BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of a Proceeding to Implement Lifeline Assistance Modifications as a Result of a Federal Communications Commission Order.

Case No. 05-461-TP-UNC

2

<u>ENTRY</u>

The Commission finds:

- (1) In the Matter of Lifeline and Link Up, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Lifeline/Link Up Report and Order) issued by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in WC Docket No. 03-109 on April 29, 2004, the FCC required all states to establish procedures to verify customers' continued eligibility for both program and income-based criteria. While states like Ohio, which administer our own lifeline programs, were permitted to design and implement our own verification procedures to validate continued lifeline eligibility, the Commission declined to adopt an Ohio-specific requirement.
- (2) Annually, the FCC Wireline Competition Bureau releases a public notice requiring that each Eligible Telecommunication Carrier (ETC) must submit by August 31, to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), the Certification of Compliance with State Lifeline Verification Procedures affidavit, signed by an officer of the company attesting that the ETC has complied with the state verification procedures.
- (3) Accordingly, each of the Ohio ETCs shall be required to attest that it has complied with the FCC's requirements to verify customers' continued eligibility for both program and income-based criteria. Therefore, each ETC must file a completed copy of the FCC certification affidavit that is submitted to USAC, with the Ohio Commission in this proceeding, on or before August 31, 2008.

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That, consistent with Finding 3, each Ohio ETC shall file with the Commission a completed copy of the appropriate affidavit form certifying that the ETC has complied with the FCC's requirements to validate continued lifeline eligibility no later than August 31, 2008. It is, further,

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business. Technician TM 3, 2005 _Date Processed_

05-461-TP-UNC

ORDERED, That a copy of this entry be served upon all Ohio ETCs, the Office of the Consumer's Counsel, the Ohio Telecom Association and other interested persons of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

Alan R. Schriber, Chairman

-Ronda Hartman I

Paul A. Centolella

Valerie A. Lemmie

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JR:sm

Entered in the Journal

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Reneé J. Jenkins Secretary