

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office
in Jefferson City on the 27th
day of June, 2018.

In the Matter of a Request for Variance from the
Filing Requirements of 4 CSR 240-31.130

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File No. TE-2018-0372

**ORDER GRANTING VARIANCE TO RELIEVE ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS
CARRIERS OF THE OBLIGATION TO FILE A COPY OF THEIR FEDERAL ANNUAL
REPORT WITH THE COMMISSION**

Issue Date: June 27, 2018

Effective Date: July 7, 2018

On June 12, 2018, the Commission's Staff filed a motion asking the Commission to grant a variance from the Commission's rules to allow Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (ETCs) additional time to submit certain information with the Commission. The Commission granted the requested variance on June 20, allowing the ETCs until July 16, 2018 to file that information. On June 19, Staff filed another request for variance. The new request for variance concerns the Commission's rule's requirement that the ETCs must file with the Commission a copy of the annual report (Form 481) they are required to file with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) under federal law.

Staff's motion explains the FCC has indicated it will no longer require ETCs to file duplicate copies of the Form 481 federal report with the FCC and the state commissions, reasoning the state commissions can now access that form on the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) website. Some Missouri ETCs have asked whether the Commission will continue to require them to file the duplicate forms with this Commission despite the change in the FCC's requirements. Staff asked the

Commission to accept its request to consider this matter, and determine whether it is necessary for ETCs to file the Form 481 federal report with the Commission pursuant to 4 CSR 240-31.130(3)(A) for 2018.

On June 21, Staff filed a clarification, confirming the USAC website is now operational, and recommending the Commission grant the requested waiver. In addition, Staff indicated the Commission should waive application of 4 CSR 240-31.130(3)(B)2, which applies to ETCs receiving high-cost support, as well as 4 CSR 240-31.130(3)(A)3, which applies to ETCs receiving Lifeline support.

Staff's request for variance is reasonable and the Commission will grant that request.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Staff's Request for Variance is granted.
2. The provisions of Commission Rules 4 CSR 240-31.130(3)(A)3 (Lifeline Support) and 4 CSR 240-31.130(3)(B)2 (High Cost Support), which require Eligible Telecommunications Carriers to submit a copy of the federal annual report required by 47 CFR 54.422 to this Commission, are waived for 2018.
3. This order shall be effective on July 7, 2018.



Hall, Chm., Kenney, Rupp, Coleman, and
Silvey, CC., concur.

Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 27th day of June 2018.




Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

June 27, 2018

File/Case No. TE-2018-0372

**Missouri Public Service
Commission**

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

Sincerely,



**Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary**

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