

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held by telephone and internet audio conference on the 24th day of February, 2021.

In the Matter of the Application of Co-Mo)
Comm, Inc. d/b/a Co-Mo Connect for)
Expanded Designation as an Eligible) **File No. DA-2021-0196**
Telecommunications Carrier Pursuant to)
Section 214(e)(2) of the Communications Act)
of 1934, as Amended)

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

Issue Date: February 24, 2021

Effective Date: March 26, 2021

On January 5, 2021, Co-Mo Comm, Inc. d/b/a Co-Mo Connect (Co-Mo Connect) requested authority to expand its existing Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) designation.¹ Co-Mo Connect was recently awarded federal Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) support to build broadband facilities in more rural areas. The RDOF funding requires Co-Mo Connect to extend broadband service to a designated number of locations in certain census blocks. Co-Mo Connect seeks to expand its ETC designation to include the census blocks it was awarded. Co-Mo Connect included Exhibit A 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.

The Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) conducted an investigation and on February 4, 2021, filed its recommendation and memorandum. Staff

¹ Co-Mo Connect is presently registered as an interconnected voice over internet protocol (IVoIP) service provider.

recommended that the Commission approve Co-Mo Connect's request for expansion of its ETC designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier to the areas identified by census blocks in Exhibit A of its verified application. Staff stated Co-Mo Connect met the requirements of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-31.016 governing eligible telecommunications carriers. Staff notes that Co-Mo Connect requests a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017, and recommends that such waiver be granted.

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 Co-Mo Connect has met the requirements for ETC designation. Further, for good cause shown, Co-Mo Connect will be granted a waiver of the 60-day filing requirement of the Commission's rules.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Co-Mo Connect's application is granted. Co-Mo Connect is granted ETC designation in all census block groups described in Exhibit A to its application.
2. Co-Mo Connect is granted a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017.

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).

3. This order shall become effective on March 26, 2021.
4. This file shall be closed on March 27, 2021.



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.

Pridgin, Regulatory Law Judge