FILE

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October 1, 2008

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## **VIA HAND DELIVERY**

Ms. Renee Jenkins
Docketing Division
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-3793

Re:

In the Matter of Windstream Ohio, Inc. and Windstream Western Reserve, Inc.'s Application For Out-of-Service Grace Period Under Minimum Telephone Service Standards., Case No. 08-//42-TP-WVR

Dear Ms. Jenkins:

Enclosed herewith are the original and eight (8) copies of the *Application* to be filed in the above-noted matter. Please time-stamp the two (2) additional copies of this document and return them with our courier.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

BAILEY CAVALIERI LLC

William A. Adams

WAA/ncv

Enclosure

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

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Case No. 08- <u>1142</u> -	TP-WVR	30

In the Matter of Windstream Ohio, Inc. and
Windstream Western Reserve, Inc.'s Application
For Out-of-Service Grace Period Under
Minimum Telephone Service Standards
)

## APPLICATION

Pursuant to Rule 4901:1-5-08(D), Ohio Administrative Code, Windstream Ohio, Inc. and Windstream Western Reserve, Inc. ("Windstream") file this application seeking an additional forty-eight hour grace period to clear out-of-service trouble reports made in their Newark, Granville, Hanover Marne, St. Louisville, Gratiot, Cumberland, Hopedale, and Bloomingdale Exchanges (the "Exchanges") from September 14 to 19 as a result of the September 14, 2008 severe wind storm across Ohio and aftermath. Each of the Exchanges had more than ten daily out-of-service reports during the requested grace period, satisfying Rule 4901:1-5-08(D)(2). This application is timely filed within ten business days following the windstorm and aftermath pursuant to Rule 4901:1-5-08(D)(1).

On Sunday, September 14, 2008, a massive windstorm struck Ohio, resulting in hundreds of thousands of customers being without electricity and/or telephone service due to downed trees and poles, cables, drop lines and loss of commercial power. The breadth of the damage was unprecedented in Ohio and approached the devastation caused by hurricanes. On September 15, 2008 Governor Strickland declared a state of emergency, satisfying Rule 4901:1-5-08(D)(1)(b). As a result of the storm, Ohio utilities have been overwhelmed with trouble reports. Despite diligent efforts to promptly restore service, the extent of the damage made it impossible to restore service as promptly as would have occurred under normal circumstances.

Wherefore, Windstream requests that it have the additional forty-eight hour grace period to clear out-of-service trouble reports made in the Exchanges between September 14 and 19, 2008.

Respectfully submitted

William A. Adams, Counsel of Record

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