

1 **BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON**

2 **UM 1511**

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4
5 In the Matter of
6 T-MOBILE WEST CORPORATION,
7
8 Application for Designation as an Eligible
9 Telecommunications Carrier and Request for
supplemental Certification on Use of Funds

PETITION TO INTERVENE

10 **PETITION TO INTERVENE OF U. S. CELLULAR CORPORATION**

11 U. S. Cellular Corporation ("USCC" or "Petitioner") respectfully petitions the
12 Commission for leave to intervene in the above-captioned proceeding.

13 In support of its petition, USCC states as follows:

14 I.

15 Name of Petitioner:

16 U. S. Cellular Corporation
17 8410 W. Bryn Mawr
Chicago, IL 60631
18 Attn.: Stephanie Cassioppi
Director-External Affairs
19 Fax No.: 773-864-3133
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20 II.

21 Name of counsel for Petitioner:

22
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PETITION TO INTERVENE

1 III.

2 Nature and extent of the Petitioner's interest in the proceeding:

3 The Commission designated USCC as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier
4 ("ETC") on June 24, 2004. As an ETC in Oregon, USCC receives Federal Universal Service
5 Fund ("FUSF") support in the State of Oregon from both the High Cost and Low Income Funds.
6 Each year USCC uses FUSF High Cost funds to build, maintain, and operate cell towers and
7 other infrastructure in high cost rural areas in Oregon and thereby introduce, improve, and
8 expand wireless service to unserved and underserved areas of the state. Pursuant to an April 29,
9 2008 order of the FCC, High Cost support to competitive ETCs ("CETCs") in Oregon has been
10 capped at the level of support that CETCs were eligible to receive in March 2008 (FCC Order
11 08-122, WC Dkt. 05-337). Designating the applicant as an additional ETC in Oregon could,
12 therefore, potentially reduce USCC's support from the High Cost fund going forward and impact
13 USCC's ability to construct additional facilities in rural and high cost areas in Oregon.
14 Therefore, USCC has an interest in this proceeding.

15 IV.

16 Issues the Petitioner intends to raise at the proceeding:

17 Until a protective order is entered and USCC obtains access to the confidential
18 portion of the applicant's filing, and possibly until discovery is conducted, USCC cannot know
19 whether or how an additional CETC grant in Oregon will impact USCC or the public interest.
20 Accordingly, USCC cannot state at this time whether it will take a substantive position in the
21 case nor, if so, whether it would support or oppose the application. However, USCC will limit
22 any issues it may address to the impact on USCC and the public interest, within the scope of
23 Federal and state laws, rules, and orders applicable to a grant of ETC status.
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25
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V.

Special knowledge/expertise of the Petitioner that would assist the Commission:

USCC was one of the first CETCs designated by this Commission in 2004.

USCC has over a dozen years of experience as an ETC outside Oregon and has been designated as an ETC provider in a total of 15 states. USCC has been very active in dozens of Federal and state policy dockets on Universal Service for more than a decade. USCC is the largest wireless carrier that serves predominantly rural areas in Oregon and nationally. Accordingly, USCC has knowledge and expertise that will assist the Commission and the parties in addressing the issues presented in this proceeding.

Based on the information provided above in accordance with the Commission's rules of procedure, USCC requests to participate in this proceeding as an intervenor. USCC represents will not unreasonably broaden the issues, burden the record, or unreasonably delay the proceeding. OAR 860-012-0001.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, USCC's Petition to Intervene should be granted.

DATED this 25th day of January, 2011.

MILLER NASH LLP

/s _____
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Attorneys for U. S. Cellular
Corporation

1 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

2 **Docket UM 1511**

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4 I hereby certify that on this 25th day of January, 2011, I sent the above Petition To
5 Intervene to the following by first-class mail and electronic mail to the following:

6
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Dated at Seattle, Washington.

/s _____
Carol Munnerlyn, Secretary