

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF MISSOURI**

Application of Chariton Valley)	
Communications Corporation for)	
Expansion of its Designation as a)	
Telecommunications Carrier Eligible)	Case No. _____
for Federal Universal Service Support)	
pursuant to the Telecommunications)	
Act of 1996)	

**CHARITON VALLEY COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION
APPLICATION FOR EXPANSION OF DESIGNATION
AS AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER**

COMES NOW Chariton Valley Communications Corporation (“Chariton Valley”), pursuant to state and federal statutes and rules, and respectfully requests an expansion of its previous eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) designation to include 12 census block groups in the State of Missouri for high cost purposes, and additionally seeks expansion of its ETC designation to include the entire state of Missouri for lifeline/disabled purposes.

On August 28, 2018 the Federal Communications Commission announced the winning bidders for the Connect America Fund (CAF) Phase II auction.¹ Chariton Valley, in its winning bids, committed to the Public Interest Obligations in the Phase II Auction Order by constructing fiber-to-the-home facilities within the won 13 census block groups attached as Attachment A1-2 hereto. Chariton Valley will be eligible to receive up to \$4,179,665.50 in CAF Phase II high cost support with which to provide up to 847 service

¹ Connect America Fund Phase II Auction (Auction 903) Closes, Winning Bidders Announced, FCC Form 683 Due October 15, 2018, Public Notice, DA No. (WTB/WCB rel. Aug. 28, 2018) (Phase II Auction Closing Public Notice.

locations with high speed broadband. Attachment A1 is a list of the won census block groups by County. Attachment A2 is a map showing the census block groups in green shading, and our current ETC Designation service area of Macon. The map also shows the service area of our parent corporation which is an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier, Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation.

Chariton Valley currently has ETC designation for one census block group in Macon County, 291219603001. Chariton Valley is obligated to obtain ETC designation in the other 12 census block groups by February 25, 2019 (within 180 days of the August 28, 2018 Phase II Auction Closing Public Notice). 54 CFR 315 (b)(5).

Chariton Valley seeks expanded ETC designation to the entire state of Missouri for lifeline/disabled purposes so it can provide lifeline/disabled services in all Missouri locations to which Chariton Valley builds and serves, in addition to the won census block groups.

This application for expanded ETC designation by Order of this Commission is made pursuant to § 254 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (“the Act”), the implementing federal regulations, and the implementing state regulations, including Commission rule 4 CSR 240-31.130. Chariton Valley hereby applies to the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”) for an order expanding Chariton Valley’s designation as a telecommunications carrier eligible to receive federal universal service high cost support for the won census block groups, for the state of Missouri for lifeline/disabled services, and for the Commission to certify or submit such order to the FCC.

In support of this Application, Chariton Valley states as follows:

1. Chariton Valley Communications Corporation was previously named Chariton Valley Telecom Corporation. Effective December 31, 2016 Chariton Valley Telecom Corporation's affiliate, Chariton Valley Communication Corporation, was merged into Chariton Valley Telecom Corporation, which was renamed Chariton Valley Communications Corporation. See the Certificate of Merger, Attachment B hereto. Chariton Valley Communications Corporation is a wholly owned subsidiary of Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation, a Missouri member owned cooperative, also an ETC. Chariton Valley is not an association of members.

2. Chariton Valley is an alternative or competitive local exchange carrier ("CLEC") certified by the Commission to provide basic local telecommunications services in the State of Missouri in Case No. TA-2002-238. Chariton Valley's street address and principal place of business is 1213 East Briggs Drive, Macon, Missouri 63552. Chariton Valley's telephone number is (660) 395-9600, and its facsimile number is (660) 395-4403. Chariton Valley is a Missouri corporation in good standing, and does business utilizing its corporate name. A copy of a Certificate of Good Standing from the Missouri Secretary of State is Attachment C hereto.

3. All Correspondence, pleadings, notices, orders, and decisions in this matter should be addressed to:

Tina Jordan
Chief Financial Officer
Chariton Valley Communications Corporation
1213 East Briggs Drive
Macon, MO 63552
(660) 395-9600
(660) 395-4403 fax
tjordan@charitonvalley.com

and to

Craig S. Johnson
Mo Bar # 28179
Johnson & Sporleder LLP
2420 Hyde Park Road, Suite C
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 659-8734
(573) 761-3587 fax
cj@cjaslaw.com

4. Chariton Valley does not have any pending action, or final unsatisfied judgment or decisions against it from any state or federal agency or court, which involve customer service or rates, which action, judgment or decision has occurred within three (3) year of the date of the application.

