

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

IN RE: APPLICATION FOR PARTIAL :
RELIQUINSHMENT OF DESIGNATION AS AN :
ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER : DOCKET NO. 4642
FOR LOW INCOME SUPPORT IN THE :
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND FILED BY :
BOOMERANG WIRELESS d/b/a ENTOUCH WIRELESS :

ORDER

On September 29, 2016, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) designated Boomerang Wireless, LLC d/b/a enTouch Wireless (Petitioner) as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) throughout the service area encompassing all of Rhode Island for receiving universal service support for lifeline services. To provide its lifeline service, Petitioner utilized the networks of the underlying carriers, Sprint, Verizon Wireless, T-Mobile, and AT&T Mobility. Due to a change in corporate ownership, Petitioner no longer utilizes the Verizon Wireless or AT&T Mobility networks as underlying carriers.¹ The result of this change is a proposed partial relinquishment of Petitioner’s ETC status in zip codes 02827 (Coventry), 02833 (Hopkinton), and 02873 (Rockville).²

According to Petitioner, the requested relinquishment complies with federal law because there are: (1) more than one ETC serving the affected area; (2) Petitioner is providing advance notice to the Commission; (3) the other remaining ETCs will remain available to serve the affected subscribers, effective October 20, 2023; and (4) no new facilities will be necessary to serve the affected subscribers.³ Petitioner represented that it is notifying each of its impacted Lifeline subscribers of the choice to either stay with Petitioner and port their number to the new underlying

¹ Pet. at 2; [Petition](#) (Aug. 26, 2023).

² Pet. at Exhibit B.

³ Pet. at 4-5.

carrier or to transfer their service to a different Lifeline carrier serving the area. Customers will not be subject to any early termination fees.⁴ Customers may receive up to five reminder notices over the course of 60 days if they do not respond initially.⁵

On August 15, 2023, the Commission caused to be published a notice in the Providence Journal soliciting comments on Petitioner's proposed partial relinquishment. No comments were received. On September 6, 2023, the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers (Division) filed a letter signed by legal counsel indicating that they did not oppose the Petition. The Division noted that there were only two affected customers and they would receive ample notice and that there are other Lifeline providers available to provide comparable service.⁶

At an Open Meeting held on September 14, 2023, the Commission considered Petitioner's proposed partial relinquishment, compliance with the requirements of federal law, the Division's position and the fact that there were no comments received in opposition. The Commission approved Petitioner's request for partial relinquishment of its designation as an ETC in the three referenced zip codes served by the underlying carrier Verizon Wireless. AT&T Mobility is no longer an underlying carrier for Petitioner.

Accordingly, it is hereby,

(24819) ORDERED:

Boomerang Wireless LLC d/b/a enTouch Wireless's Petition for partial relinquishment of its designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier on a wireless basis (low-income only) in the service area previously served by underlying carrier Verizon Wireless is hereby

⁴ Pet. at 5.

⁵ Pet. at 6.

⁶ Div. Letter at 1-2; [Letter](#) (Sept. 6, 2023).

approved and AT&T is no longer an underlying carrier for Boomerang Wireless LLC d/b/a enTouch Wireless.

EFFECTIVE AT WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND ON OCTOBER 20, 2023 PURSUANT TO AN OPEN MEETING DECISION ON SEPTEMBER 14, 2023. WRITTEN ORDER ISSUED SEPTEMBER 20, 2023.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION



Ronald T. Gerwatowski, Chairman



Abigail Anthony, Commissioner



John C. Revens, Jr., Commissioner



Notice of Right of Appeal: Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-5-1, any person aggrieved by a decision or order of the PUC may, within 7 days from the date of the Order, petition the Supreme Court for a Writ of Certiorari to review the legality and reasonableness of the decision or Order.