



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES & CARRIERS

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Memorandum

DATE: March 3, 2021

TO: L. Massaro
Commission Clerk

FROM: Alfred Contente
Utility Analyst, Division of Public Utilities and Carriers

SUBJECT: RIPUC Docket No. 5125, Hughes Network Systems, LLC. Requests Registration as a Class VI Telecommunication Supplier (VOIP).

In accordance with the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission's ("RIPUC") generic docket "Entry Requirements for Telecommunication Carriers" Report and Order 2411, Hughes Network Systems, LLC. filed a letter and supporting documents notifying the Commission that they intend on serving as a Class VI (VOIP) telecommunications provider within the state of Rhode Island. Hughes Network Systems, LLC is planning on offering high-speed internet access and VOIP via satellite.

Hughes Network Systems, LLC is also asking for the Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) designation through the Commission in a different docket. (No. 5126)

Although Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) providers are essentially exempt from Commission regulation per R.I.G.L. §39-28-3, the application requirement stands for the sole purpose of registration and thereby enforcement and assessment of fees per R.I.G.L. §39-28-4. The Commission, under guidelines in Docket 2411 shall grant authority for CLASS VI status upon the following guidelines.

1. The applicant has satisfactorily provided a Statement of Business Operations in accordance with the Report and Order in Docket No. 2129, and a map or statement of the geographical area or areas in which service will be offered.

The required information has been provided by Hughes Network Systems, LLC. and has been reviewed by the Division and found to be complete.

2. That the applicant meets the standard for financial resources, managerial qualifications and technical competence.

The required information has been provided by Hughes Network Systems, LLC. and has been reviewed by the Division and found to be complete.

3. That the CLASS VI has specified whether it intends to offer its service to all residence customers.

Hughes Network Systems, LLC. intends to service telecommunications to all Rhode Island customers.

4. That the telecommunication carrier has paid the appropriate application fees.

The correct fee of \$300.00 (check #79596) was received and deposited.

Conformity to Docket 2411

The Division has reviewed the Hughes Network Systems, LLC. filing, letters, documents and tariffs for their conformity to the RI PUC's directives in Docket 2411 and has found the applicant has fulfilled all requirements.

RECOMMENDATION

The Division supports this application for registration as a Class VI telecommunication supplier in the State of Rhode Island.