5. Chariton Valley does not have any annual reports or assessment fees that are overdue to the Commission. Chariton Valley is compliant in all reporting and assessments. Chariton Valley is compliant with federal USF assessments.

6. On May 1, 2013, Chariton Valley was designated an ETC by this Commission in TA-2012-0128 for the Macon, Missouri exchange.

7. This Commission is authorized to grant the ETC designation expansion requested herein by 47 USC 214(e)(2); 47 CFR 54.201, and Commission rule 4 CSR 240-31.130.

Chariton Valley Meets ETC Statutory and Regulatory Requirements

8. Chariton Valley is in compliance with all federal Lifeline certification procedures. Chariton Valley has policies and procedures in place to ensure Lifeline subscribers are eligible to receive Lifeline Service. The availability of Lifeline and Disabled service is publicized in a manner reasonable, designed to reach those likely to

qualify consistent with the area Chariton Valley serves. The electronic address of Chariton Valley's website whereby they maintain information regarding its Lifeline service is as follows: www.cvalley.net.

9. Chariton Valley certifies that it complies with the minimum service levels set forth in FCC rule 54.408 Minimum Service Standards and will satisfy applicable consumer protection and consumer privacy.

10. Chariton Valley certifies it is a common carrier under 47 USC sections 214(e)(1) and 214(e)(6). Chariton Valley uses its own facilities in providing voice and broadband services in Missouri. Chariton Valley will extend its current facility-based network to provide voice and broadband services in the census block groups listed in Attachment A1. Chariton Valley will advertise the availability of, and charges for, its supported service offerings, using media of general distribution, and will undertake outreach initiatives to increase consumer awareness of its service offerings, consistent with all applicable requirements

11. Chariton Valley is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation, an incumbent local exchange carrier, and solely use the name of Chariton Valley, in all marketing and other USF-related materials, including filings with the Federal Universal Fund Administrator (FUSFA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

12. Chariton Valley certifies that it will use all federal high-cost support for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended in areas for which Chariton Valley receives ETC designation, including the expanded ETC designated service area of the census block groups identified in Attachment

A1. Chariton Valley certifies it will comply with the applicable service requirements of 47 CFR 54.201 and 47 CFR 214(e).

13. Chariton Valley certifies that it adheres to the Provisions in 4 CSR 240 Chapter 34 Emergency Telephone Service Standards. Chariton Valley has a reasonable amount of battery back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, will be able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is also capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations. Chariton Valley confirms that its subscribers will have 911 access.

14. Chariton Valley certifies it operates in the state of Missouri and has a \$20 Local Service Rate that applies to their entire service area. The state of Missouri has a \$.02 state universal service charge making the total pricing of fixed voice service \$20.02, which is no more than two standard deviations above the applicable national average urban rate for voice services as published by the Wireline Competition Bureau November 8, 2017 (\$45.38).

15. Chariton Valley certifies it operates in the state of Missouri and has a minimum speed internet tier of 75Mbps for \$40 that applies to its entire service area, which is below the relevant reasonable comparability benchmark for 25Mbps at \$94.36 as published by the Federal Communications Commission Wireline Competition Bureau November 8, 2017.

16. Chariton Valley's initial pricing options for voice and broadband are set forth in Attachment D1-2. Eligible Customers can obtain the service terms, including rates, by accessing Chariton Valley's website, www.cvalley.net.

17. Chariton Valley will build facilities, and provide services, to customers in the census block groups listed in Attachment A1, consistent with the build-out requirements established by the FCC for Chariton Valley as a CAF Phase II high cost fund recipient. The build out requirements are designed to ensure service will be provided in a timely manner to requesting customers. Chariton Valley certifies that it will comply with these requirements.

18. Chariton Valley is financially viable and technically capable of providing the supported services: voice telephony and broadband.

19. Chariton Valley will provide the same access to directory assistance, operator services, and interexchange services to customers in the census block groups identified in Attachment A1 as it does to its current customers in Macon and other exchanges. Chariton Valley will provide access to 911 services, and commits to collecting and remitting 911 revenues to local authorities.

20. No matter has brought in the last ten years by any state or federal regulatory or law enforcement agency against Chariton Valley or Chariton Valley Telephone Corporation, its parent, the sole entity that holds 100% ownership interest in Chariton Valley.

21. Chariton Valley commits to notifying the Commission of any changes to Chariton Valley's contact information.

22. Chariton Valley is compliant with all reporting and assessment obligations of the Commission.

23. Chariton Valley is compliant with contribution obligations to the FUSF.

24. Chariton Valley has not sought or obtained any FCC waivers of any ETC requirement.

25. Chariton Valley commits to providing the supported services throughout the ETC designated service area census block groups identified in Attachment A1, consistent with all applicable requirements.

