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STATE OF FLORIDA



DIVISION OF COMPETITIVE MARKETS &
ENFORCEMENT
BETH W. SALAK
DIRECTOR
(850) 413-6600

Public Service Commission

August 5, 2005

Mr. Ronald Munn, Jr.
Budget Phone, Inc.
Director, Regulatory & Revenue Assurance
6901 W. 70th Street
Shreveport, LA 71129-2309

Re: Docket No. 050483-TX: Petition for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) by Budget Phone, Inc.

Dear Mr. Munn:

Staff is seeking information regarding your petition for ETC status. Please provide a written response to each of the questions within fourteen (14) days, on or before Monday, August 22, 2005. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Your company may avail itself of the statutory confidential provisions of Section 364.183, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-22.006, Florida Administrative Code, if it believes it necessary to comply with this data request. If you have any questions, please contact James Maduro at (850) 413-6510 or Bob Casey at (850) 413-6974. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Beth Salak".

Beth Salak
Director

BWS:jvmjr

cc: Division of Competitive Markets and Enforcement (Mailhot, Bulecza-Banks, Casey, Man
Fogleman, Maduro)
Office of General Counsel (Jeremy Susac)

Docket No. 050483-TX – Budget Phone, Inc. request for ETC designation

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1. Does Budget Phone provide Lifeline service in any other state? If so, has the state utility commission for this state received any complaints concerning Budget Phone's service in that state? If so, please describe.
2. Is Budget Phone aware that pursuant to Order No. PSC-98-0328-FOF-TP, all ETCs in Florida must contribute \$3.50 per month per Lifeline customer? If granted ETC status, will Budget comply with this order by providing the appropriate contribution(s)?
3. Does Budget Phone currently have an Interconnection Agreement with any other company operating within the state of Florida? If so, what types of services does this agreement cover (Resale, UNEs, etc.)?
4. What facilities, planned or existing, does Budget Phone have in Florida in order to serve Florida customers?
5. Does Budget Phone provide service to its customers via a prepaid service? If so, what percentage of its customers receive their service via a prepaid service?
6. What is the average customer bill for a Budget Phone residential customer? In your response, please include the jurisdictions that this information is obtained from, and if there are variances in the bills pertaining to Florida customers, delineate those differences.
7. As a condition of receiving local service, are Budget Phone's residential customers required to subscribe to Budget Phone's long-distance services?
8. What specific plans does Budget Phone have for advertising its offering of Lifeline Service in Florida?
9. If Budget Phone receives an ETC designation in Florida, approximately how long will it take for Budget Phone to offer Lifeline service in the area in which it receives the ETC designation? Please elaborate on any extended or special circumstances.
10. Describe Budget Phone's local usage plans pursuant to 47 C.F.R. 54.101(a)(2).
11. Describe the access Budget Phone plans to provide to emergency services, such as 911 and enhanced 911 as defined as by 47 C.F.R. 54.101(a)(5).
12. Do Budget Phone's customers have access to competitive directory assistance providers, as defined as by 47 C.F.R. 54.101(a)(8)? If not, will Budget Phone offer this service in the near future? Please elaborate, if applicable.
13. Describe the toll-limitation features of Budget Phone's service. See 47 C.F.R. 54.101(a)(9).
14. According to 47 C.F.R. 54.101(c):

A state commission may grant the petition of a telecommunications carrier that is otherwise eligible to receive universal service support under Section 54.201, if the party is requesting additional time to complete the network upgrades needed to provide single-party service, access to enhanced 911 service, or toll limitation. If such petition is granted, the otherwise eligible telecommunications carrier will be permitted to receive universal service support for the duration of the period designated by the state commission.

If you will be making such a request, what time frame will be necessary for Budget Phone to accomplish these network upgrades? Please include in your response all areas for which you are seeking ETC designation.

15. Per Florida Statutes Title XXVII, Chapter 364.025 (2), the Florida Legislature has determined that each telecommunication company should contribute its fair share to the support of Florida's Universal Service objectives and carrier-of-last-resort obligations. Please elaborate on how Budget Phone plans on fulfilling its responsibility of being a *carrier-of-last-resort*?
16. Because of the significance of being the carrier-of-last-resort, would you be willing to sign an affidavit attesting to your critical responsibilities?
17. In order to receive funding from the Universal Service Fund, USAC requires that all telecommunication companies applying for ETC status must include the wire center(s) they will be serving in its petition. Please provide all pertinent information pertaining to the wire centers associated to your ETC request. At a minimum, include the wire center's common name and/or Common Language Location Identification Code (CLLI).
18. Does Budget Phone understand that there may be an audit of the use of universal service funds and that the eligible telecommunications service designation is reviewed annually by state commissions?
19. Does Budget Phone have any outstanding complaints at the Federal Communications Commission? If so, please provide a synopsis of these complaints.
20. Is Budget Phone's account current with the Federal Communications Commission in regards to regulatory fees? If not, please explain what steps, if any, are being taken to resolve/rectify this situation.
21. Is Budget Phone's account current with the Universal Service Administrative Company in regards to universal service contributions?
22. Is Budget Phone aware that Florida Lifeline customers who no longer qualify for Lifeline are allowed to receive a discounted rate at 70% of the residential basic rate for a period of one year?