- 25 those were made without USF funds?

- 1 A. Correct.
- 2 Q. One of the other witnesses talked about
- 3 propagation analysis. Have you done -- or Northwest
- 4 Missouri Cellular -- has Northwest -- have you done a
- 5 propagation analysis based on where the competitors'
- 6 towers are to know where there is service or no
- 7 service?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 MR. HAAS: Thank you. That's all my
- 10 questions.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: CenturyTel?
- MR. STEWART: Thank you, your Honor.
- 13 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. STEWART:
- Q. Good morning, Mr. Bundridge.
- A. Good morning.
- 16 Q. I'm going to start with some very
- 17 general questions about a couple of your highly
- 18 confidential schedules, and then I'm going to
- 19 probably -- I know I'm gonna have to go in-camera to
- 20 ask specific questions about those schedules.
- 21 But let's start with some general
- 22 questions. First, directing your attention to your
- 23 Appendix P which was attached to your surrebuttal
- 24 testimony, I believe Mr. Haas just mentioned that,
- 25 and without getting into any of the HC material

- 1 contained in that schedule, can you tell us what
- 2 Appendix P is designed to show?
- 3 A. I don't have a copy of that in front of
- $4 \quad \text{me.}$
- 5 MR. STEWART: Actually, your Honor, I've
- 6 got handout copies. I don't think I need to offer
- 7 these as exhibits, they're already attached to the
- 8 testimony --
- 9 JUDGE DIPPELL: That's fine.
- 10 MR. STEWART: -- but with your
- 11 permission, I'll pass these out.
- 12 JUDGE DIPPELL: That's fine. It's just
- 13 a copy of Appendix P?
- 14 MR. STEWART: Exactly. Let me -- do you
- 15 want me to give it to Mr. DeFord first, let him
- 16 have --
- 17 JUDGE DIPPELL: That would be helpful.
- 18 BY MR. STEWART:
- 19 Q. Having -- having looked now at
- 20 Appendix P, I guess I'll ask the question again. Can
- 21 you tell us what Appendix P is designed to show us?
- 22 A. Basically, this is budgetary figures
- 23 that we have calculated to -- for our five-year
- 24 build-out plan.
- 25 Q. And this was part of your surrebuttal

1 filing in response to the other parties' critique of

- 2 your plan?
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 Q. I think in your testimony, didn't you
- 5 say that part of what Appendix P was designed to show
- 6 was that Northwest Cellular would use its USF funds
- 7 if it receives them only for appropriate USF
- 8 purposes? Is that something I can take off of this?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. In fact, go a little bit in more detail,
- 11 it actually is your attempt to show Northwest
- 12 Cellular's compliance with Section (2)(A)1 through 3
- of the Commission's ETC rule, is it not?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Got another one for you.
- 16 Directing your attention to Appendix M attached to
- 17 your supplemental direct -- you need a copy of that
- 18 too?
- 19 A. Sure.
- 20 Q. Let me clear it with counsel first.
- 21 MR. STEWART: And again, your Honor, I
- 22 don't intend to ask these to be marked. They are
- 23 attached to his testimony.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: That's fine.
- 25 MR. STEWART: Just for ease of following

- 1 along with some of the -- some of the numbers.
- 2 BY MR. STEWART:
- 3 Q. Okay. Taking a look at your Appendix M
- 4 which was in your supplemental direct, and again,
- 5 without getting into any of the highly confidential
- 6 material contained thereon, can you tell us what
- 7 Appendix M is designed to show us?
- 8 A. Basically, this ends up having the
- 9 capital expenditures as far as us building new sites
- 10 along with some of the ongoing expenses, capacity
- 11 increases and such, advanced wireless services with
- 12 these new sites.
- 13 Q. With regard to the new site. And so
- 14 would it be fair to say that this is an appendix that
- shows your detailed construction plans?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. And again, like Appendix P before, it's
- 18 also intended to show your compliance with
- 19 Section (2) (A) 1 through 3 of the Commission's ETC
- 20 rule?
- 21 A. Correct.
- 22 Q. Okay. Before we go into in-camera, I
- 23 just want to confirm again, how much USF support does
- 24 Northwest Cellular expect to receive in the first two
- 25 years of its -- as an ETC?

- 1 A. Well, with my response earlier,
- 2 approximately 1.4, so if you're saying two years, it
- 3 would be somewhere in the ballpark of 2.8 million.
- 4 Q. I believe Mrs. Zentgraf testified it was
- 5 like 1.465 per year. So you're -- you're just under
- 6 \$3 million; is that fair?
- 7 A. That's fair.
- 8 MR. STEWART: Okay. Your Honor, I -- at
- 9 this point I am gonna have to ask that we go
- 10 in-camera because the rest of my questions deal with
- 11 the numbers on these two appendices.
- 12 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Mr. England, did
- 13 you have non-in-camera cross-examination questions
- 14 for this witness?
- MR. ENGLAND: I think I have one.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Would you like to go
- 17 ahead and ask that first and then --
- 18 MR. ENGLAND: Certainly.
- 19 JUDGE DIPPELL: I'm assuming that maybe
- 20 you have some in-camera questions for him as well?
- 21 MR. ENGLAND: It's very similar, I
- 22 think, to what Mr. Stewart's about to get into.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Why don't you ask
- 24 your one question and then we'll go in-camera.
- 25 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. ENGLAND:

- 1 Q. Mr. Bundridge, I'd asked Ms. Zentgraf
- 2 about qualifying for USF support on a per-line basis
- 3 and my understanding was that if Northwest Missouri
- 4 Cellular is designated as an ETC, that you would
- 5 qualify for per-line support for each and every
- 6 customer that you had regardless of the plan they
- 7 subscribed to?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. Is that your understanding as well?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And I wanted to follow up with a
- 12 specific example. For example, if one customer
- 13 purchased four phones for that person's family, would
- 14 they qualify for one per-line support amount or would
- that be four per-line support amounts?
- 16 A. That would be four, I believe.
- 17 MR. ENGLAND: Okay. Thank you. That's
- 18 all I have.
- 19 JUDGE DIPPELL: And Mr. Gryzmala, do you
- 20 have both in-camera and non-in-camera questions?
- 21 MR. GRYZMALA: Your Honor, I would have
- 22 only non-in-camera questions.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Would it -- would
- 24 it be too disruptive, Mr. Stewart, to go ahead and
- 25 take those questions before we go in-camera?

