

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF)	
CELLCO PARTNERSHIPS AND ITS)	ORDER GRANTING MOTION
SUBSIDIARIES AND AFFILIATES TO AMEND)	TO WITHDRAW
AND CONSOLIDATE ELIGIBLE)	
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER)	TC10-090
DESIGNATIONS IN THE STATE OF SOUTH)	
DAKOTA AND TO PARTIALLY RELINQUISH)	
ETC DESIGNATIONS)	

On September 3, 2010, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a petition from Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless, and its subsidiaries and affiliates offering commercial mobile radio services in South Dakota (Verizon Wireless), to amend and consolidate the eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) designations currently held separately in the name of WWC License, LLC (WWC) and RCC Minnesota, Inc. (RCC) in the state of South Dakota to reflect Cellco Partnership and its affiliated legal entities as the designated entity. Verizon Wireless requests that amendment and consolidation of the ETC designations be deemed effective immediately. Verizon Wireless further requests that the partial relinquishment of WWC's ETC status in the Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. (Golden West) Study Area Code 391659 be deemed effective immediately. On September 9, 2010, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing to interested individuals and entities. The notice stated that any person wishing to intervene had until September 24, 2010, to do so. On September 24, 2010, the Commission received a Petition to Intervene from South Dakota Telecommunications Association (SDTA) and Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. (Golden West). On October 12, 2010, the Commission granted intervention to SDTA and Golden West. On October 14, 2010, James Valley Wireless (James Valley) filed a Petition to Intervene. On October 26, 2010, the Commission granted intervention to James Valley.

On November 5, 2010, Verizon Wireless filed a Motion Requesting Confidentiality Agreement. The motion was granted and a protective order was issued by the Commission. On November 12, 2010, Verizon Wireless filed a Motion for Commission Approval of Partial Relinquishment of ETC Designation. On November 15, 2010, Verizon Wireless filed a proposed Order Approving Partial Relinquishment of ETC Designation. On November 16, 2010, the Commission approved the request for partial relinquishment of WWC's ETC designation.

A procedural schedule was agreed to by the parties and was subsequently amended. By order dated February 18, 2011, the hearing in this matter was scheduled for May 11-12, 2011. Testimony was filed by the parties pursuant to the procedural schedule. On April 12, 2011, Verizon Wireless filed a Motion to Strike Testimony of Witness Peter Bluhm. On April 25, 2011, Verizon Wireless filed Motions to Compel Discovery Responses from Golden West, James Valley, and SDTA. On April 28, 2011, Verizon Wireless filed Supplements to Motions to Compel Discovery Responses from Golden West and SDTA. James Valley filed briefs in opposition to the Motion to Strike and Motion to Compel Discovery Responses from James Valley. Golden West and SDTA filed a brief in opposition to the Motions to Compel Discovery Responses from Golden West and SDTA. BY order dated June 9, 2011, the Commission denied the motion to strike and granted the motions to compel in part.

On July 11, 2011, Verizon Wireless filed a Motion to Withdraw Petition to Amend and Consolidate. Verizon Wireless stated that the Intervenor had informed Verizon Wireless that they have no objections to the withdrawal. Verizon Wireless further stated that "[t]he granting of such withdrawal is only to the remaining issues and does not impact the partial relinquishment of ETC status in the study area of Golden West Communications Cooperative, Inc. that the Commission approved by a Relinquishment Order dated November 16, 2010." On September 7, 2011, Commission Staff filed a Memorandum in this docket and in Docket TC11-063 in which Staff recommended that the Commission grant the Motion to Withdraw Petition in this docket and grant certification to WWC subject to certain conditions in Docket TC11-063. At its September 13, 2011, meeting, the Commission granted certification to WWC in Docket TC11-063 subject to the conditions recommended by Staff.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-31.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of September 13, 2011, the Commission considered the matter. The Commission voted unanimously to grant Verizon Wireless's Motion to Withdraw Petition to Amend and Consolidate.

It is therefore

ORDERED, that Verizon Wireless's Motion to Withdraw is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 15 day of September, 2011.

<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically.</p> <p>By: <u><i>[Signature]</i></u></p> <p>Date: <u>Sept. 15, 2011</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

[Signature]
GARY HANSON, Chairman

[Signature]
CHRIS NELSON, Vice Chairman

[Signature]
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner