

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Application of Steelville Long Distance Company, )  
Inc., d/b/a STE Communications for Designation )  
as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier For ) Case No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Purposes of Receiving Federal and State Lifeline )  
and Disabled Support )

**APPLICATION OF STEELVILLE LONG DISTANCE COMPANY, INC.  
D/B/A STE COMMUNICATIONS FOR DESIGNATION AS AN  
ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER FOR PURPOSES OF  
RECEIVING FEDERAL AND STATE LIFELINE AND DISABLED SUPPORT  
AND MOTION FOR WAIVER**

COMES NOW Steelville Long Distance Company, Inc., d/b/a STE Communications (“STE Communications” or “Applicant”) pursuant to Section 214(e)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (“Act”); 47 CFR Sections 54.201 and 54.202; 20 CSR 4240-2.060; and 20 CSR 4240-31.016, and for its Application for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (“ETC”) for purposes of receiving federal and state Lifeline and Disabled Support and motion for waiver pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1)(D), states to the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”) as follows:

**INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY**

1. Applicant is a Missouri corporation in good standing with its street address and principal place of business at 61 East Highway 8, Box 370, Steelville, MO 65565. A copy of Applicant’s Certificate of Good Standing issued by the Missouri Secretary of State is attached as Exhibit 1. Applicant is an Competitive Local Exchange Carrier (“CLEC”) certificated by the Commission to provide basic local and non-switched local telecommunications services.<sup>1</sup>

2. By this Application, Applicant seeks ETC designation throughout the State of Missouri in order to provide federal and state Lifeline and Disabled discounts to qualifying low-

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<sup>1</sup> Case No. CA-2021-0117.

income and disabled subscribers. Applicant therefore seeks a “Lifeline and Disabled ETC designation” only.

3. All correspondence, communications, pleadings, notices, orders and decisions relating to this Application should be addressed to:

Kevin Ancell  
61 East Highway 8  
Box 370  
Steelville, MO 65565  
(573) 775-2111  
[Kevin.Ancell@goste.net](mailto:Kevin.Ancell@goste.net)

W.R. England, III/Brian T. McCartney  
Brydon, Swearngen & England P.C.  
P.O. Box 456  
312 East Capital Avenue  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0456  
[trip@brydonlaw.com](mailto:trip@brydonlaw.com)  
[bmccartney@brydonlaw.com](mailto:bmccartney@brydonlaw.com)

4. STE Communications currently provides competitive local telecommunications and broadband internet access services to the communities of Cuba, Bixby, East End, and Norwood, Missouri.

5. As will be shown below, Applicant meets all statutory and regulatory requirements for its ETC designation. A grant of this application will advance the public interest by meeting the goals of the federal and state Lifeline and state Disabled programs making voice and broadband services affordable to subscribers who are financially challenged and/or disabled.

6. Applicant has no pending action or final unsatisfied judgments or decisions against it from any state or federal agency or court which involve customer service or rates, which has occurred within the past three (3) years. Nor does Applicant have any Missouri annual reports or assessment fees that are overdue.

7. Applicant is not delinquent in the filing of any annual report or the payment of any assessment fees.

### SERVICES OFFERED

8. Applicant will offer voice and broadband internet access services. Qualifying subscribers will be eligible for federal and state Lifeline and Disabled support. The rates Applicant proposes to charge for voice and broadband services will be reasonably comparable to urban rates for the same services.

### ADVERTISING SERVICES

9. Applicant will advertise the availability and prices of its voice and broadband services using media of general distribution. Applicant plans to advertise its services and prices using newspapers, its publicly available website, direct mail, and through participation in local community events. In addition, Applicant will publicize the availability of its Lifeline and Disabled services in a manner reasonably designed to reach those likely to qualify for the services.

### LIFELINE AND DISABLED SERVICE

10. Applicant will comply with all requirements associated with the federal Lifeline program contained in 47 CFR Part 54 Subpart E. Applicant will also comply with all requirements contained in 20 CSR 4240 Chapter 31 as they relate to the provision of Lifeline and Disabled services. Applicant's terms, conditions and rates for Lifeline and Disabled services will be contained on its publicly available website: [www.goste.net](http://www.goste.net).

### ACCESS TO 911

11. Applicant will provide its voice subscribers with access to 911 and E911 emergency service.

### ABILITY TO REMAIN FUNCTIONAL IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

12. Applicant will have the ability to remain functional in emergency situations through the use of back-up power (i.e., fixed and mobile generators and/or batteries) to ensure functionality without an external power source. The generators and batteries are regularly checked as part of routine maintenance.

### CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PRIVACY AND SERVICE QUALITY

13. Applicant will satisfy all applicable consumer protection requirements, as well as protect consumer privacy. Applicant has Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI) policies and procedures that are consistent with FCC regulations. Employees will be required to complete CPNI training. Applicant also has internal policies and procedures to protect sensitive customer information from improper use and disclosure. Applicant's privacy and security policies are reinforced through periodic training required of all employees.

### FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ABILITY

14. Applicant has the financial and technical ability to provide voice and broadband services. Applicant complies with Commission rules, as well as files Annual Reports with the Commission regarding its financial status. Applicant's service as a CLEC and its annual reporting to the Commission further supports its technical and financial ability to provide voice and broadband services.

