

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held by telephone and internet audio conference on the 17th day of March, 2021.

In the Matter of the Petition of Ralls)
Technologies, LLC for Designation as an)
Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Pursuant) **File No. DA-2021-0201**
to Section 214(e)(2) of the Communications)
Act of 1934, as Amended)

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

Issue Date: March 17, 2021

Effective Date: April 16, 2021

On January 6, 2021, Ralls Technologies, LLC (Ralls Technologies) requested authority to be designated as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (ETC).¹ Ralls Technologies was recently awarded federal Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) support to build broadband facilities in more rural areas. The RDOF funding requires Ralls Technologies to extend broadband service to a designated number of locations in certain census blocks. Ralls Technologies seeks ETC designation to include the census blocks it was awarded. Ralls Technologies 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 10, 2021, filed its recommendation and memorandum. Staff

¹ Ralls Technologies is presently certificated in Missouri to provide interconnected voice over internet protocol (IVoIP) services.

recommended that the Commission approve Ralls Technologies request for designation as an eligible telecommunications carriers for the purpose of receiving federal low-income support for census blocks identified in Exhibit A. Staff stated Ralls Technologies met the requirements of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-31.016 governing eligible telecommunications carriers. Staff notes that Ralls Technologies 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 Ralls Technologies has met the requirements for ETC designation. Further, for good cause shown, Ralls Technologies will be granted a waiver of the 60-day filing requirement of the Commission's rules.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Ralls Technologies' application is granted. Ralls Technologies is granted ETC designation in all census block groups described in Exhibit A to its application.
2. Ralls Technologies 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 April 16, 2021.
4. This file shall be closed on April 17, 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