

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

In the Matter of the Application of)
Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation)
and Chariton Valley Broadband, LLC) Case No. TA-2024-0148
for an Order Authorizing the Transfer (or)
Grant) of Certificate of Public Convenience)
and Necessity and Designation as Eligible)
Telecommunications Carrier.)

RESPONSE TO STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Comes now Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation (hereinafter “CVTC”) and Chariton Valley Broadband, LLC (hereinafter “CVBB”) (collectively “Applicants”) and for their response to Staff Recommendation in the above-captioned matter states as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”):

1. On November 1, 2023, Applicants filed an Application to Transfer (or Grant) Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier and Request for Waiver of Commission. Among other things, Applicants requested that the Commission enter an Order to be effective before January 1, 2024:

- (1) authorizing a transfer of CVTC’s Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to CVBB or, alternatively, issuing CVBB a Certificate of Service Authority to provide basic local telecommunications service in the exchanges listed in the Affidavit attached as Exhibit 5;
- (2) acknowledging CVBB is a “successor in interest” to CVTC and, therefore, is an ILEC as defined by Section 386.020(22), RSMo.;
- (3) authorizing a transfer of CVTC’s ETC designation to CVBB for purposes of receiving federal and state universal support or, alternatively, designating CVBB as an ETC for purposes of receiving federal and state universal support;

- (4) authorizing CVTC to relinquish its designation as an ETC in the event the Commission decides not to authorize a transfer of CVTC's ETC designation to CVBB, but rather issues a "new" ETC designation to CVBB;
- (5) authorizing a transfer of CVTC's Certificate of IXC Service Authority to CVBB or, alternatively, issuing CVBB a Certificate of IXC Service Authority and authorizing CVTC to relinquish its Certificate of IXC Service Authority at the same time CVBB's Certificate of IXC Service Authority becomes effective;
- (6) authorizing CVBB to adopt the intrastate tariffs of CVTC on file with the Commission contemporaneous with the transfer (or grant) of Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and designation as an ETC; and
- (7) such other relief as necessary and appropriate in the circumstances.

2. On November 3, 2023, the Commission issued its Order Directing Filing of Staff Recommendation directing the Staff to file a Recommendation regarding the Application no later than December 4, 2023.

3. On November 8, 2023, Applicants filed their Amended Application to Transfer (or Grant) Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier and Request for Waiver requesting the Commission to issue an Order with the following additional provision:

- (1) authorizing a transfer of CVTC's Certificate of IXC Service Authority to CVBB or, alternatively, issuing CVBB a Certificate of IXC Service Authority and authorizing CVTC to relinquish its Certificate of IXC Service Authority at the same time CVBB's Certificate of IXC Service Authority becomes effective.

4. Also on November 8, 2023, Chariton Valley Broadband, LLC, filed a revised tariff sheet adopting the local exchange tariff of Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation (JI-2003-1467) to be effective on January 1, 2024.

5. On December 1, 2023, Staff filed its Staff Recommendation and supporting memorandum recommending that the Commission approve the transfer of the Certificate and ETC Designation of Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation to Chariton Valley Broadband or, alternatively, cancel both the CCN and the ETC designation of Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation and grant new ones to Chariton Valley Broadband. In addition, Staff recommended the Commission grant the adoption of Tariff No. JI-2003-1467 and a waiver of the 60-day notice required by Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017.

6. Applicants have reviewed the Staff Recommendation and concur in same.

WHEREFORE, Applicants respectfully request that the Commission issue an Order with an effective date no later than January 1, 2024, authorizing the transfer (or grant) of the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier from Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation to Chariton Valley Broadband, LLC, and for such other Orders as are appropriate in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ W.R. England, III
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was delivered by electronic mail this 7th day of December, 2023, to counsel of record:

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/s/ W.R. England, III