### OWNERSHIP INTERESTS

15. Applicant is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Steelville Telephone Exchange, Inc.

### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

16. The Officers and Directors of Applicant are as follows:

Shirley Hendrix, President

Steve Yocum, Vice President

John Terry Beckham, Treasurer

Patricia Snodgrass, Secretary

Phyllis Conaway, Assistant Secretary

Joel Tom Beezley

Virginia Mae Halbert

Rosella Roberts

Kenneth Bruce Donal

COMMON OWNERSHIP OR MANAGEMENT

17. Applicant's parent, Steelville Telephone Exchange, Inc., participates in the federal and state Lifeline and Disabled programs.

REGISTERED NAME

18. Applicant commits to solely offer Lifeline and Disabled services using its fictitious name as registered with the Commission and the Missouri Secretary of State.

STATE OR FEDERAL REGULATORY OR LAW ENFORCEMENT MATTERS

19. No matters have been brought in the last ten (10) years by any state or federal regulatory or law enforcement agency against any of the individuals, entities, managers, officers, directors of other companies sharing common ownership or management with the Applicant involving fraud, deceit, perjury, stealing, or the omission or misstatement of material fact in connection with a commercial transaction.

qualifying low-income and disabled customers. Being able to provide Lifeline and Disabled discounts to qualifying customers will promote greater access to high speed broadband and voice services.

MOTION FOR WAIVER

24. Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.4.017(1) provides that “(a)ny person that intends to file a case shall file a notice with the secretary of the commission a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to filing such case.” A notice was not filed 60 days prior to the filing of this Application. As such, and to the extent required, Applicant seeks a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement.

25. Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1)(D) provides that a waiver may be granted for good cause. In this regard, Applicant declares (as verified below) that it has had no communication with the Office of the Commission (as defined by Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.015(10)) within the prior 150 days regarding any substantive issue likely to be in this case. Accordingly, for good cause shown, Applicant moves for a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement of Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1) and acceptance of this Application at this time.

WHEREFORE, Applicant respectfully requests the Commission to issue an Order that: (1) approves its Application for designation as an ETC in order to participate in the federal and state Lifeline and Disabled support programs; (2) grants a waiver of the Commission notice of filing requirement in 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1); and (3) grants such other relief as is reasonable in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

By /s/ W.R. England, III

W.R. England, III

Brian T. McCartney

Mo. #23975

Mo. #47788

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(573) 635-7166  
(573) 634-7431 (FAX)

Attorneys for Steelville Long Distance Company,  
Inc., d/b/a STE Communications

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of this document was served to the following parties on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022:

General Counsel  
Missouri Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
[staffcounsel@psc.mo.gov](mailto:staffcounsel@psc.mo.gov)

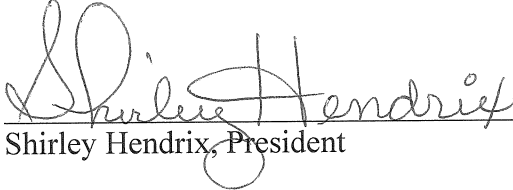
Office of the Public Counsel  
P.O. Box 2230  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
[opcservice@opc.mo.gov](mailto:opcservice@opc.mo.gov)

/s/ W.R. England, III  
\_\_\_\_\_

**VERIFICATION**

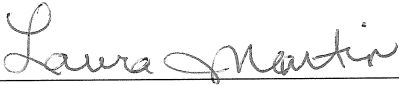
COUNTY OF CRAWFORD )  
   ) ss.  
 STATE OF MISSOURI    )

I, Shirley Hendrix, being duly sworn upon my oath, state that I am over twenty-one, sound of mind, and am authorized to act on behalf of Steelville Long Distance Company, Inc., d/b/a STE Communications, regarding the foregoing document. I have read it and verify that the facts contained in it are true and correct according to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. Additionally, no representative of STE Communications has had any communication with the office of the Missouri Public Service Commission as defined in Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.015(10) within the immediately preceding 150 days regarding the subject matter of this Application.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Shirley Hendrix, President

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 11<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022.

<p><b>LAURA J. MARTIN</b>                  Notary Public - Notary Seal                  STATE OF MISSOURI                  Comm. Number 92486096                  Crawford County                  My Commission Expires: June 5, 2023</p>
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 Notary Public



# STATE OF MISSOURI



**John R. Ashcroft**  
**Secretary of State**

**CORPORATION DIVISION**  
**CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING**

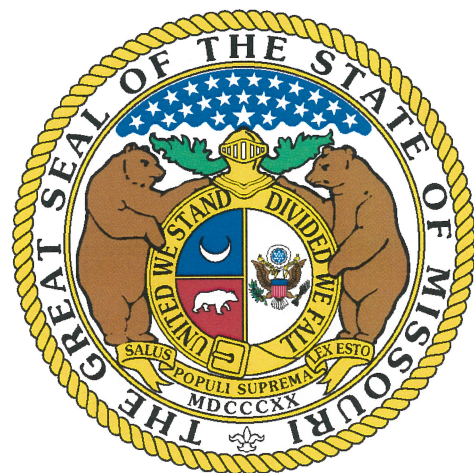
I, JOHN R. ASHCROFT, Secretary of State of the State of Missouri, do hereby certify that the records in my office and in my care and custody reveal that

***STEELVILLE LONG DISTANCE COMPANY, INC.***  
***00473027***

was created under the laws of this State on the 11th day of August, 1999, and is in good standing, having fully complied with all requirements of this office.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause to be affixed the GREAT SEAL of the State of Missouri. Done at the City of Jefferson, this 10th day of January, 2022.

  
 Secretary of State



Certification Number: CERT-01102022-0091