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1 MR. STEWART: That's -- that's fine with
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- 2 me.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Let's go
- 4 ahead, then, with AT&T's public questions.
- 5 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. GRYZMALA:
- 6 Q. I can always tell when I follow Brent
- 7 Stewart, I have to move the microphone down.
- 8 Just a couple of questions,
- 9 Mr. Bundridge. I don't want to get into the
- 10 specifics of the numbers associated with EVDO in
- 11 Appendix M, but I want to just briefly allude to
- 12 page 5 of your rebuttal in that regard. I'm sorry.
- 13 I believe it's your supplemental. Surrebuttal
- 14 testimony, page 5.
- The point is made at lines 8 through 11,
- 16 "These funds" -- in other words, the USF funds --
- 17 "will also be used to deploy and extend advanced
- 18 wireless services including high speed wireless data
- 19 through EVDO technology to rural areas that would
- 20 otherwise remain unserved from this technology." Do
- 21 you see that?
- 22 A. I don't have it in front of me, but I
- 23 know where it's at.
- Q. Okay. Would you agree that advanced
- 25 wireless services, including high speed wireless data

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1 through EVDO technology, is not -- are not services
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- 2 whose costs are supported by the Universal Service
- 3 Fund under current federal law?
- 4 A. Correct.
- 5 Q. So funds expended by Northwest in
- 6 connection with provisioning and maintenance of EVDO
- 7 services would not be reimbursable, if you will, or
- 8 supported by the fund is a better word, I guess?
- 9 A. Well, I think the fact that EVDO has
- 10 been construed as a broadband service, there's a lot
- 11 of functionality that is used with advanced data
- 12 services, whether it's emergency notifications,
- 13 weather alerts.
- 14 It's not just -- to me as wireless
- 15 evolves, there's many other services that use the
- 16 data rather than the voice capacity of the phone for
- 17 obvious reasons. We don't have enough spectrum to
- 18 allow continuing service to be run across our voice
- 19 services.
- 20 So as technology evolves and as other
- 21 services evolve, as consumer demand increases, a lot
- 22 of future -- when recalling the advanced services,
- 23 wireless services, a lot of these things will use
- 24 such things as the EVDO to support their platforms.
- 25 Q. But would you agree none of the services

- 1 that are supported by the Universal Service Fund
- 2 require deployment of EVDO technology, correct?
- 3 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. Would you agree, sir, that if a
- 5 Lifeline customer takes toll blocking, then Northwest
- 6 Missouri Cellular would not be able to collect a
- 7 deposit under current law from that customer?
- 8 A. I guess I don't follow your question.
- 9 If they take toll blocking?
- 10 Q. Right. If they agree to accept toll
- 11 blocking on their telephone or on their -- on their
- 12 wireless service with Northwest, Northwest would not
- 13 be able to collect a deposit?
- 14 A. Correct. If -- if the purpose of the
- 15 deposit is if they -- a customer chooses mobility
- 16 where they want to roam with the -- with our service,
- 17 both of our Lifeline plans are unlimited. So in
- 18 those cases, our liability to -- for those customers
- 19 to use the service out of our network is not there
- 20 because they're restricted to our network.
- Toll is provided within our network,
- 22 within our five-county network, so there is no
- 23 deposit required on these Lifeline plans unless they
- 24 choose a plan other than those that we have
- 25 designated as Lifeline plans as far as a nationwide

- 1 roaming or a regional roaming. Those cases, we have
- 2 a liability there with them using that phone off of
- 3 our network and incurring charges.
- 4 Q. Are you aware of an FCC rule that states
- 5 that eligible telecommunications carriers may not
- 6 collect a service deposit in order to initiate
- 7 Lifeline service if the qualifying low-income
- 8 consumer voluntarily elects toll blocking from the
- 9 carrier where available?
- 10 A. Yes, and I mentioned we have two
- 11 Lifeline plans that abide by that.
- 12 Q. And are you aware of any FCC rule that
- 13 provides an exception to that rule in the event that
- 14 the customer is able to roam?
- 15 A. I can't answer that question.
- Q. You're not aware of any?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. Okay. Thank you. And one last, if I
- 19 may -- I would like to turn to your direct testimony,
- 20 page 9, and Exhibit -- let's wait for just a moment.
- 21 Actually, pages 7, 8 and 9 in which you generally
- 22 discuss Lifeline. That's where I am.
- 23 A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Okay? And do you see at page 9 your
- 25 testimony at line 21 that the proposed Northwest

- 1 Missouri Cellular Lifeline rates would be below those
- 2 offered by the ILECs. That is at line 21 on page 9;
- 3 do you see that?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And elsewhere in your testimony you
- 6 refer to Appendix K as sort of providing the
- 7 numerical details supporting that assertion, backing
- 8 that up, if you will; do you recall that?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And before we get to Appendix K, I may
- 11 have done this backwards, when you -- I'm sorry, when
- 12 Northwest -- when I say "you" I mean Northwest --
- 13 when Northwest and yourself put together the
- 14 Northwest option 1 Lifeline plan rate of 9.70 and the
- option 2 Lifeline plan rate of 13.70, do I understand
- 16 your footnotes 1 and 2 correctly to say that you
- 17 assumed a federal line charge discount of \$6.50?
- 18 A. Correct.
- 19 Q. Would it not be the case that in
- 20 Stanberry, the AT&T Missouri Wire Center for which
- 21 you have sought ETC designation, that figure ought to
- 22 be five and a quarter, not 6.50? Is that not the
- 23 case?
- 24 A. That's what I've read.
- 25 Q. Do you know whether in your own -- from

1 your own personal knowledge whether that's true or

- 2 not?
- 3 A. I don't know that.
- 4 Q. Okay. If -- let us assume for present
- 5 purposes that that's accurate, that in the Stanberry
- 6 exchange the number is not 6.50 but it's five and a
- 7 quarter.
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. In that event would you agree that in
- 10 Appendix K your \$9.70 option 1 and your \$13.70
- option 2 would be understated by \$1.25?
- 12 A. They would.
- 13 Q. They would, correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Okay.
- 16 A. But we would continue to offer those
- 17 plans across the board to all of our customers to
- 18 keep from the confusion.
- 19 Q. I understand. But the numbers here and
- 20 so far as Stanberry is concerned, they would not be
- 21 the real numbers. The real numbers would be instead
- 22 of 9.70, it would be 10.95, correct, and 14.95?
- A. No. We would still stay with the 9.70
- 24 and 13.70 across the board to our entire market.
- 25 Q. So in that event Northwest Missouri

1 would fund the additional dollar and a quarter out of

- 2 its own pocket?
- A. In that area we would.
- 4 Q. Okay. Your testimony at page 9 speaks
- 5 of the ILEC equivalent plan in indicating that, "This
- 6 plan would offer the same features and services as
- 7 the first Lifeline plan discussed above." Do you see
- 8 that?
- 9 A. Uh-huh.
- 10 Q. And "the first Lifeline plan discussed
- 11 above" is what we know as option 1 plan, correct?
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 Q. Is there any indication in your
- 14 testimony that the option 2 plan that we just
- 15 discussed would have a retail service offering
- 16 associated with it?
- 17 A. We don't have that on here.
- 18 Q. Okay. Is it not a basic premise of
- 19 Universal Service Fund while that -- or Universal
- 20 Service Fund administration that a company has an
- 21 actual available plan offered to the public which is
- 22 denominated a local retail service offering against
- 23 which discounts are applied to give you a Lifeline
- 24 plan, correct?
- 25 A. Correct.

