

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Collection and )  
Submission of Study Area Boundaries of ) Case No. 13-710-TP-UNC  
Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers to the )  
Federal Communications Commission. )

FINDING AND ORDER

The Commission finds:

- (1) Pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-6-32 this Commission serves as the administrator of telephone exchange boundaries, boundary changes, and borderline boundaries. Specifically, Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-6-32 requires incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs) to file an application seeking Commission approval whenever the company seeks to change the boundary of an exchange area. This rule further reflects that Commission-maintained telephone exchange boundary maps are the official source/documentation of incumbent local exchange carrier service areas and boundaries.
- (2) On November 6, 2012, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released a Report and Order in *Connect America Fund; High-Cost Universal Service Support (Connect America Fund)*, WC Docket No. 10-90, *et al.*, that, among other things, established requirements for the collection of study area boundary data from ILECs or state entities on the ILECs' behalf. The FCC uses this study area boundary data for multiple purposes associated with awarding federal universal service funds back to the states including for purposes of high cost funding and broadband. The initial study area boundary data was due in 2013 and is to be recertified every two years.
- (3) On February 26, 2013, the FCC's Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) released a subsequent *Order on Reconsideration* that adopted certain modifications and clarifications to the requirements for that data collection. As set forth in the orders, each ILEC must submit data on the boundary(ies) of each exchange area(s) it serves in a state (study area boundary), unless a state commission voluntarily submits this data for the ILECs in its state.

- (4) In a Finding and Order issued on July 2, 2013, the Commission certified the study area boundary data to the FCC on behalf of 31 ILECs.
- (5) On March 12, 2015, the Bureau released a *Public Notice* establishing the recertification procedures and deadlines for the submission of ILEC study area boundary information to the FCC for 2015. The Bureau encouraged state commissions to submit data on the study area boundaries of the ILECs operating in their respective states.
- (6) By Entry issued on April 22, 2015, this Commission announced its willingness to submit and recertify ILEC study area boundary information to the FCC as a benefit to the ILECs. The April 22, 2015 Entry further outlined the information the ILECs would need to submit to the Commission in order to satisfy the FCC's requirements or a letter certifying that none of the ILECs' information had changed since 2013. Additionally, the ILECs were instructed to submit an affidavit stating that the submitted study area boundary information is accurate and correct to the best of the affiant's belief and knowledge. The April 22, 2015 Entry further clarified that any ILEC that fails to docket the affidavit and submit the additional information to Staff electronically would be responsible, on its own, for complying with the FCC's study area boundary recertification orders.
- (7) Twenty-nine ILECs have submitted the necessary information to the Commission in order for the Commission to submit the information to the FCC on their behalf. The Commission now recertifies to the FCC the study area boundary information for the 29 ILECs set forth in Attachment A to this order and Staff is authorized to upload electronically the necessary information to the FCC accordingly.

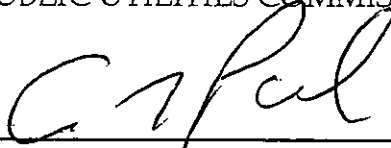
It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That the Commission now recertifies the information as discussed in finding (7). It is, further,

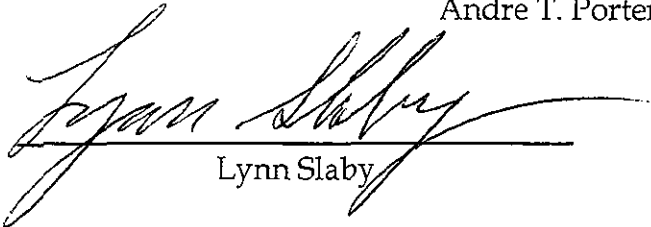
ILEC Name	Study Area Code
The Arthur Mutual Telephone Company	300586
Ayersville Telephone Company	300588
Bascom Mutual Telephone Company	300589
Benton Ridge Telephone Company	300590
Buckland Telephone Company	300591
The Champaign Telephone Company	300594
Chillicothe Telephone Company	300597
Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company	305062
Conneaut Telephone Company	300606
Doylestown Telephone Company	300609
Farmers Mutual Telephone Company	300612
Fort Jennings Telephone Company	300614
Frontier North	300615
Frontier Michigan	300682
Glandorf Telephone Company	300619
Kalida Telephone Company	300625
McClure Telephone Company	300598
Middle Point Home Telephone Company	300633
Minford Telephone Company	300634
New Knoxville Telephone Company	300639
Nova Telephone Company	300644
The Ottoville Mutual Telephone Company	300650
Pattersonville Telephone Company	300651
Ridgeville Telephone Company	300654
Sherwood Telephone Company	300656
Sycamore Telephone Company	300658
Telephone Service Company	300659
Vaughnsville Telephone Company	300663
Wabash Mutual Telephone Company	300664

ORDERED, That a copy of this Finding and Order be served upon the Ohio Telecom Association and all incumbent local exchange carriers in Ohio.

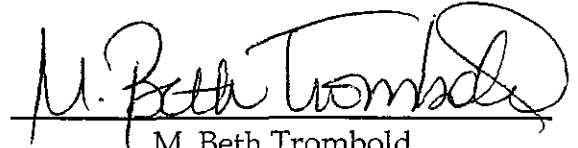
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO



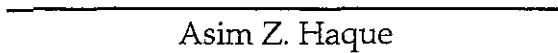
Andre T. Porter, Chairman



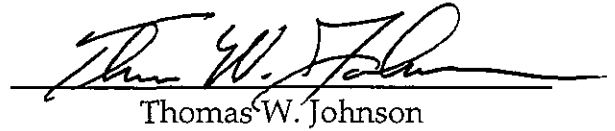
Lynn Slaby



M. Beth Trombold



Asim Z. Haque



Thomas W. Johnson

JRJ/vrm

Entered in the Journal

**MAY 20 2015**



Barcy F. McNeal  
Secretary