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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
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Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

1
2 COMMISSIONERS

3 KRISTIN K. MAYES, Chairman
4 GARY PIERCE
5 PAUL NEWMAN
6 SANDRA D. KENNEDY
7 BOB STUMP

2009 APR -2 P 1: 26

APR 2 2009

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

DOCKETED BY

8 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
9 WWC LICENSE LLC ("WESTERN WIRELESS
CORPORATION") FOR DESIGNATION AS AN
ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER
AND REDEFINITION OF RURAL TELEPHONE
COMPANY SERVICE AREA.

DOCKET NO. T-04248A-04-0239

PROCEDURAL ORDER

10 On March 26, 2004, WWC License LLC ("Applicant" or WWC") filed with the Arizona
11 Corporation Commission ("Commission") the above-captioned application for designation as an
12 eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC"). WWC is now a wholly owned subsidiary of Alltel
13 Corporation ("Alltel") and currently serves customers in LaPaz, Mohave, and Yuma Counties in
14 Arizona.

15 Intervention was granted to the Arizona Local Exchange Carriers Association ("ALECA").¹

16 On November 2, 2007, following a lengthy procedural history, a second Recommended
17 Opinion and Order was filed in this docket. The November 2, 2007, Recommended Opinion and
18 Order has not been considered by the Commission.

19 On November 19, 2008, ALECA filed a Motion to Close Docket. ALECA stated that Alltel,
20 Applicant's parent, was being acquired by Verizon Wireless, and that the Federal Communications
21 Commission ("FCC") had conditioned the acquisition on Verizon Wireless's agreement to phase out
22 competitive ETC high-cost support for the properties acquired from Alltel over a five-year period
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26 ¹ ALECA is a non-profit trade association whose members include the following rural Commission-regulated incumbent
27 local exchange carriers ("ILECs"): Arizona Telephone Company, CenturyTel, Copper Valley Telephone, Frontier
28 Communications, Midvale Telephone Exchange, Navajo Communications, South Central Communications, Southwestern
Telephone Company, Table Top Telephone Company, and Valley Telephone Cooperative. ALECA also includes the
following tribally-owned ILECs: Fort Mojave Telephone Company, Gila River Telecommunications, San Carlos Apache
Telecom Utility and Tohono O'Odham Utility Authority.

1 following closing of the transaction. ALECA asserted that this docket should be closed because the
2 Applicant in this docket had twice been acquired since the application was filed, because the record is
3 stale, and because the FCC had required Verizon Wireless to phase out ETC high-cost support for the
4 Alltel properties.

5 On December 2, 2008, WWC filed a Response opposing ALECA's Motion to Close Docket.
6 Therein, WWC argued against a presumption regarding the timing and consequences of the
7 anticipated closing of the acquisition transaction, asserting that the action requested by ALECA in
8 this docket was therefore premature. Applicant acknowledged that the FCC had required Verizon
9 Wireless to phase out ETC high-cost support for the Alltel properties over five years, but stated that
10 the impact on WWC should not be presumed, and that closing this docket would preclude its
11 potential receipt of ETC funds for use in Arizona. WWC stated that it would inform the Commission
12 when the transaction closed and would advise whether the acquisition would result in any change in
13 its request for ETC designation in Arizona.
14

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16 On December 5, 2008, ALECA filed a Reply to WWC's Response, reiterating its arguments
17 regarding the staleness of the record and changes in control of WWC. ALECA asserted that if WWC
18 wished to continue to pursue ETC designation, the proper course of action would be for it to file a
19 new application in a new docket.

20 On March 5, 2009, a procedural order was issued requiring Applicant to make a filing in this
21 docket, no later than April 1, 2009, informing the Commission of the status of the pending acquisition
22 of its parent company by Verizon Wireless and indicating the likely consequences to WWC of its
23 acquisition by Verizon Wireless. The procedural order required continuing thirty-day status updates
24 until completion of the pending acquisition or the closing of this docket.
25

26 On April 1, 2009, Applicant filed a Notice of Withdrawal of Application. Applicant states
27 therein that the acquisition was completed on January 9, 2009, and that Applicant is now a subsidiary
28

1 of Cellco Partnership dba Verizon Wireless. Applicant states that the FCC Order approving the
2 acquisition of Alltel required Verizon Wireless to reduce its ETC support at the rate of twenty percent
3 per year commencing in 2009, and to complete that reduction over a five-year period.² Applicant
4 states that as a result of the required reduction of ETC support, in combination with the cap on ETC
5 funds previously imposed by the FCC, Verizon Wireless has determined it is not appropriate to
6 continue with the application in this docket.

7 This docket should be closed.

8 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that this docket shall be, and hereby is, administratively
9 closed.
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11 DATED this 2d day of April, 2009.

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14 
TEENA WOLFE
15 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

16 Copies of the foregoing mailed/delivered
17 This 2d day of April, 2009 to:

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24 ...

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27 ² Applicant cites *Applications of Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless and Atlantis Holdings LLC for Consent to*
28 *Transfer Control of Licenses, Authorizations, and Spectrum Manager and De Facto Transfer Leasing Arrangements*, WT
Docket No. 08-258, Memorandum Opinion and Order and Declaratory Ruling, 23 FCC Rcd 17444 (2008).

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16 Debbi Person
Secretary to Teena Wolfe

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