

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

In the Matter of the Application of	)	
Air Link Rural Broadband, LLC for	)	
Designation as an Eligible	)	<b><u>Case No. DA-2019-0102</u></b>
Telecommunications Carrier	)	
in the State of Missouri	)	

**MOTION FOR EXTENSION**

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and for its *Motion for Extension* in this matter hereby states:

1. On October 12, 2018, Air Link Rural Broadband, LLC, (Company or Air Link) filed an *Application and Verification of Air Link Rural Broadband, LLC for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the State of Missouri* with the Commission requesting that the Commission issue an order designating Air Link as a high-cost and low-income eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC). The Company's request, if approved, would permit it to receive federal support pursuant to the Connect America Fund II (CAF II) auction held by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and for Lifeline. The Commission ordered Staff to file its recommendation no later than November 29, 2018. Staff filed a request to file its recommendation no later than December 31, 2018, to permit Air Link to file supplemental information, which the Commission approved. Air Link filed a supplemental application on December 28, 2018.

2. The CAF II program is part of the FCC's reform and modernization of its universal service fund support programs designed to accelerate the expansion of broadband services to rural areas and any areas which presently lack the infrastructure

capable to support at least 10/1 Mbps of fixed broadband services. The FCC held an auction to allocate funds to various companies which could further the goals of the CAF II program. The FCC requires each winning company to obtain ETC designation from its respective public utilities commission prior to receiving the allocated funds. Winners of the auction must certify within 180 days of the release of the Public Notice from the FCC which closed the CAF II auction that they have obtained ETC designation. Public Notice was issued August 21, 2018, so Air Link must certify that it has obtained ETC designation no later than February 25, 2019.

3. Conexon, LLC, filed an *Application to Intervene* on November 14, 2018, stating that it opposed Air Link's ETC application because it had concerns that Air Link's wireless technology may not be capable of meeting the speed or latency requirements of the CAF II program. Conexon stated that it continued to explore Air Link's technical capabilities. Air Link expressed that it had spoken with Conexon in its supplemental filing and that Conexon expressed satisfaction with Air Link's proposal, however, to date, Conexon has not filed a response to Air Link's supplemental filing.

4. Staff recommends the Commission issue an order directing Conexon to file a response to Air Link's supplemental filing and state whether it is satisfied with Air Link's capabilities or whether it continues to raise concerns. Staff also recommends the Commission extend the date by which Staff must file its recommendation to accommodate Conexon's response.

**WHEREFORE**, Staff prays that the Commission will direct Conexon, LLC, to file a response to Air Link Rural Broadband, LLC's supplemental filing; permit an extension of the filing date for Staff's Recommendation to accommodate Conexon's response; and grant such other and further relief as the Commission considers just in the circumstances.

**/s/ Whitney Payne**

Whitney Payne  
Assistant Staff Counsel  
Missouri Bar No. 64078  
Attorney for the Staff of the  
Missouri Public Service Commission  
P. O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
(573) 751-8706 (Telephone)  
(573) 751-9285 (Fax)  
[whitney.payne@psc.mo.gov](mailto:whitney.payne@psc.mo.gov)

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail, or First Class United States Postal Mail, postage prepaid, on this 31st day of December, 2018, to all counsel of record.

**/s/ Whitney Payne**