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

In the Matter of the Investigation of	)	
Aristotle Unified Communications, LLC	)	
Related to the Connect America Fund	)	File No. TO-2023-0436
Phase II Auction	)	

## ARISTOTLE'S POSITION STATEMENT

Aristotle Unified Communications LLC (Aristotle) provides its Position Statement as follows:

- Should the Commission certify Aristotle under rule 47 CFR 54.314 to receive federal Connect America Fund Phase II funding for 2024?
  - a. Is Aristotle using federal Connect American Fund Phase II support for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended?

**RESPONSE:** Yes, as to both issue #1 and subpart a. As demonstrated by the Direct Testimony of Aristotle's CEO Elizabeth Bowles, Aristotle is using the CAF II funds for the intended purposes and the Commission should certify Aristotle under rule 54.314 as soon as possible to mitigate the loss of CAF II funds arising from late certification, for the benefit of the people in the affected census blocks in Howell, Oregon and Ozark Counties.

WHEREFORE, Aristotle requests that the Commission certify it as an ETC for 2024 under 47 CFR 54.314 as soon as possible.

## CURTIS, HEINZ, GARRETT & O'KEEFE, P.C.

/s/ Carl J. Lumley

Carl J. Lumley, #32869 130 S. Bemiston, Suite 200 St. Louis, Missouri 63105 (314) 725-8788 (314) 725-8789 (Fax) Email: clumley@chgolaw.com

Attorney for Aristotle Unified Communications LLC

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing was served via email this 5th day of December, 2023 on all counsel of record.

/s/ Carl J. Lumley

Missouri Public Service Commission Staff Counsel Department 200 Madison Street, Suite 800 P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 <u>staffcounselservice@psc.mo.gov</u>

Office of Public Counsel Marc Poston 200 Madison Street, Suite 650 P.O. Box 2230 Jefferson City, MO 65102 opcservice@opc.mo.gov

Missouri Public Service Commission Whitney Scurlock 200 Madison Street, Suite 800 P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 Whitney.scurlock@psc.mo.gov