



# AGE

ALLIANCE FOR GENERATIONAL EQUITY

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IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

June 10, 2010

Ms. Jean Jewell  
Secretary  
Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
472 W. Washington  
Boise, ID 83702

RE: Case No. TFW-T-09-01

Dear Ms. Jewell:

The Alliance for Generational Equity (AGE), representing Idaho's seniors and low-income families who will benefit from access to lifeline telecommunications services at rates that are fair, reasonable, and affordable to those populations, strongly endorses the referenced application for TracFone Wireless Inc. for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier in Idaho. AGE believes that this program offers a fiscally responsible model to support economically fragile seniors who can use wireless technology as a safety tool and for low-income families who need access to the lifeline program to enhance employability and the health of their families.

AGE advocates public policies that protect the economic security and quality of life of each generation. Having access to reliable telephone service is an essential tool for enhancing the economic security and quality of life of these impacted populations. We are writing to urge you to fully support the TracFone Wireless petition to provide its SafeLink Wireless® Lifeline service in Idaho. This approval will expand competition in the telecommunications services marketplace, provide seniors with an invaluable safety tool, and help low-income consumers gain economic opportunities with funding provided by the Federal Universal Service Fund and under program guidelines established for states to access this program.

Seniors and low-income families in Idaho will join millions of other SafeLink Wireless® participants already qualified in twenty-seven other jurisdictions where SafeLink Wireless® is presently approved. By approving the TracFone application, low-income Idaho seniors, boomer families and young consumers will gain access to essential wireless phone service. SafeLink Wireless® provides a free phone and monthly airtime to eligible consumers who are struggling to get by in today's tough economic climate. Phone service, particularly mobile phone service, is a vital tool in helping these families stay safe during emergencies, and is essential in helping participants seek and maintain employment and to stay connected with family.

Sincerely,

Dave Herman, AGE National Spokesperson  
770-329-6262, timewheel8@aol.com