

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its Office in Jefferson City on the 25th day of May, 2022.

In the Matter of the Application of Steelville)	
Telephone Exchange, Inc. d/b/a STE)	
Communications for Designation as an Eligible)	<u>File No. IA-2022-0278</u>
Telecommunications Carrier for Purposes of)	
Receiving Federal and State Lifeline and)	
Disabled Support)	

**ORDER GRANTING EXPANDED DESIGNATION AS
AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER**

Issue Date: May 25, 2022

Effective Date: June 25, 2022

On April 11, 2022, Steelville Telephone Exchange, Inc. d/b/a STE Communications (STE), filed its application for expanded designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier for purposes of receiving federal and state Lifeline and Disabled Support.

STE is an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (“ILEC”) certificated by the Commission to provide basic local and non-switched local telecommunications services. STE is registered as an IVoIP provider to provide IVoIP services statewide and has been designated by the Commission as an ETC for purposes of receiving Federal Universal Service Fund (“USF”) in its certificated Missouri service area. Applicant seeks ETC designation throughout the State of Missouri in order to provide federal and state Lifeline and Disabled discounts to qualifying low-income and disabled subscribers.

The Commission issued notice and set a deadline for intervention. No person or entity sought intervention in this matter, and no party has requested a hearing.

The Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) conducted an investigation and filed its recommendation and memorandum on May 11, 2022. Staff

recommended that the Commission approve STE's request for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier for the purpose of receiving federal and state Lifeline and Disabled Support. Staff notes that STE requests a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017, and recommends that such waiver be granted. More than ten days have passed since Staff filed its recommendation and no party has responded to that recommendation.

Based upon its review of the verified application and Staff's recommendation and memorandum, the Commission finds that STE has met the requirements for ETC designation. Further, for good cause shown, STE will be granted a waiver of the 60-day filing requirement of the Commission's rules.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Steelville Telephone Exchange, Inc. d/b/a STE Communications is granted Eligible Telecommunications Carrier designation for the purpose of providing lifeline and disabled support statewide in Missouri.
2. Steelville Telephone Exchange, Inc. d/b/a STE Communications is granted a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017.
3. This order shall become effective on June 25, 2022.
4. This file shall be closed on June 26, 2022.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Silvey, Chm., Rupp, Coleman, Holsman, and
Kolkmeier CC., concur.

Keeling, Regulatory Law Judge

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 25th day of May, 2022.





Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

May 25, 2022

File/Case No. IA-2022-0278

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Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,



**Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary**

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.