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1 Q. But in this event there is no actual
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- 2 live -- or actual retail service offering associated
- 3 with option 2?
- A. It's not listed on here, but in stating
- 5 an ILEC equivalent, we would match those rates.
- 6 Q. But your current testimony does not do
- 7 that; is that correct?
- 8 A. The 9.70 and the 13.70 you mean?
- 9 Q. Right.
- 10 A. Correct. Actually, we will have that
- 11 plan but in specific areas where you're mentioning an
- 12 ILEC equivalent, we'd have to review each of these as
- 13 you're mentioning in the situation with -- with the
- 14 Stanberry AT&T area. And I don't have in front of me
- 15 each of those ILEC --
- 16 Q. Right.
- 17 A. -- those -- those rate plans right here
- 18 in front of me.
- 19 Q. But this option 2 really is not --
- 20 option 1 and option 2 actually are not confined to
- 21 Stanberry, they are -- they govern, they apply
- 22 throughout your Northwest ETC designated area,
- 23 correct?
- 24 A. Correct.
- 25 Q. And just so I make sure I understand,

- 1 the ILEC equivalent plan that your company has
- 2 offered corresponds with option 1 after the discounts
- 3 are applied giving you the option 1 price, correct?
- 4 A. Correct.
- 5 Q. But there is no ILEC equivalent plan that
- 6 you have offered as a company which, when the discounts
- 7 are applied, yield option 2 Lifeline plan, correct?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. So in order for you to offer a -- a
- 10 retail service offering under the option --
- 11 associated with the option 2 Lifeline plan, you have
- 12 to come with one because your testimony doesn't have
- 13 it presently; isn't that correct?
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 Q. Okay. One other -- just one other point
- 16 and I think I'm done.
- 17 MR. GRYZMALA: I am done. Thank you, sir.
- 18 JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Let's go
- 19 ahead then and we'll go in-camera. If anyone is in
- 20 the audience who's not allowed to hear the in-camera
- 21 testimony, I'll ask you to leave the room.
- 22 (REPORTER'S NOTE: At this point, an
- 23 in-camera session was held, which is contained in
- 24 Volume 3, pages 126 through 159 of the transcript.)

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1 JUDGE DIPPELL: And I'm gonna let
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- 2 Northwest Missouri Cellular know that I did not have
- 3 the mute on for the first five minutes of this
- 4 witness's testimony, and so some of your numbers just
- 5 got sent out over our internet broadcast. I
- 6 apologize.
- 7 MR. DeFORD: Can't be undone. That's
- 8 fine.
- 9 JUDGE DIPPELL: Not necessarily my
- 10 fault, but I'll apologize. It will not be in the
- 11 transcript or anything.
- MR. DeFORD: That's fine.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: But if anyone was tuned
- 14 in.
- MR. DeFORD: We're back on the public?
- JUDGE DIPPELL: We're back on the
- 17 public.
- 18 ROGER BUNDRIDGE testified as follows:
- 19 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. ENGLAND:
- 20 Q. I have a question on Appendix K which I
- 21 believe was attached to your direct testimony, "Rate
- 22 Comparison for Lifeline Customers." Do you have that
- 23 in front of you?
- 24 A. Yes, I do.
- 25 Q. Looking all the way across the top half,

1 you've got the rates for Holway listed; do you see

- 2 those?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. A \$13 residential rate plus the Relay
- 5 Missouri surcharge, plus the FCC line charge for a
- 6 total of \$19.63; do you see that?
- 7 A. Yes, I do.
- 8 Q. And then down below you have your
- 9 options 1 and 2 which are your Lifeline plans that
- 10 you would propose or commit to offer if designated an
- 11 ETC, correct?
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 Q. If I understand correctly, your number
- 14 is net of the Lifeline discount, right?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. But the Holway number is not net of any
- 17 Lifeline discount, is it?
- 18 A. It doesn't appear so.
- 19 Q. Okay. So that's not a true
- 20 apples-to-apples comparison, if you will, correct?
- 21 A. As far as the rate?
- 22 Q. Correct.
- 23 A. No.
- 24 MR. ENGLAND: Thank you, sir. I have no
- 25 other questions of the witness.

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1 JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Commissioner
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- 2 Gaw, did you have any questions?
- 3 COMMISSIONER GAW: Not at this time.
- 4 JUDGE DIPPELL: Let me just look really
- 5 quickly because I had a couple of things, but I think
- 6 they've been answered.
- 7 QUESTIONS BY JUDGE DIPPELL:
- 8 Q. Mr. Bundridge, in your direct testimony
- 9 you made a correction. You corrected MO 5 to MO 1?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Can you just explain to me what MO 1 is?
- 12 A. That's our licensed area, Missouri
- 13 RSA 1.
- 14 Q. And you also talked about a trial period
- that Northwest Missouri offers their customers?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. What's the length of the trial period?
- 18 A. We -- we have two different avenues we
- 19 do with that. One of them is we do allow customers
- 20 that walk into our location area, either of our agent
- 21 locations, to try our service without any commitment.
- We'll let them use the phone for a two
- 23 to three-day period. Typically customers will bring
- 24 it back in after a day or so. They'll go to their
- 25 home, try out the phone, make sure it works where

- 1 they want it to and then they'll come in.
- We also provide, I believe -- I don't
- 3 have it right in front of me, but I think it's the --
- 4 with 15-day period or 30-day period, I can't remember
- 5 off the top of my head here, for a customer who has
- 6 our service and are unhappy with it, to return
- 7 their -- the service and they're out of the contract
- 8 at that point.
- 9 Typically, though, if there's any
- 10 question about service in their area, that's where we
- 11 would rather not even get into the contract; we'd
- 12 rather give them a phone to use.
- 13 Q. Okay. And also in your direct testimony
- 14 you mention on page 14, you said after you've gone
- 15 through -- you were talking about submitting annual
- 16 reports, and I was just -- when you say "Northwest
- 17 Missouri Cellular would provide this information as a
- 18 separate schedule as part of the annual report it
- 19 submits as a certified carrier", is that the annual
- 20 report to the FCC that you're speaking of there, or
- 21 is that an annual report to this Commission?
- 22 A. I believe it would be this Commission
- 23 that we're referring to there.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: That's all the questions
- 25 I had. Were there any additional questions based on

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1 my questions from Public Counsel?
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- 2 MR. DANDINO: No questions, your Honor.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Staff?
- 4 MR. HAAS: No questions.
- 5 JUDGE DIPPELL: CenturyTel?
- 6 MR. STEWART: No questions, thank you.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Holway?
- 8 MR. ENGLAND: No questions, thank you.
- 9 JUDGE DIPPELL: AT&T?
- 10 MR. GRYZMALA: No, your Honor. No, your
- 11 Honor.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: I heard you, thank you.
- 13 Is there redirect?
- MR. DeFORD: Yes, just a few.
- 15 REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. DeFORD:
- 16 Q. Mr. Bundridge, I think earlier on you
- 17 had a discussion with Mr. Haas about the ILEC
- 18 comparable plan. I'm confused somewhat between the
- 19 ILEC comparable plan and I think the Lifeline plan.
- 20 Could you explain the differences in what you would
- 21 actually propose for ILEC comparable plan?
- 22 A. Yes. And actually, the ILEC equivalent
- 23 plan would be a 17.95 plan that the Lifeline customer
- 24 could get that would be equivalent to the type of
- 25 service they would receive from that ILEC.

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1 Q. You said "Lifeline customer." Would
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- 2 that be any customer, not just the Lifeline customer?
- 3 A. Yes, any customer.
- 4 Q. And the Lifeline plan would be offered
- 5 at a reduced rate?
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. You also had a discussion with Mr. Haas
- 8 about dead spots and 911 service. Are you aware of
- 9 any areas or maybe even an entire county that doesn't
- 10 have 911 capability?
- 11 A. Yes. I would -- I know that Worth
- 12 County, we are Northwest Missouri Cellular, that is,
- 13 is the only company that even has service there. So
- 14 we would be the only carrier there that could provide
- 15 enhanced 911.
- Q. With the addition of the ETC funds,
- 17 correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And there was some discussion about what
- 20 the company's actual commitment was. Is the
- 21 company's commitment that it would spend all of the
- 22 USF funds on only appropriate facilities and account
- 23 for those expenditures to the Commission on an annual
- 24 basis?
- 25 A. That is correct.

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1 Q. So the Commission would not expect to
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- 2 see the EVDO expense in the report?
- 3 A. That's correct.
- 4 Q. You had a discussion with Mr. Dandino, I
- 5 think, about quality of service. Do you recall that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And I think Mr. Dandino asked you
- 8 questions about complying with the wireline
- 9 Commission rules on quality of service; is that
- 10 correct?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Are you familiar with those
- 13 requirements?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. So are you willing to commit to abide by
- 16 those requirements?
- 17 A. No, not without reviewing them.
- 18 Q. What -- what did you mean to commit to
- 19 with respect to quality of service requirements?
- 20 A. I was referring to the commitment to the
- 21 ETC standard.
- Q. So the Commission's pending rule?
- 23 A. Correct.
- Q. You also had a discussion, I believe,
- 25 with Mr. Dandino and Mr. Haas concerning consumer

- 1 privacy. Do you recall that?
- 2 A. Yes.
- MR. DeFORD: Your Honor, I'd like to
- 4 have an exhibit marked.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: We're up to Exhibit
- 6 No. 13.
- 7 (EXHIBIT NO. 13 WAS MARKED FOR
- 8 IDENTIFICATION BY THE COURT REPORTER.)
- 9 BY MR. DeFORD:
- 10 Q. Mr. Bundridge, I've handed you what's
- 11 been marked for identification as Exhibit 13. Do you
- 12 recognize that document?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Could you explain what that document is?
- 15 A. We basically -- we had to file with the
- 16 FCC the consumer proprietary network information that
- 17 we would not divulge any of their information.
- 18 Q. So is this intended to satisfy the
- 19 requirements of consumer privacy?
- 20 A. I believe so.
- 21 MR. DeFORD: With that, I'd offer
- 22 Exhibit 13 and have nothing further.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Would there be any
- 24 objection to Exhibit No. 13?
- 25 (NO RESPONSE.)

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1 JUDGE DIPPELL: Seeing none, I will
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- 2 receive it into evidence.
- 3 (EXHIBIT NO. 13 WAS RECEIVED INTO
- 4 EVIDENCE AND MADE A PART OF THE RECORD.)
- 5 MR. DeFORD: Your Honor, actually I do
- 6 have one last question.
- 7 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay.
- 8 BY MR. DeFORD:
- 9 Q. Mr. Bundridge, I think at the very end
- 10 Mr. England had asked you some questions about
- 11 Appendix K which was the rate comparisons on the
- 12 Lifeline plans for the various companies; do you
- 13 recall that?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Whose fault would it be if those numbers
- 16 were incorrect? Did I give you those based on what I
- 17 pulled out of the tariff?
- 18 A. I know I didn't pull them out.
- 19 MR. DeFORD: That one's on me. Thanks.
- 20 That's all I have.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay.
- 22 MR. ENGLAND: Excuse me. Does that mean
- 23 we all have to fess up to all of our -- because I'm
- 24 not prepared to do that right now.
- MR. DeFORD: I'm not gonna hang him out

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1 on one that was absolutely my fault.
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- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Mr. Bundridge,
- 3 are you -- you're intending to remain for the rest of
- 4 the hearing?
- 5 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 6 COMMISSIONER GAW: Judge?
- 7 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay.
- 8 THE WITNESS: I don't have to go
- 9 anywhere.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Sorry?
- 11 THE WITNESS: I don't have to --
- 12 COMMISSIONER GAW: I'm glad to hear
- 13 that, but I do have --
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Do you want to go ahead?
- 15 COMMISSIONER GAW: Well, I'm -- I'm -- I
- 16 might ask because earlier when I was listening, it
- 17 was my understanding that there were commitments made
- 18 in regard to compliance with some of our rules which
- 19 apparently now is not the same in the -- there were
- 20 questions and answers in that regard I know in an
- 21 extended fashion from Public Counsel.
- 22 In light of what appears to be a
- 23 different answer, I would ask whether or not there
- 24 are follow-ups on that topic that should occur --
- 25 JUDGE DIPPELL: All right.

