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BEFORE THE  
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

DOCKET NO. 20170082-TP

REQUEST FOR RELINQUISHMENT OF  
PARTIAL ELIGIBLE  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER (ETC)  
STATUS, BY BELLSOUTH  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, LLC D/B/A  
AT&T FLORIDA.

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PROCEEDINGS: COMMISSION CONFERENCE AGENDA  
ITEM NO. 3

COMMISSIONERS  
PARTICIPATING: CHAIRMAN JULIE I. BROWN  
COMMISSIONER ART GRAHAM  
COMMISSIONER RONALD A. BRISÉ  
COMMISSIONER DONALD J. POLMANN

DATE: Thursday, July 13, 2017

PLACE: Betty Easley Conference Center  
Room 148  
4075 Esplanade Way  
Tallahassee, Florida

REPORTED BY: ANDREA KOMARIDIS  
Court Reporter

PREMIER REPORTING  
114 W. 5TH AVENUE  
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA  
(850) 894-0828

## 1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 CHAIRMAN BROWN: All right. We will move to  
3 Item 3. Good morning.

4 MS. DEAS: Good morning, Commissioners.  
5 Sakina Deas on behalf of the Office of  
6 Telecommunications.

7 Item 3 is AT&T Florida's request for partial  
8 relinquishment of its eligible telecommunication  
9 carrier status in Florida, also known as ETC. As  
10 an ETC, AT&T Florida has been receiving Universal  
11 Service funds for the LifeLine and high-cost  
12 programs.

13 And in their -- AT&T's petition, they are  
14 seeking to retain ETC designation in areas where  
15 they receive high cost, but they're wanting to  
16 relinquish in areas where they receive  
17 reimbursement for LifeLine only.

18 Federal rules allow carriers to relinquish  
19 their ETC designation, provided there are more than  
20 one remaining ETC in the relinquished area, and  
21 also, that the remaining ETCs ensure the state  
22 commission that customers will continue to be  
23 served.

24 After review, staff determined AT&T Florida  
25 has met federal requirements to relinquish its ETC

1 designation. Therefore, staff recommends the  
2 Commission grant AT&T Florida's petition for  
3 partial relinquishment of its ETC designation.

4 There are no customer comments in this docket.  
5 And staff is available for questions.

6 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you for that  
7 introduction.

8 Commissioner Brisé?

9 COMMISSIONER BRISÉ: Thank you, Madam Chair.

10 Just wanted to express my appreciation to  
11 staff for all the steps that they've taken to  
12 ensure that customers actually have a place to go.  
13 And maybe -- if staff would go through explaining  
14 that process so that people are aware of the steps  
15 that were taken.

16 MS. DEAS: Okay. AT&T identified the ETCs  
17 that would be remaining in the relinquished areas.  
18 And we sent a data request -- staff sent a data  
19 request to those ETCs to -- to ident- -- to assure  
20 us that they would continue to serve those  
21 customers and that they were currently serving  
22 customers in that area.

23 Once we got the responses back, we went  
24 further to look at every wire center and check  
25 zip -- samples of zip codes in those areas, and go

1 to each ETC's website and put in those zip  
2 codes to -- to see that they, in fact, would be  
3 continue- -- would be serving those customers.

4 And then we looked at the list and it -- and  
5 identified the wire centers that would have the  
6 least number of ETCs remaining once AT&T  
7 relinquished. And we asked AT&T to provide us with  
8 the customers' addresses in those areas so that we  
9 could go to each ETC that was remaining in that  
10 area -- to their website, and put in that address  
11 to ensure that that customer would be able to  
12 receive LifeLine service with those customers. So,  
13 they have options. And we just wanted to make sure  
14 of that.

15 COMMISSIONER BRISÉ: Thank you, Madam Chair.  
16 I thought that was important for -- for the record,  
17 for people to understand the steps that were taken  
18 for those who are on the program and that they have  
19 options and they have a place to go.

20 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you, Commissioner  
21 Brisé.

22 Commissioner Graham.

23 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Thank you, Madam Chair.

24 I just want to take a minute to thank Beth and  
25 her people. You know, since I've been here the

1 last seven years, we're doing -- our responsibility  
2 for telecom has been less and less, but that  
3 doesn't mean that our drive and our work ethic  
4 hasn't been any less.

5 This is a perfect example of going over and  
6 above board what is expected. And I -- I do  
7 appreciate the fact that, even through the -- the  
8 direction of Braulio, that -- that we continue to  
9 do what we need to do for the state of Florida for  
10 the -- for these people that are still under --  
11 under our control. And I do appreciate them.

12 I don't want for it to be seen that we just  
13 kind of disregard this stuff. We do appreciate  
14 what you guys are doing every single day on this.

15 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you, Commissioner  
16 Graham.

17 Can I please get a motion on this item?

18 COMMISSIONER BRISÉ: So moved.

19 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Is there a second?

20 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Second.

21 CHAIRMAN BROWN: Any further discussion?

22 All those in favor, say aye.

23 (Chorus of ayes.)

24 CHAIRMAN BROWN: All right. Thank you staff  
25 for that work on this item.

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(Agenda item concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA )  
COUNTY OF LEON )

I, ANDREA KOMARIDIS, Court Reporter, certify that the foregoing proceedings were taken before me at the time and place therein designated; that my shorthand notes were thereafter translated under my supervision; and the foregoing pages, numbered 1 through 6, are a true and correct record of the aforesaid proceedings.

I further certify that I am not a relative, employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I a relative or employee of any of the parties' attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I financially interested in the action.

DATED this 24th day of July, 2017.



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ANDREA KOMARIDIS  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
COMMISSION #GG060963  
EXPIRES February 9, 2021