

DECISION MEMORANDUM

TO: COMMISSIONER KJELLANDER
COMMISSIONER REDFORD
COMMISSIONER SMITH
COMMISSION SECRETARY
COMMISSION STAFF
LEGAL

FROM: NEIL PRICE

DATE: JUNE 15, 2012

SUBJECT: APPLICATION OF ALLIED WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS CORP.
FOR CONDITIONAL DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER; CASE NO. ALL-T-10-01.

On May 25, 2012, Allied Wireless Communications Corp., dba Alltel Wireless, (“Allied” or “Company”) filed an Application, pursuant to Section 214(e)(2) of the Telecommunications Act of 1934, for conditional designation as an ETC in all areas in Idaho where Allied is licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) to provide commercial mobile radio services (“CMRS”) where it is not presently designated as an ETC. *Allied Conditional ETC Application* at 1. The Commission previously granted ETC designation to Allied on March 22, 2011. *See* Order No. 32209.

THE APPLICATION

Allied is a Commercial Mobile Radio Services (“CMRS”) carrier licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) to provide service in various locations in Idaho. *Application* at 3. Allied is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Atlantic Tele-Network, Inc. (“ATNI”), a publicly-traded corporation headquartered in Beverly, Massachusetts. *Id.* Allied states that it “is presently designated and operates as an ETC in certain areas of Idaho, Georgia, and North Carolina and has an application on file in South Carolina.” *Id.* Allied has pending applications that are “essentially identical to this application seeking conditional ETC designation in Ohio and Illinois in order to allow it to also participate in the Phase I Auction with respect to its licensed area in those states.” *Id.*

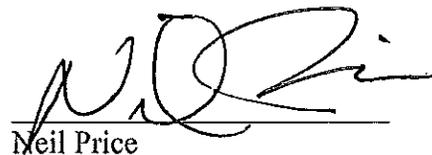
Allied’s Application outlines the Company’s motive for seeking conditional ETC designation in additional areas in Idaho. *Id.* at 3. Allied explains that in November 2011 “the

FCC created the Mobility Fund, part of the Connect America Fund,” in an effort to reform the universal system. *Id.* “The Mobility Fund will provide up to \$300 million to accelerate the deployment of next generation 3G or better networks for mobile voice and broadband services in unserved areas.” *Id.* at 3-4. Phase I Auction funds will be disbursed to ETCs “through a reverse auction that will be held on September 27, 2012.” *Id.* at 4. Allied believes that “as one of the few carriers licensed to provide CMRS in the designated unserved census blocks,” the Company “is uniquely positioned to bring the benefit of the Phase I Auction to rural unserved areas of Idaho.” *Id.*

Commission authorized ETC designation “in all the census blocks for which it will submit a bid is . . . a prerequisite for bidding” in the FCC Auction. *Id.* at 2. Allied requests that “any ETC designation granted pursuant to this application would only continue in effect if or to the extent it is the successful bidder.” *Id.* Allied’s application also includes attached exhibits purporting to describe the areas in Idaho where the Company is seeking conditional ETC status and its Lifeline service offering. *Id.*, Exhs. 1-2.

COMMISSION DECISION

Does the Commission wish to process Allied’s Application for ETC designation through Modified Procedure with an expedited 14 day comment period?



Neil Price

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