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1 COMMISSIONER GAW: -- because of that,
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- 2 because of that apparent case.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Let me --
- 4 COMMISSIONER GAW: Now, if I'm
- 5 incorrect, I understand.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: No. I believe that's
- 7 accurate, Mr. Commissioner.
- 8 COMMISSIONER GAW: And I'm not
- 9 suggesting that that occur right now.
- 10 JUDGE DIPPELL: Let me just ask if there
- 11 is, because Mr. Bundridge did sort of recant his --
- 12 the line of questioning that Mr. Dandino was headed
- down and sort of got an answer I think Mr. Dandino
- 14 wasn't expecting. So Mr. Dandino, would there be any
- 15 further cross-examination from Public Counsel?
- MR. DANDINO: Oh, I think so, your
- 17 Honor.
- 18 RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. DANDINO:
- 19 Q. Mr. Bundridge, so it's your statement
- 20 that -- I believe didn't you testify before that you
- 21 were familiar with these rules that the Commission
- 22 had regarding quality of service and billing and --
- 23 billing and collection?
- 24 A. I guess when I said "familiar," that I
- 25 knew they were out there but I didn't know per detail

- 1 about some of the requirements of them.
- 2 Q. And didn't I ask -- didn't I indicate to
- 3 you that I was not talking about the ETC rules?
- 4 A. I can't recall what you said. I think I
- 5 was confused, to be quite honest.
- 6 Q. Well, let's go back through this, then.
- 7 Are you telling this Commission that you will not
- 8 agree to accept or adopt the Commission's rules for
- 9 quality of service that apply to wireline as a
- 10 condition for being granted ETC status?
- 11 A. Without knowing those, I can't answer
- 12 that.
- 13 Q. Isn't that something you should have --
- 14 you should know?
- MR. DeFORD: Objection, argumentative.
- MR. DANDINO: I'll withdraw the
- 17 question.
- 18 BY MR. DANDINO:
- 19 Q. If you -- so the only -- is the only
- 20 quality of service or only rules -- rules -- strike
- 21 that. So your only commitment to this Commission as
- 22 we sit here today is the -- is that you will abide by
- 23 the, I believe it's the CTIA guidelines; is that
- 24 correct?
- 25 A. No.

- 1 Q. What is your --
- 2 A. Basically whatever the rules that are --
- 3 that are provided to us, we will follow.
- 4 Q. So -- I'm sorry. I don't understand
- 5 that. You're saying if we give you a copy of the
- 6 service quality rules, you would agree --
- 7 A. I think there is some confusion there in
- 8 you're referring to wireline versus the wireless
- 9 rules.
- 10 Q. Do you know if the Commission has rules
- 11 relating to the quality of service for wireless
- 12 carriers?
- 13 A. Isn't that pending?
- Q. Well, I'm asking you, you're --
- 15 A. No, I don't know.
- 16 Q. Okay. Do you know if the Commission has
- 17 rules relating to billing and collection for wireless
- 18 carriers?
- 19 A. I can't answer that either.
- 20 Q. Okay. Do you know if the Commission has
- 21 rules for termination of service for wireless
- 22 carriers?
- 23 A. Same thing, I can't answer that.
- Q. Do you know if the Commission has
- 25 jurisdiction over wireless carriers?

- 1 A. Same thing, I can't answer that.
- 2 MR. DANDINO: Okay. That's all I have,
- 3 your Honor.
- 4 JUDGE DIPPELL: Is there any further
- 5 cross-examination? And I would like to limit it to
- 6 that topic. I don't want to open it back up. But
- 7 with regards to this sort of change in testimony.
- 8 COMMISSIONER GAW: I may have just a
- 9 couple of questions if you want me to do that before
- 10 you go around.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. That's fine.
- 12 COMMISSIONER GAW: Just follow-up.
- 13 QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER GAW:
- 14 Q. In regards to the exhibit dealing with
- 15 customer proprietary information, CPNI, are there
- 16 particular policies Northwest has in effect, internal
- 17 policies dealing with the release of that
- 18 information?
- 19 A. Yes, we do.
- 20 Q. And do those policies -- are those
- 21 policies mirror images of the federal rules and laws
- 22 regarding release of that information, or are they
- 23 more restrictive?
- 24 A. In some cases they could be more
- 25 restrictive.

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1 Q. Do you know whether or not those
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- 2 policies have been made a part of this record?
- 3 A. No, they haven't.
- 4 Q. Okay. Is it possible for us to see
- 5 that?
- A. I don't have a copy on me.
- 7 Q. Okay. But it might be possible for that
- 8 to be provided?
- 9 A. Yes. To answer your question there
- 10 further, we have a lot of addendums in place and
- 11 that's what I'm referring to also that I could
- 12 provide. And those addendums, for example, I'll use
- 13 an example for you with a spouse. If one spouse gets
- 14 a rate plan with us and signs up service, we have to
- 15 have an addendum for any other person in that
- 16 household to receive this information.
- 17 So we -- when I say that I think
- 18 sometimes we go beyond, we get down to that granular
- 19 level even with the family where we won't release
- 20 records unless the person's actually signed the
- 21 contract and authorizes it.
- Q. Okay. So do you have -- what's your
- 23 policy in regard to opt-in/opt-out of sharing
- 24 information with nonaffiliates?
- 25 A. I guess I don't follow that.

- 1 Q. All right. Do you -- let me ask you
- 2 this, then: In regards to sharing, does -- does
- 3 Northwest have affiliates?
- 4 A. No, we don't.
- 5 Q. There are no affiliates as that term is
- 6 defined under federal law for the purpose of sharing
- 7 CPNI?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. Okay. So is it required, then, that any
- 10 sharing of information outside of sharing the
- 11 information with -- excuse me. Is it required that
- 12 any sharing of the information, CPNI information,
- 13 requires a consumer to consent?
- 14 A. Yes. Or a court order in the case of
- 15 needing call records.
- Okay. So if there were requests, then,
- 17 from any governmental entity in regard to some
- 18 specific information that was classified as CPNI,
- 19 your company would not release that information
- 20 unless there were a court order?
- 21 A. Correct.
- 22 COMMISSIONER GAW: That's all I have.
- 23 Thank you.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Commissioner, I
- 25 want to make sure, were you wanting the company to

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1 submit further policies for its privacy protections?
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- 2 COMMISSIONER GAW: Yes, if they are in
- 3 any way different from the federal requirements, and
- 4 I would assume that would mean they were more
- 5 restrictive.
- 6 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. What I'm gonna do
- 7 is I'm just gonna reserve Exhibit No. 14 and allow
- 8 Mr. DeFord to submit that later, and I'll give an
- 9 opportunity for objections and so forth and do it at
- 10 that time.
- MR. DeFORD: Thank you, your Honor.
- 12 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Mr. Dandino, did
- 13 you have any further cross-examination based on the
- 14 Commissioner's questions?
- MR. DANDINO: No, no further questions.
- 16 Thank you, your Honor.
- 17 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. And Mr. Haas, did
- 18 you have any questions?
- MR. HAAS: No questions.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: CenturyTel?
- 21 MR. STEWART: No questions, your Honor.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Holway?
- MR. ENGLAND: No questions, thank you.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: AT&T?
- MR. GRYZMALA: No, your Honor.

