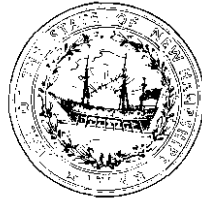


THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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Thomas B. Getz

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Clifton C. Below
Amy L. Ignatius

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AND SECRETARY
Debra A. Howland



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

Tel. (603) 271-2431

FAX (603) 271-3878

TDD Access: Relay NH
1-800-735-2964

Website:
www.puc.nh.gov

March 28, 2011

RE: ETC Certification in New Hampshire

The federal Universal Service Fund (USF) was created by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to promote the availability of quality services at just and reasonable rates to all consumers including low-income customers and those in high cost areas and to increase nationwide access to advanced services in schools, libraries and rural health care facilities. To qualify for universal service funding a carrier must first be certified as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) by the state public utilities commission or, if the state does not assert this authority, by the FCC. *See* 47 U.S.C. §214 (e).

The New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission maintains authority to determine whether landline telecommunications carriers qualify as ETCs. Pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 362:6, the Commission has no jurisdiction over mobile radio communications services. Consequently, the state declines jurisdiction over the certification of wireless carriers as ETCs, leaving that responsibility to the FCC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. Anne Ross".

F. Anne Ross

General Counsel

New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission