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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH**

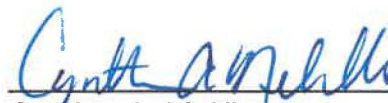
PETITION OF ALBION TELEPHONE )  
COMPANY, INC. FOR DESIGNATION )  
AS AN ELIGIBLE ) Docket No. 21-038-01  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER )  
FOR PURPOSES OF RECEIVING FCC )  
RURAL DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY )  
FUND SUPPORT )

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF KYLE BRADSHAW**

Albion Telephone Company, Inc. hereby submits the Prefiled Direct Testimony of Kyle Bradshaw in this docket.

DATED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of February 2021.

Cynthia A. Melillo PLLC



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Cynthia A. Melillo

*Attorneys for Albion Telephone Company, Inc.*

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SUPPORT )

1 **DIRECT TESTIMONY OF KYLE BRADSHAW**

2 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS**  
3 **ADDRESS.**

4 A. My name is Kyle Bradshaw. I am employed by Albion Telephone Company, Inc.,  
5 the Petitioner, as General Manager. My business address is 225 W. North Street, Albion,  
6 Idaho 83311.

7 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND.**

8 A. I have a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Boise State University.

9 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND**  
10 **BACKGROUND.**

11 A. I have been employed by Albion Telephone Company for 15 years and had many  
12 roles and responsibilities during that time prior to my becoming the General Manager. I  
13 also serve as the Vice President of Idaho Telecom Alliance (ITA). The Idaho Telecom  
14 Alliance's mission is to support the advancement of its 13 rural telco members, to  
15 collectively share ideas, and to promote services to rural telecommunications subscribers  
16 throughout Idaho.

17 **Q. ARE YOU AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE TESTIMONY IN THIS CASE ON**  
18 **BEHALF OF ATC?**

19 A. Yes.

20 **Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED BEFORE THIS COMMISSION?**

21 A. No. This is the first time I have provided testimony before this Commission.

22 **Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY TESTIFIED BEFORE UTILITY REGULATORY**  
23 **COMMISSIONS IN OTHER STATES?**

24 A. No.

25 **Q. HAVE YOU REVIEWED ALBION TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC.'S PETITION**  
26 **FOR DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER FOR THE**  
27 **PURPOSE OF RECEIVING FCC RURAL DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY FUND SUPPORT**  
28 **(“PETITION”)?**

29 A. Yes. I have reviewed the Petition and I would like to incorporate the Petition into  
30 this testimony.

31 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

32 A. The purpose of my testimony is to support the Petition and to demonstrate that  
33 Albion Telephone Company, Inc. (“ATC”), satisfies the requirements of the Utah Public  
34 Service Commission (“Commission”) and the Federal Communications Commission  
35 (“FCC”) for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (“ETC”) in the State of  
36 Utah, and to further discuss the qualifications of ATC to be designated as an ETC for the  
37 purpose of receiving high-cost universal service support from the FCC’s Rural Digital  
38 Opportunity Fund (“RDOF”).

39 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE ATC AND ITS OPERATIONS.**

40 A. ATC is an Idaho corporation, with a principal place of business located at 225 W.  
41 North Street, Albion, Idaho 83311. ATC is an incumbent local exchange carrier (“ILEC”)  
42 holding a Certificate of Convenience and Public Necessity to provide local exchange  
43 services in certain service areas in southern Idaho and is designated an ETC in Idaho.  
44 Applicant also provides broadband services. Additionally, ATC is an ILEC providing local  
45 exchange services and broadband services to the community of Yost, Utah in Box Elder  
46 County which area is not served by any other local exchange carrier. ATC provides local  
47 exchange services in its service areas in Idaho and Utah using its own facilities.

48 **Q. HAS ATC BEEN DESIGNATED AN ETC IN ANY OTHER STATE FOR**  
49 **PURPOSES OF RECEIVING HIGH-COST UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT?**

50 A. Yes. ATC is presently designated as an ETC, for purposes of receiving high cost  
51 universal service funds and Lifeline support, and operates as an ETC in its service areas  
52 in Idaho.