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1 JUDGE DIPPELL: All right, then. And
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- 2 was there any further redirect based on Commission's
- 3 questions?
- 4 MR. DeFORD: I think there's -- I think
- 5 there's one, and it's actually based on Mr. Dandino's
- 6 question.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay.
- 8 FURTHER REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. DeFORD:
- 9 Q. Mr. Bundridge, could you describe the
- 10 company's commitment to documenting customer
- 11 complaints and reporting to the Commission?
- 12 A. We would be very committed to doing
- 13 that.
- 14 Q. So the company will document all
- 15 customer complaints and how they were resolved and
- 16 report that on an annual basis to the Commission?
- 17 A. Yes, we would.
- 18 Q. Including billing and collection and
- 19 quality of service?
- 20 A. Yes, we would.
- 21 MR. DeFORD: Thank you. I have nothing
- 22 further.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Mr. Bundridge, I'm gonna
- let you step down, but I'm still gonna ask that you
- 25 remain in case there are further Commission questions.

- 1 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. I believe we're
- 3 ready for Northwest Missouri Cellular's next witness.
- 4 MR. DeFORD: Final witness. I'd call
- 5 Jon Reeves.
- 6 (Witness sworn.)
- 7 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. You can go
- 8 ahead, Mr. DeFord.
- 9 MR. DeFORD: Thank you, your Honor.
- 10 JONATHAN REEVES testified as follows:
- 11 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. DeFORD:
- 12 Q. Would you state your name for the
- 13 record.
- 14 A. My name is Jonathan Reeves.
- 15 Q. Spell your last name for the reporter.
- 16 A. R-e-e-v-e-s.
- 17 Q. Mr. Reeves, by whom are you employed and
- 18 in what capacity?
- 19 A. I am President of JDR Telecom Solutions,
- 20 a telecommunications consulting firm.
- 21 Q. And have you caused to be prepared and
- 22 filed in this case direct testimony and supplemental
- 23 testimony that's been marked for purposes of
- 24 identification as Exhibits 5 and 6?
- 25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Do you have any corrections or revisions

- 2 to that testimony?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. And if I were to ask you the same
- 5 questions set forth therein today, would your answers
- 6 be substantially the same?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And would those answers be true and
- 9 correct to the best of your information and belief?
- 10 A. Yes.
- MR. DeFORD: Your Honor, I'd offer
- 12 Exhibits 5 and 6 and tender the witness for cross.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Is there any
- objections to Exhibit No. 5?
- 15 (NO RESPONSE.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Seeing none, I will
- 17 receive it in the record. Is there any objection to
- 18 Exhibit No. 6?
- 19 (NO RESPONSE.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Seeing none, I will also
- 21 receive it into evidence.
- 22 (EXHIBIT NOS. 5 AND 6 WERE RECEIVED INTO
- 23 EVIDENCE AND MADE A PART OF THE RECORD.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Cross-examination from
- 25 Public Counsel?

1 MR. DANDINO: Yes, your Honor, briefly.

- 2 Apologize for that.
- 3 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. DANDINO:
- Q. Mr. Reeves, first of all, you're not an
- 5 employee of Northwest?
- A. No, I am not.
- 7 Q. And the question I asked Mr. Bundridge,
- 8 do you know if New Hampton and the Bethany exchange
- 9 share an EAS route?
- 10 A. No, I do not.
- 11 Q. That's not something you investigated?
- 12 A. That's correct, I do not know.
- MR. DANDINO: That's all I have, your
- 14 Honor.
- 15 JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Any
- 16 questions from Staff?
- 17 MR. HAAS: Yes, your Honor.
- 18 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. HAAS:
- 19 Q. Good afternoon. Mr. Reeves, what is
- 20 your role or your function in this case?
- 21 A. My function in this case is to testify
- 22 to the coverage provided currently in the network as
- 23 well as the coverage proposed to be provided at the
- 24 end of the construction of the five-year plan as well
- 25 as to attest to the -- any cream skimming issues that

- 1 might arise.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Mr. Haas, can you pull
- 3 that microphone down just a little bit? Thank you.
- 4 BY MR. HAAS:
- 5 Q. At page 6 of your testimony you refer to
- 6 the fact that Northwest is migrating from TDMA to
- 7 CDMA. First, what does TDMA stand for?
- 8 A. TDMA stands for time division, multiple
- 9 access.
- 10 Q. And how does TDMA operate in general?
- 11 A. How long do we have? TDMA works under
- 12 the principle and scenario that at any given moment
- 13 in time it transmits different information to a
- 14 different subscriber on the same frequency. Hence,
- 15 the time division, multiple access. So you have one
- 16 frequency and you can have multiple subscribers
- 17 conversing on that one frequency.
- 18 Q. What does CDMA stand for?
- 19 A. CDMA stands for code division, multiple
- 20 access.
- 21 Q. And generally how does CDMA operate?
- 22 A. CDMA actually uses multiple subscribers
- 23 on one frequency by using different coding on that
- 24 individual frequency rather than breaking it down by
- 25 time. They all transmit simultaneously, but

- 1 algorithms and coding go towards decoding the
- 2 individual conversation.
- 3 Q. Why is Northwest or why would any
- 4 cellular company migrate from TDMA to CDMA?
- 5 A. The biggest driver of it was that the
- 6 largest carriers and largest companies migrated away
- 7 from it. Frankly, that was a driving factor for many
- 8 rural customers and clients. It had nothing to do
- 9 with their own internal, it had more to do with the
- 10 state of the network -- or state of
- 11 telecommunications in the U.S. in general.
- In addition to that, however, there are
- 13 benefits to it, essentially the reasons why the
- 14 larger carriers are driven away from it with regard
- 15 to capacity and capability on the CDMA technology
- 16 versus TDMA.
- 17 Q. And I'm going to ask you a question
- 18 about coverage that I've also asked the other
- 19 witnesses. Are there dead spots in the areas in
- 20 which Northwest seeks designation where there is no
- 21 911 wireless coverage?
- 22 A. When you ask that question, are you
- 23 referring to every wireless carrier out there?
- 24 Q. Yes.
- 25 A. I don't have the background information

- 1 to answer that. I believe Mr. Bundridge -- Bundridge
- 2 already addressed that better than I possibly could
- 3 as far as his knowledge of the area.
- 4 Q. Mr. Reeves, what would a propagation
- 5 analysis show?
- 6 A. Propagation analysis would show the
- 7 predicted coverage from a number one or more of cell
- 8 sites.
- 9 Q. Have you done a propagation analysis for
- 10 this case?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And now can you tell me using that
- 13 analysis if there are dead spots?
- 14 A. Just to be clear, we're referring to
- 15 dead spots, not referring to just the Northwest
- 16 Missouri network?
- 17 Q. No. Oh, okay. So your analysis was
- 18 just for Northwest Missouri's cell towers?
- 19 A. That's correct.
- 20 Q. You did not do a propagation analysis on
- 21 the other carriers' tower sites?
- 22 A. That's correct. Lacking any of their
- 23 information which, once again, is proprietary and
- 24 confidential to them, there is no way to really do a
- 25 valid full analysis of other carriers' networks.

