

ENTERED JUL 03 2017

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 1522

In the Matter of

VIRGIN MOBILE USA, L.P.,

Petition for Limited Designation as an
Eligible Telecommunications Carrier.

ORDER

DISPOSITION: REQUEST TO WITHDRAW PETITION TO RELINQUISH
ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY (ETC)
STATUS GRANTED

I. SUMMARY

In this order, we grant the joint request of Virgin Mobile USA, L.P (Virgin Mobile), Sprint Corporation (Sprint) and i-wireless LLC (i-wireless), (collectively, the parties) and authorize Virgin Mobile to withdraw its Petition to Relinquish Eligible Telecommunications Carrier and Eligible Telecommunications Provider Designations and to continue to provide Lifeline service to customers in Oregon.

II. BACKGROUND

On November 18, 2016, Virgin Mobile submitted a Petition to Relinquish Eligible Telecommunications Carrier and Eligible Telecommunications Provider Designations pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(4) (petition). The petition explained that the relinquishment was related to an agreement between Sprint and i-wireless in which Sprint (which already holds an ownership interest in Virgin Mobile) would acquire an indirect 70 percent ownership interest in i-wireless. As part of the agreement, Virgin Mobile's Lifeline customers (served under the Assurance Wireless brand) would be transferred to i-wireless to be served under that company's Lifeline brand, Access Wireless.

By Order No. 16-472, we adopted the recommendation of the Commission Staff that we grant the petition conditioned upon Virgin Mobile's satisfaction of three criteria set forth in Appendix A, page 4 of the order, following the closing of the transaction.

III. DISCUSSION

On June 26, 2017, the parties jointly filed a letter with the Commission for the following purposes:

1. To inform the Commission that on April 24, 2017, the parties mutually agreed to terminate the transaction previously presented to the Commission.
2. To notify the Commission of Virgin Mobile's desire to retain its ETC designated status in Oregon.
3. To inform the Commission that Virgin Mobile and i-wireless would both continue to separately exist as competing wireless ETCs designated by the Commission.
4. To request that Virgin Mobile be permitted to withdraw the petition conditionally approved by the Commission in Order No. 16-472.

In support of the request, the parties represent that there will be no customer impact associated with the termination of the transaction, as none of the material events occurred. The parties' respective Oregon Lifeline customer products will continue to be offered and Lifeline customers will continue to receive service of the same quality as they did prior to the termination of the planned transaction.

Resolution

The services received by Oregon Lifeline customers from the parties will continue as currently offered. Withdrawal of the petition will similarly have no adverse impact upon Oregon Lifeline customers. We find that continuity of Virgin Mobile's participation as an ETC is in the public interest and that the request of the parties should therefore be granted.

IV. ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that the request to withdraw the Virgin Mobile USA, L.P., Petition to Relinquish Eligible Telecommunications Carrier and Eligible Telecommunications Provider Designations Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §214(e)(4) is granted.

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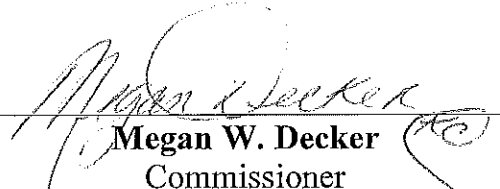
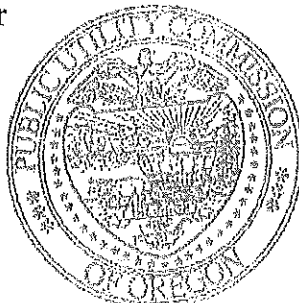
Made, entered, and effective _____



Lisa D. Hardie
Chair



Stephen M. Bloom
Commissioner



Megan W. Decker
Commissioner