

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held in its office in Jefferson City on the 19th day of December, 2024.

In the Matter of the Application of)
Northeast Missouri Rural Telephone)
Company d/b/a NEMR for Expanded) **File No. IA-2025-0148**
Designation as an Eligible)
Telecommunications Carrier for Purposes)
of Receiving Federal and State Lifeline)
and Disabled Support)

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

Issue Date: December 19, 2024

Effective Date: December 29, 2024

On November 6, 2024, Northeast Missouri Rural Telephone Company d/b/a NEMR requested to expand its designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) to be eligible to provide Lifeline and Disabled service.¹ NEMR requests to expand its ETC designation on a statewide basis for the purpose of receiving federal low-income and Missouri Universal Service Fund support. NEMR also requests a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017.

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 December 6, 2024, filed its recommendation and memorandum. Staff recommended that the Commission approve NEMR's request for expansion of its

¹ NEMR was designated by the Commission as an ETC for purposes of receiving Federal Universal Service Fund in Case No. TO-98-49. This was expanded as part of a federal Rural Digital Opportunity Fund in Case No. IA-2021-0221.

designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier for the purpose of receiving federal low-income and Missouri Universal Service Fund support on a statewide basis. Staff stated NEMR met the requirements of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-31.016 governing eligible telecommunications carriers.

Under federal authority, the application is within the Commission's jurisdiction to decide.² No statute, ordinance, or constitutional provision requires a hearing or formal proceedings before the Commission.³ 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 NEMR has met the requirements for expansion of its ETC designation.

Further, NEMR's application represents that the applicant has not had contact with the Office of the Commission about any substantive issue connected to the filing within 150 days before filing the application. On the basis of that representation, for good cause shown, the Commission will waive application of the pre-filing notice requirements of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1).

So that NEMR may begin providing services under its ETC designation in Missouri, the Commission finds it reasonable to make this order effective in less than 30 days.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. NEMR's application is granted. NEMR's designation as an ETC is expanded for the purpose of receiving federal low-income and Missouri Universal Service Fund support on a statewide basis.

² 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2).

³ *State ex rel. Yarber v. McHenry*, 915 S.W.2d 325, 328 (Mo. 1995); *State ex rel. Pub. Counsel v. Pub. Serv. Comm'n*, 210 S.W.3d 344, 353-354 (Mo. App. W.D. 2006).

2. NEMR is granted a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017.

3. This order shall become effective on December 29, 2024.

4. This file shall be closed on December 30, 2024.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Dippell".

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

Hahn, Ch., Coleman, Holsman
Kolkmeier, and Mitchell CC., concur.

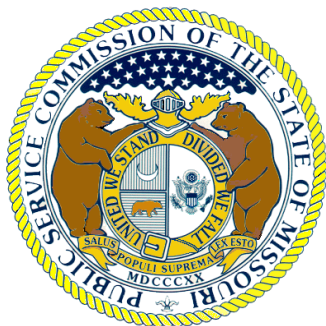
Fewell, Regulatory Law Judge

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 19th day of December 2024.



Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

December 19, 2024

File/Case No. IA-2025-0148

MO PSC Staff

Staff Counsel Department
200 Madison Street, Suite 800
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
staffcounsel@psc.mo.gov

**Office of the Public Counsel
(OPC)**

Marc Poston
200 Madison Street, Suite 650
P.O. Box 2230
Jefferson City, MO 65102
opc@psc.mo.gov

MO PSC Staff

Ron Irving
200 Madison Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101
ron.irving@psc.mo.gov

NEMR

W England
312 East Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 456
Jefferson City, MO 65102
trip@brydonlaw.com

NEMR

Brian McCartney
312 East Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 456
Jefferson City, MO 65102
bmccartney@brydonlaw.com

Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,



**Nancy Dippell
Secretary**

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.