- 1 Q. Well, as you were driving the roads,
- 2 couldn't you spot those other towers?
- 3 A. Even knowing where the tower is and even
- 4 going out and surveying the tower locations and even
- 5 the heights of them, there's still much more
- 6 information that's not readily visible to the naked
- 7 eye as far as the configurations, the powers, the
- 8 exact antenna types, as far as telling the difference
- 9 from the ground. So there's no way to solve the
- 10 identified information.
- 11 MR. HAAS: That's all the questions I
- 12 have. Thank you.
- 13 JUDGE DIPPELL: Is there anything from
- 14 CenturyTel?
- 15 MR. STEWART: Yes, your Honor, and if
- 16 you could just give me a minute, I brought some
- 17 pictures. Your Honor, my questions are going to be
- 18 directed at Mr. Reeves, two of his appendices, which
- 19 I believe Northwest Cellular has deemed to be highly
- 20 confidential, so I think I may have to go ahead and
- 21 ask to go in-camera again.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Let me do what we
- 23 did last time and see if we can get the public
- 24 questions first. There was some question,
- 25 Mr. DeFord?

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1 MR. DeFORD: Yeah, your Honor, depending
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- 2 on which of the -- I assume we're talking about maps?
- 3 MR. STEWART: Yes.
- 4 MR. DeFORD: The company may well be
- 5 willing to stipulate that the maps are proprietary
- 6 rather than highly confidential. I --
- 7 MR. STEWART: Oh. The ones I'm talking
- 8 about specifically would be Appendix H and Appendix O
- 9 which are the propagation, and those are the ones
- 10 from him, and then I have one that was in our
- 11 testimony which would be No. 4, I guess.
- MR. DeFORD: Yeah, we'll stipulate that
- 13 those are proprietary so that the experts that are
- 14 in-house can stay as well.
- 15 JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. And that was
- 16 Appendix H and Appendix O?
- 17 MR. STEWART: Yes, Appendix H would have
- 18 been attached to Mr. Reed's direct and
- 19 supplemental -- Appendix O would be with his
- 20 supplemental direct, I believe.
- 21 MR. DeFORD: Your Honor, are we on mute?
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Not yet. Well, we
- 23 haven't gone in-camera yet, but thank you. Because I
- 24 think I'd like to try to get the public questions
- 25 asked first and then try to get everyone's in-camera

questions at one time.

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2
                  So let's come back to those. Are there
     public questions for this witness from Holway?
 4
                  MR. ENGLAND: No, your Honor.
 5
                  JUDGE DIPPELL: From AT&T? If you're
 6
     not sure, then we can just go into --
 7
                  MR. GRYZMALA: Our questions would be
 8
     proprietary given the reclassification Mr. DeFord
 9
     just announced.
10
                  JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Then in that
     case, we can just go ahead and go in-camera and I
11
12
     will mute.
13
                  (REPORTER'S NOTE: At this point, an
     in-camera session was held, which is contained in
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     Volume 3, pages 187 through 222 of the transcript.)
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1 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Let's go ahead
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- 2 and go back on the record. Okay. We're back on the
- 3 record after a break. I don't see there are any
- 4 questions for this witness from the bench. Is there
- 5 any redirect?
- 6 MR. DeFORD: None.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: All right, then,
- 8 Mr. Reeves, I believe you may be excused.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 10 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. Is there
- 11 anything further, Mr. DeFord?
- MR. DeFORD: No, your Honor. That's our
- 13 witness list completed.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: All right then. I
- 15 believe scheduled next is Office of Public Counsel.
- MR. DANDINO: Thank you, your Honor.
- 17 Call Barbara Meisenheimer, please.
- MR. DeFORD: Your Honor, we may be able
- 19 to speed this along. We're willing to waive cross on
- 20 the remainder of the witnesses.
- 21 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Is there -- with
- 22 that in mind, is there cross of this witness from the
- 23 other parties then?
- MR. STEWART: Judge, I have no cross.
- MR. HAAS: Staff has no cross of this

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1 witness.
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- 2 MR. ENGLAND: Nor do I.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Any other witnesses?
- 4 MR. DANDINO: Can I get a shot at
- 5 redirect, your Honor?
- 6 JUDGE DIPPELL: Any other witnesses? I
- 7 mean, is everyone willing to waive cross if that's
- 8 the case?
- 9 MR. ENGLAND: Yeah, I have no
- 10 cross-examination of any other witnesses.
- MR. STEWART: Nor do I, Judge.
- MR. GRYZMALA: Nor do I, your Honor.
- MR. DANDINO: Public Counsel doesn't
- 14 either.
- MR. ENGLAND: We did have a couple of
- 16 corrections to Mr. Warinner's testimony. As I
- 17 indicated earlier, I've actually got it in printed
- 18 form.
- 19 JUDGE DIPPELL: All right.
- 20 MR. ENGLAND: I mean, I don't know how
- 21 critical it is, but we can either do that or put him
- 22 on or if any other witnesses have to correct their
- 23 testimony and just to get that taken care of so the
- 24 record is accurate --
- JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Yeah, we

- 1 can --
- 2 MR. ENGLAND: -- but otherwise, I have
- 3 no --
- 4 JUDGE DIPPELL: -- we can mark those as
- 5 an exhibit.
- 6 MR. DANDINO: I was gonna say, your
- 7 Honor, if you just want to qualify the witnesses,
- 8 introduce the exhibit and then we can move on, I
- 9 don't know if you even need to do that.
- 10 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Is there also
- 11 gonna be a stipulation as to the admissibility of all
- 12 of the remaining testimony?
- MR. DeFORD: I would, except I'd kind of
- 14 like to know what the corrections are.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Right. Okay. Well,
- 16 Ms. Meisenheimer, I think you can step down.
- MS. MEISENHEIMER: Okay.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: I want to -- before we
- 19 do away with all the witnesses, I will want to ask
- 20 the Commissioners if they have -- had any particular
- 21 questions that they wanted to ask. But let's go
- 22 ahead and take care -- since we know we have the
- 23 issue -- well, let's just start with
- 24 Ms. Meisenheimer's testimony. Would there be any
- 25 objection to Exhibit No. 7 coming into the record?

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1 (NO RESPONSE.)
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- 2 MR. DANDINO: I'd offer No. 7, your
- 3 Honor.
- 4 JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Seeing no
- 5 objection, I will receive it.
- 6 (EXHIBIT NO. 7 WAS RECEIVED INTO
- 7 EVIDENCE AND MADE A PART OF THE RECORD.)
- 8 JUDGE DIPPELL: Would there be any
- 9 objection to Staff's testimony, Exhibit No. 8 HC
- 10 coming into the record?
- 11 (NO RESPONSE.)
- 12 JUDGE DIPPELL: Seeing none, then I will
- 13 receive it.
- 14 (EXHIBIT NO. 8 HC WAS RECEIVED INTO
- 15 EVIDENCE AND MADE A PART OF THE RECORD.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Exhibit No. 9, Mr. Brown's
- 17 testimony, would there be any objection to it?
- 18 (NO RESPONSE.)
- 19 JUDGE DIPPELL: Seeing none, I will
- 20 receive Exhibit No. 9.
- 21 (EXHIBIT NO. 9 WAS RECEIVED INTO
- 22 EVIDENCE AND MADE A PART OF THE RECORD.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: And then we can either
- 24 put Mr. Warinner on to get his corrections or we can
- 25 look at errata sheets.

