

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Big River Broadband d/b/a)
Circle Fiber Relinquishing of Eligible) **Case No. DD-2026-0111**
Telecommunications Carrier (ETC))
Designation)

ORDER APPROVING ETC RELINQUISHMENT

Issue Date: December 2, 2025

Effective Date: December 22, 2025

On October 22, 2025,¹ Big River Broadband d/b/a Circle Fiber submitted a letter informing the Commission that it wishes to relinquish its designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) in Missouri. Circle Fiber requested the relinquishment be effective December 22, 2025. Circle Fiber stated that it does not have any Lifeline customers in Missouri and therefore no existing customers will be impacted by the relinquishment. Circle Fiber was granted ETC designation in Case No. DA-2022-0331.

The Commission gave notice of Circle Fiber's filing, directed its Staff (Staff) to file a recommendation, and set a time for any other responses.

On November 20, Staff filed its Recommendation and Memorandum. Staff stated that the requirements for relinquishment of ETC status are contained in Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-31.015(4). The rule indicates a company can relinquish its ETC designation by providing a letter signed by an authorized company official or representative at least 60 days prior to relinquishing ETC status, demonstrating compliance with 47 U.S.C. 214(e)(4).

¹ All dates refer to 2025 unless otherwise indicated.

The federal requirements are codified in FCC rule 47 CFR 54.205 and are essentially intended to ensure the affected area will continue to be served by at least one ETC. Staff stated that Circle Fiber does not have any Lifeline customers in Missouri and therefore no existing customers will be impacted by the relinquishment. In addition, there are other designated ETCs serving these areas, ensuring that Missouri consumers will continue to have access to supported services if needed.

Staff reviewed Circle Fiber's letter and stated that it has met the requirements of 20 CSR 4240-31.015(4) and is also in compliance with 47 U.S.C. 214(e)(4). Staff recommended the Commission approve the relinquishment of Circle Fiber's ETC designation in Missouri. No other parties responded to Circle Fiber's filing.

Having reviewed Circle Fiber's letter and Staff's Recommendation and Memorandum, the Commission finds that Circle Fiber has demonstrated compliance with Commission Rules and with 47 U.S.C. 214(e)(4) and shall be permitted to relinquish its ETC designation.

To allow the relinquishment to take place on the date requested by Circle Fiber, the Commission finds it reasonable to make this order effective in fewer than 30 days.²

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Big River Broadband d/b/a Circle Fiber is permitted to relinquish its Eligible Telecommunications Carrier designation which was granted in Case No. DA-2022-0331.
2. This order shall become effective on December 22, 2025.
3. This case shall be closed December 23, 2025.

² Section 386.490, RSMo (2016).



BY THE COMMISSION

Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

Charles Hatcher, Senior Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 2nd day of December, 2025.

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 2nd day of December 2025.



Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

December 2, 2025

File/Case No. DD-2026-0111

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Dippell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**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.