

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office in
Jefferson City on the 20th day of
January, 2021.

In the Matter of the Application of Chariton)	
Valley Communications Corporation for)	
Expansion of its Designation as a)	<u>File No. CA-2021-0058</u>
Telecommunications Carrier Eligible for)	
Federal Universal Service Support pursuant)	
to the Telecommunications Act of 1996)	

**ORDER GRANTING APPLICATION TO EXPAND DESIGNATION
AS AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER**

Issue Date: January 20, 2021

Effective Date: February 19, 2021

On December 10, 2020, Chariton Valley Communications Corporation (Chariton) requested authority to expand its existing Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) designation.¹ Chariton was recently awarded federal Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) support to build broadband facilities in more rural areas. The RDOF funding requires Chariton to extend broadband service to a designated number of locations in certain census blocks. Chariton seeks to expand its ETC designation to include the census blocks it was awarded. Chariton included Attachment B with its application which outlines the specific census blocks for which it requests designation.

The Commission issued notice and set a deadline for intervention. No person or entity sought intervention in this matter, and no party has requested a hearing.

¹ Chariton has been previously approved to provide basic local telecommunications services in File No. TA-2002-0238 and to provide interexchange telecommunications services in File No. CA-2006-0160. The Commission designated Chariton as an ETC carrier in File No. TA-2012-0128, which was later expanded to additional areas in File No. CA-2019-0108.

The Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) conducted an investigation and on January 5, 2021, filed its recommendation and memorandum. Staff recommended that the Commission approve Chariton's request for expansion of its ETC designation to the areas identified by census blocks in Attachment B of Chariton's verified application. Staff stated that Chariton has met the requirements of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-31.016 governing eligible telecommunications carriers.

Under federal authority, the application is within the Commission's jurisdiction to decide.² Since no law requires a hearing, this is a non-contested case.³ Non-contested cases do not require formal proceedings or hearings before the Commission, and as such, there is no evidentiary record.⁴ Consequently, the Commission bases its decision on the verified filings.

Based upon its review of the verified application and Staff's recommendation and memorandum, the Commission finds that Chariton has met the requirements to extend its ETC designation.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Chariton's application is granted. Chariton is granted ETC designation in all census block groups described in Attachment B its application.
2. This order shall become effective on February 19, 2021.
3. This case shall be closed on February 20, 2021.

² 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2).

³ *In the Matter of Kansas City Power & Light Co.'s Request for Authority to Implement a General Rate Increase for Elec. Serv. v. Pub. Serv. Comm'n*, 509 S.W.3d 757, 783-784 (Mo. App. W.D. 2016).

⁴ *State ex rel. Pub. Counsel v. Pub. Serv. Comm'n*, 210 S.W.3d 344, 353-354 (Mo. App. W.D. 2006).



BY THE COMMISSION

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

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

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

Hatcher, Regulatory Law Judge