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1 MR. ENGLAND: Let me hand out the sheet
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- 2 so everybody can see.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Why don't I
- 4 just mark that as Exhibit No. 15 and that will just
- 5 make it cleaner.
- 6 MR. ENGLAND: Okay. I may have to
- 7 explain something because it's not as clear on the
- 8 first page as it is on the second.
- 9 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. I'm just calling
- 10 this an errata to Mr. Warinner's testimony and I'm
- 11 marking it as Exhibit No. 15.
- 12 (EXHIBIT NO. 15 WAS MARKED FOR
- 13 IDENTIFICATION BY THE COURT REPORTER.)
- 14 MR. ENGLAND: Your Honor, by way of
- 15 explanation, these are revised two pages of
- 16 Mr. Warinner's rebuttal, pages 28 and 29. On the
- 17 first page, 28, there's additional language that's
- 18 not real clear. It's supposed to be bold, but it's
- 19 not very obvious. It's line 15 and it's the words in
- 20 the middle "with the second plan." You can see that
- 21 they're faintly bolded but not noticeably. The
- 22 changes on page 29 I think are self-evident.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. I'll give you-all
- 24 a moment to look that over. All right. Have you-all
- 25 had an opportunity to look at that? Are there gonna

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1 be questions about it or is it clear?
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- 2 (NO RESPONSE.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Then would there
- 4 be any objections to Mr. Warinner's testimony,
- 5 Exhibit No. 10 P and Exhibit No. 15, which is the
- 6 errata to Mr. Warinner's testimony coming into the
- 7 record?
- 8 (NO RESPONSE.)
- 9 JUDGE DIPPELL: Seeing no objection, I
- 10 will admit both Exhibit 9 and Exhibit 15 -- I'm
- 11 sorry, Exhibit 10 and No. 15. And then is there any
- 12 objection to Mr. Stidham's -- is that how it's
- 13 pronounced -- testimony? It's Exhibit No. 11.
- 14 (NO RESPONSE.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Seeing no objection, I
- 16 will admit Exhibit No. 11.
- 17 (EXHIBIT NOS. 10, 11 AND 15 WERE
- 18 RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE AND MADE A PART OF THE
- 19 RECORD.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: So then the only
- 21 remaining exhibit would be a late-filed exhibit which
- 22 I reserved No. 14 for the company to submit. Is
- 23 there anything else that needs to be put into the
- 24 record, Mr. Gryzmala?
- MR. GRYZMALA: The matter we discussed

- 1 this morning, your Honor, would be the only
- 2 remainder.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Well, why
- 4 don't we go ahead and take care of that. I discussed
- 5 with Mr. Gryzmala off the record what he's about to
- 6 put on the record now.
- 7 MR. GRYZMALA: Thank you, your Honor. I
- 8 want to advise the Commission that I inadvertently
- 9 and mistakenly indicated this morning the customer
- 10 count which, to the best of my knowledge, if I
- 11 recall, was a specific number of customers in the
- 12 Stanberry Wire Center area.
- 13 That has been traditionally and remains
- 14 a highly confidential matter. I inadvertently failed
- 15 to recall that. I would like the record to reflect
- 16 that that specific number should have been treated as
- 17 highly confidential. I would like it to be treated
- 18 as highly confidential in terms of the record and in
- 19 terms of those who may have heard it while I
- 20 inadvertently mentioned it in the hearing room.
- 21 JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. And you're
- 22 referring to your opening statement; is that correct?
- MR. GRYZMALA: Yes, that is.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Would there be any
- 25 objection to me redacting that number from the

- 1 official transcript?
- 2 (NO RESPONSE.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: As I said, it's already
- 4 gone out over the internet, but we can keep it
- 5 confidential from here on out. So okay, I will order
- 6 that to be so, and I will have the court reporter
- 7 remove that specific number from that portion of your
- 8 opening statement, and I will ask that anyone who may
- 9 have heard that number keep it -- keep it
- 10 confidential if you are in a position to do so. If
- 11 anybody was in here that isn't still here, I guess
- 12 that's over and done with.
- MR. GRYZMALA: Thank you very much, your
- 14 Honor.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Uh-huh. Is there
- 16 anything else that needs to be on the record?
- 17 (NO RESPONSE.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay, then. I'm going
- 19 to find out if there are any additional Commissioner
- 20 questions for any of the witnesses before I excuse
- 21 them and we adjourn.
- I will ask you, I had ordered that
- 23 briefs be due 30 days after the transcripts are
- 24 filed. If -- I'll just ask you all to consider that
- 25 and if that's gonna be a workable schedule. If we

- 1 can speed it up, that's great. Don't want to
- 2 encourage it to linger any further than that.
- 3 So I'd also said that you can file
- 4 proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, but
- 5 I believe I made one or both of those optional, and
- 6 that Order will stand however it's written.
- 7 Okay. Let's take another 15-minute
- 8 break, come back in here at a quarter till and maybe
- 9 I'll send you home. Let's go off the record.
- 10 (A RECESS WAS TAKEN.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay, then. Let's go
- 12 ahead and go back on the record with sound. All
- 13 right then. There are no Commissioner questions for
- 14 any of the witnesses, so that will conclude the
- 15 hearing.
- I didn't expedite this transcript so it
- 17 will be due in a regular ten-day working cycle, and
- 18 like I say, I ordered the briefs to be filed 30 days
- 19 after that. Is that reasonable?
- MR. DeFORD: That's fine with us, your
- 21 Honor.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: All right, then. I'll
- 23 send out a briefing schedule when the transcript is
- 24 filed, setting a deadline, a specific deadline. And
- 25 Mr. DeFord, I'll ask you to file your Exhibit 14 by

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1
    next Friday.
 2
                 MR. DeFORD: We'll check into that.
                 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. If there is no
     Exhibit 14, then you can just file a notice saying
 5
     that.
 6
                 MR. DeFORD: We'll do that.
                  JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Is there anything
    further that needs to be on the record?
8
9
                  (NO RESPONSE.)
                  JUDGE DIPPELL: Seeing nothing further,
10
11
    this hearing is adjourned. Thank you.
12
                  (WHEREUPON, the hearing in this case was
13
    concluded.)
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