

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Application of i-wireless, LLC            )  
for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications            )  
Carrier in the State of Missouri                                    )     **File No. TA-2011-0377**

**ORDER GRANTING DESIGNATION  
AS AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER**

Issue Date: November 9, 2011

Effective Date: November 19, 2011

On May 20, 2011, i-wireless, LLC, d/b/a Access Wireless (“Access”), applied for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) on a wireless basis throughout the Missouri exchanges described in its application.

**Procedural Background**

Staff filed a recommendation regarding Access’ application on November 1, 2011. Staff indicated Access meets all requirements for ETC designation to receive low-income support from the federal Universal Service Fund (USF) as a wireless carrier, including the receipt of Lifeline and LinkUp support, for discounts offered on service plans to eligible customers. Staff recommended the Commission grant the application.

**Jurisdiction**

The Commission has jurisdiction under federal law to decide upon Access’ application for ETC status.<sup>1</sup> Because no party objects to Access’ application, no evidentiary hearing is required.<sup>2</sup> Thus, the Commission bases its findings on the verified filings.

---

<sup>1</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2).

<sup>2</sup> *State ex rel. Rex Deffenderfer Ent., Inc. v. Public Serv. Com’n*, 776 S.W.2d 494 (Mo.App. 1989).

## **Findings and Conclusions**

Access is a North Carolina limited liability company authorized to do business in Missouri. The company seeks ETC status on a wireless basis only and does not seek ETC designation on a wireline basis. Access seeks ETC status to provide services supported by the low-income programs of the federal USF in the Missouri exchanges listed in its application. It does not seek ETC designation to participate in the high-cost programs of the federal USF.

A company must receive ETC designation to receive low-income funding from the federal USF. Low-income funding is associated with the federal Lifeline and LinkUp programs. These programs provide funding to companies offering discounts to monthly charges and installation charges for local voice service subscribed to by consumers meeting certain criteria. Access proposes to offer a wireless service for qualifying low-income consumers that will provide a free wireless handset to qualifying consumers with no monthly fees, subject to usage limitations. The company will require applicants to submit proof of eligibility.

Based on Access' verified application and the recommendation offered by Staff, the Commission finds that Access' application for designation as an ETC is consistent with the public interest and should be granted.

### **THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:**

1. i-wireless, LLC, d/b/a Access Wireless, is designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier throughout its Missouri service territory, as set forth in Exhibit 7 to its application, under the provisions of 47 U.S.C. §§ 214 and 254, solely to receive low-income federal universal service fund support for Lifeline and LinkUp .

2. This order shall become effective on November 19, 2011.
3. This case shall be closed on November 20, 2011.

**BY THE COMMISSION**



Steven C. Reed  
Secretary

( S E A L )

Ronald D. Pridgin, Senior Regulatory  
Law Judge, by delegation of authority  
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,  
on this 9th day of November, 2011.