



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

DA 12-2063

Release Date: December 26, 2012

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU APPROVES THE COMPLIANCE PLANS OF AIRVOICE WIRELESS, AMERIMEX COMMUNICATIONS, BLUE JAY WIRELESS, MILLENNIUM 2000, NEXUS COMMUNICATIONS, PLATINUMTEL COMMUNICATIONS, SAGE TELECOM, TELRITE AND TELSCAPE COMMUNICATIONS

WC Docket Nos. 09-197 and 11-42

The Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) approves the compliance plans of nine carriers: AirVoice Wireless, LLC (AirVoice); AmeriMex Communications Corp. (AmeriMex); Blue Jay Wireless, LLC (Blue Jay); Millennium 2000, Inc. (Millennium 2000); Nexus Communications, Inc. (Nexus); PlatinumTel Communications, LLC (PlatinumTel); Sage Telecom, Inc. (Sage); Telrite Corporation (Telrite); and Telscape Communications, Inc. d/b/a Telscape Wireless (Telscape). The compliance plans were filed pursuant to the *Lifeline Reform Order* as a condition of obtaining forbearance from the facilities requirement of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the Act), for the provision of Lifeline service.¹

The Act provides that in order to be designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) for the purpose of universal service support, a carrier must “offer the services that are supported by Federal universal service support mechanisms . . . either using its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier’s services”² The Commission amended its rules to define voice telephony as the supported service and removed directory assistance and operator services, among other things, from the list of supported services.³ As a result of these amendments, many Lifeline-only ETCs that previously met the facilities requirement by providing operator services, directory assistance or other previously supported services no longer meet the facilities requirement of the Act.⁴ In the *Lifeline Reform Order*, the Commission found that a grant of blanket forbearance of the facilities requirement,

¹ See *Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization et al*, WC Docket No.11-42 *et al.*, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 27 FCC Rcd 6656, 6816-17, paras. 379-380 (2012) (*Lifeline Reform Order*). A list of the compliance plans approved through this Public Notice can be found in the Appendix to this Public Notice.

² 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1)(A).

³ See *Lifeline Reform Order*, 27 FCC Rcd at 6678, para. 47; see also 47 C.F.R. § 54.101(a).

⁴ See *Lifeline Reform Order*, 27 FCC Rcd at 6812, para. 366, App. A; *Connect America Fund et al*, WC Docket 10-90, Order on Reconsideration, 26 FCC Rcd 17633, 17634-35, para. 4 (2011) (*USF/ICC Transformation Order on Reconsideration*). Some ETCs have included language in their compliance plans indicating that they have facilities or plan to acquire facilities in the future. See, e.g., Blanket Forbearance Compliance Plan, WC Docket Nos. 09-197 and 11-42, Q Link Wireless, LLC’s Third Amended Compliance Plan at 4 n. 2 (filed July 30, 2012). To the extent ETCs seek to avail themselves of the conditional forbearance relief established in the *Lifeline Reform Order*, we presume they lack facilities to provide the supported service under sections 54.101 and 54.401 of the Commission’s rules. See 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.101 and 54.401. Such ETCs must comply with the compliance plan approved herein in each state or territory where they are designated as an ETC, regardless of their claim of facilities for other purposes, such as eligibility for state universal service funding.

subject to certain public safety and compliance obligations, is appropriate for carriers seeking to provide Lifeline-only service.⁵ Therefore, in the *Lifeline Reform Order*, the Commission conditionally granted forbearance from the Act's facilities requirement to all telecommunications carriers seeking Lifeline-only ETC designation, subject to the following conditions: (1) compliance with certain 911 and enhanced 911 public safety requirements; and (2) Bureau approval of a compliance plan providing specific information regarding the carrier and its service offerings and outlining the measures the carrier will take to implement the obligations contained in the *Order*.⁶

The Bureau has reviewed the nine plans listed in the Appendix for compliance with the conditions of the *Lifeline Reform Order* and now approves those nine compliance plans.⁷

Filings, including the Compliance Plans identified in the Appendix, and comments are available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554. They may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-B402, Washington, D.C. 20554, telephone: (202) 488-5300, fax: (202) 448-5563, or via email www.bcpweb.com.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an email to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-7400 or TTY (202) 418-0484.

For further information, please contact Michelle Schaefer, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-7400 or TTY (202) 418-0484.

- FCC -

⁵ See *Lifeline Reform Order*, 27 FCC Rcd at 6813-6817, paras. 368-381.

⁶ See *id.*, 27 FCC Rcd at 6814, 6819, paras. 373, 389. Subsequently, the Bureau provided guidance for carriers submitting compliance plans pursuant to the *Lifeline Reform Order*. *Wireline Competition Bureau Provides Guidance for the Submission of Compliance Plans Pursuant to the Lifeline Reform Order*, WC Docket Nos. 09-197 and 11-42, Public Notice, 27 FCC Rcd 2186 (Wireline Comp. Bur. 2012).

⁷ The Commission has not acted on any pending ETC petitions filed by these carriers, and this Public Notice only approves the compliance plans of the carriers listed above. While these compliance plans contain information on each carrier's Lifeline offering, we leave it to the designating authority to determine whether or not the carrier's Lifeline offerings are sufficient to serve consumers. See *Lifeline Reform Order*, 27 FCC Rcd at 6679-80, 6818-19, paras. 50, 387.

APPENDIX

Petitioner	Compliance Plans As Captioned by Petitioner	Date of Filing	Docket Numbers
AirVoice Wireless, LLC	AirVoice Wireless, LLC's Amended Compliance Plan	December 7, 2012	09-197; 11-42
AmeriMex Communications Corp.	AmeriMex Communications Corp. Revised Compliance Plan	December 6, 2012	09-197; 11-42
Blue Jay Wireless, LLC	Blue Jay Wireless, LLC Compliance Plan	November 30, 2012	09-197; 11-42
Millennium 2000 Inc.	Amended Compliance Plan of Millennium 2000 Inc.	December 18, 2012	09-197; 11-42
Nexus Communications, Inc.	Third Amended Compliance Plan of Nexus Communications, Inc.	December 4, 2012	09-197; 11-42
PlatinumTel Communications, LLC	PlatinumTel Communications LLC's Revised Compliance Plan	December 19, 2012	09-197; 11-42
Sage Telecom, Inc.	Revised Compliance Plan of Sage Telecom, Inc.	December 19, 2012	09-197; 11-42
Telrite Corporation	Telrite Corporation Compliance Plan	November 29, 2012	09-197; 11-42
Telscape Communications Inc. d/b/a Telscape Wireless	Revised Compliance Plan of Telscape Communications, Inc.	December 19, 2012	09-197; 11-42