

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held in its office in Jefferson City on the 2nd day of June, 2021.

In the Matter of Wisper ISP, LLC's)	
Application to Expand ETC Service Area)	
Designation for the Purpose of Participating)	<u>File No. DA-2021-0373</u>
in the FCC Rural Digital Opportunity Fund)	

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

Issue Date: June 2, 2021

Effective Date: June 12, 2021

On April 26, 2021, Wisper ISP, LLC (Wisper) filed its application to expand its designation as a wireless Eligible Telecommunications Carrier.¹ Wisper was recently awarded federal Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) support to build broadband facilities in more rural areas.

The Commission issued notice and set a deadline for intervention. No intervention requests were received.

The Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) conducted an investigation and on May 24, 2021, filed its recommendation and memorandum. Staff recommended that the Commission approve Wisper's request for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier for the purpose of receiving federal high-cost and low-income support for census blocks identified in Exhibit C of the application. Staff stated Wisper met the requirements of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-31.016 governing

¹ Wisper is presently certificated in Missouri as an interconnected voice over internet protocol (IVoIP) services provider.

eligible telecommunications carriers. Staff notes that Wisper 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 Wisper has met the requirements for ETC designation. Further, for good cause shown, Wisper will be granted a waiver of the 60-day filing requirement of the Commission's rules.

Because Wisper needs this order to be effective as soon as possible to comply with FCC requirements, the Commission will make this order effective in less than thirty days.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Wisper's application is granted. Wisper is granted ETC status for the purpose of receiving federal high-cost and low-income support in the area identified by census block groups described in Exhibit C to its application.

2. Wisper 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 June 12, 2021.
4. This file shall be closed on June 13, 2021.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

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

Pridgin, Regulatory Law Judge