



C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
GOVERNOR

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IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

April 16, 2010

Jean D. Jewell, Secretary  
Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
P O Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RE: TracFone Lifeline Application  
Case No. TFW-T-09-01

Dear Madame Secretary,

Allow me to encourage the Idaho Public Utilities Commission to act expeditiously and approve the subject application of TracFone Wireless, Inc. to be an Eligible Telecommunication Carrier ("ETC") in our state. Already 24 other states have approved a similar request by TracFone, enabling it to begin offering its free Lifeline wireless phone program to eligible lower-income consumers.

As you well know, times are tough in Idaho. This has been one of the worst recessions in our lifetime. It is especially hard on our significant number of low-income households. There are many Idahoans who could benefit from TracFone's free service, which is revenue neutral to the State of Idaho. These constituents should have the opportunity to access emergency help, search for employment and stay in touch with family members. TracFone's Lifeline service provides eligible consumers a free wireless phone.

Last year it was estimated that less than 20 percent of Idaho's 150,000 low-income households had Lifeline service. Since Idahoans pay into the federal Universal Service Fund and it pays for this program, I encourage the commission to act promptly to approve TracFone's ETC application so eligible Idaho families can utilize TracFone's Lifeline service.

As Always – Idaho, "Esto Perpetua"

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C.L. Butch Otter".

C.L. "Butch" Otter  
Governor of Idaho