

STATE OF INDIANA



INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
101 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 1500 EAST
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-3419

<http://www.in.gov/iurc>
Office: (317) 232-2701
Facsimile: (317) 232-6758

March 18, 2013

Dear Industry Representative,

The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (“Commission”) invites your comments on the enclosed Strawman Draft General Administrative Order. As you are aware, the Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (“ETC”) designation requirements at the federal and state level have evolved considerably since the Commission last formally established filing criteria for ETC petitioners in Cause No. 41052 issued on November 6, 1997. The Commission has traditionally communicated subsequent changes in ETC filing requirements in phases through its Orders. However, due to multiple substantive changes in federal filing requirements, the Commission has determined that a General Administrative Order (“GAO”) would be a more efficient way of communicating ETC filing requirements to petitioners and potential petitioners. (See order approved in IURC Cause No. 44272.)

The FCC’s *USF/ICC Transformation Order*, released November 18, 2011, and the *Lifeline Reform and Modernization Order*, released February 6, 2012, implemented federal requirements that establish further criteria and require additional information from ETCs, particularly for prepaid wireless ETCs. Although the FCC has changed and expanded the filing requirements, some ambiguities still exist. It is our intent to clarify these issues in the Commission’s GAO by aligning the Commission’s ETC filing guidelines with the current FCC requirements. The proposed GAO should provide the necessary guidance for ETC petitioners to enable them to file complete petitions that meet state and federal requirements.

Enclosed for your review is the Strawman Draft GAO, which includes the Commission’s proposed ETC Filing Guidelines. The Commission seeks and appreciates comments on this draft from interested stakeholders. Please send comments to Carol A. Stephan, Assistant General Counsel, at cstephan@urc.in.gov by **April 18, 2013**.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact Ms. Stephan at (317) 234-4715 or Pam Taber, Director of the Communications Division, at (317) 232-2755.

Sincerely,

Doug Webber
General Counsel