26. Chariton Valley certifies that Chariton Valley is not subject to a denial of federal benefits, including Commission benefits, pursuant to section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, as implemented in section 1.2002 of the Commission's rules. 47 CFR 1.2002.

27. Chariton Valley's designation as an ETC in the census block groups set forth in Attachment A1 is in the public interest. These census blocks are unserved with broadband internet access availability, and the granting of this ETC expansion will lead to the availability of broadband internet access service to 847 locations in those census block groups.

28. Pursuant to 47 CFR 54.201, Chariton Valley requests that the Commission designate it as an eligible telecommunications carrier for the additional service area census block groups set forth in Attachment A1. These census block groups are within the service area of price cap incumbent local exchange carriers who have failed to provide broadband internet access service and have failed to commit to the FCC to build broadband out to these areas.

Participation in Lifeline or Disabled program:

29. Chariton Valley will offer Lifeline discounts to qualifying low income consumers consistent with the Commission's Lifeline rules in the census blocks where Chariton Valley is authorized to receive CAF Phase II support. 47 CFR 54.101(d).

30. Chariton Valley will offer Missouri Disabled Program support to qualifying consumers consistent with Missouri's Disabled Program Rules. Chariton Valley has no present plans to seek MoUSF high cost support, as to its knowledge there currently is no such support.

31. Lifeline and Disabled service initiation will be conducted the same for the census block groups in Attachment A1 as they have been currently conducted in the Macon exchange, ensuring subscriber eligibility, determining subscriber identity and primary address, ensuring only one discount per household, assessing and collecting monthly fees for lifeline service, and annually verifying continued eligibility for Lifeline and Disabled service. Chariton Valley does not presently intend to use agents or independent contractors instead of Chariton Valley employees to sign up Lifeline/Disabled subscribers.

32. Chariton Valley has policies and procedures in place to ensure Lifeline subscribers are eligible to receive Lifeline Service. The availability of Lifeline and Disabled service is publicized in a manner reasonable, designed to reach those likely to qualify consistent with the area Chariton Valley serves. The electronic address of Chariton Valley's website whereby they maintain information regarding its Lifeline service is as follows: www.cvalley.net.

33. Chariton Valley certifies all funding will flow through to the subscriber of the applicable program.

34. Lifeline and Missouri Disabled service will be provisioned in accordance with federal and/or state rules pertaining to subscriber eligibility, verification, and decertification reviews. Chariton Valley will comply with all requirements associated with the Lifeline program contained in 47 CFR Part 54, subpart E.

35. Chariton Valley will comply with all requirements contained in 4 CSR 240-31, whether funded solely through the FUSF, or through the FUSF and MoUSF.

36. Chariton Valley intends to seek support from the MoUSF for participation in the Disabled program.

37. The copies of the Lifeline and/or Disabled application forms Chariton Valley will use are those as are set forth in the Commission's website from time to time, Attachment E1-2 hereto

38. Chariton Valley requests that the Commission designate it as an eligible telecommunications carrier for Lifeline/Disabled services throughout the state of Missouri.

WHEREFORE, on the basis of the foregoing, Chariton Valley respectfully requests that the Commission grant this Application and expand Chariton Valley's current ETC designation to include the additional service area census block groups awarded Chariton Valley in the CAF Phase II Auction for purposes of high-cost support, and to expand Chariton Valley's current ETC designation to include the state of Missouri for purposes of lifeline and disabled support, to certify such designation to the FCC, and for such other orders as are deemed necessary or convenient in this matter.

By 

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ATTORNEY FOR CHARITON VALLEY
COMMUNICATIONS CORP.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned does hereby certify that a true and accurate copy of the foregoing was electronically mailed, this 19 th day of October, 2018, to the following parties:

General Counsel
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

General Counsel
Office of the Public Counsel
P.O. Box 7800
Jefferson City, MO 65102



Attorney for Chariton Valley Communications Corp.

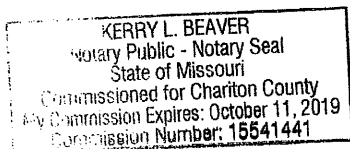
VERIFICATION

I, Tina Jordan, having been duly sworn upon my oath, that I am the Chief Financial Officer of Chariton Valley Communications Corporation, the Applicant, and am authorized by the Applicant to execute the foregoing Application and to make this Affidavit on its behalf, and that the matters and things state in the foregoing Application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Tina Jordan
Tina Jordan

STATE OF MISSOURI)
)
COUNTY OF MACON)

Subscribed and sworn to me, a Notary Public, on this 19th day of October, 2018.



Kerry L. Beaver
Notary Public

My commission expires 10/11/19