53 **Q. IS ATC SEEKING ETC DESIGNATION IN ANY OTHER STATE FOR**  
54 **PURPOSES OF RECEIVING RDOF SUPPORT?**

55 A. No. Applicant seeks ETC designation only in those states for which it has been  
56 awarded RDOF support via Auction 904, and those areas are located solely within Utah.

57 **Q. WHY IS ATC, SEEKING TO BE DESIGNATED AN ETC IN UTAH?**

58 A. ATC was the Winning Bidder in the RDOF Auction 904, making it eligible to receive  
59 support to provide voice and broadband services in the areas identified in Exhibit 1 of the  
60 Petition filed in this docket. ATC is required to obtain a high cost ETC designation to  
61 become eligible to receive funding from the federal universal service fund. Pursuant to

62 requirements of the FCC, ATC must submit to the FCC documentation showing that it has  
63 obtained a high-cost ETC designation by June 7, 2021.

64 **Q. DOES THE UTAH PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION HAVE THE AUTHORITY**  
65 **TO DESIGNATE ATC AS AN ETC?**

66 A. Yes. Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2), state utility regulatory commissions have  
67 authority to designate a qualified carrier as an ETC. Specifically, Section 214(e)(2)  
68 authorizes a State commission to “designate a common carrier that meets the  
69 requirements” of an ETC “for a service area designated by the State Commission.” This  
70 Commission has previously exercised its authority to designate qualified carriers as ETCs  
71 as described in the Petition.

72 **Q. ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ETC DESIGNATION.**

73 A. Yes. The requirements for designation as an ETC as established under Sections  
74 214(e)(1) of the Act and FCC rules, as more particularly described in the Petition.  
75 Specifically, ATC (i) is a common carrier, (ii) offers services that are supported by  
76 federal universal support mechanisms; (iii) will use its own facilities, in whole or  
77 in part, to provide the supported services; (iv) will provide the supported  
78 services throughout its Designated Service Areas; (v) will advertise the  
79 availability of such services using media of general distribution; (vi) will make Lifeline  
80 service available to qualifying low-income consumers; (vii) will certify that it will comply  
81 with the service requirements applicable to the support that it receives; (viii) will remain  
82 functional in emergency situations; (ix) will satisfy consumer protection and service quality  
83 standards; (x) will provide local usage plans comparable to the ILECs already operating

84 in the proposed Designated Service Areas; (xi) will comply with all applicable reporting  
85 requirements; and (xiii) will take steps to limit fraud, waste and abuse of the federal USF.

86 **Q. DOES ATC MEET ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS TO BE DESIGNATED AS AN**  
87 **ETC?**

88 A. Yes.

89 **Q. MORE SPECIFICALLY, IS ATC A “COMMON CARRIER”?**

90 A. Yes. ATC is a telecommunications carrier as defined in 47 U.S.C. § 153(44) and  
91 47 C.F.R. § 51.5(a) and is a telecommunications carrier for the purposes of Part 54 of  
92 the FCC's rules. ATC, therefore, is considered a common carrier under the Act.

93 **Q. DOES ATC OFFER THE SUPPORTED SERVICES SET FORTH IN 47 C.F.R. §**  
94 **54.101(a) EITHER BY USING ITS OWN FACILITIES OR A COMBINATION OF ITS**  
95 **OWN FACILITIES AND THE RESALE OF ANOTHER CARRIER’S SERVICES?**

96 A. Yes, ATC offers the services supported by the universal service support  
97 mechanisms, as set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 54.101(a)(1) and (2) using its own facilities.

98 **Q. DOES ATC PROVIDE THE SUPPORTED SERVICES?**

99 A. Yes. ATC currently offers in its service areas the federally designated services  
100 listed at 47 C.F.R. §54.101(a): ( i ) voice grade access to the public switched telephone  
101 network; and (ii) eligible broadband internet access. In addition, ATC also offers the  
102 following services which are supported by the federal USF program: (1) local usage; (2)  
103 access to emergency services; (3) access to operator services; (4) access to directory  
104 assistance; and (5) toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers. ATC is a full-  
105 service wireline carrier that offers all of these services throughout its service area,  
106 including the Designated Service Area, utilizing its own network infrastructure.

107 Does ATC Provide Eligible Voice Telephony Services and Broadband Internet  
108 Access

109 ATC meets this requirement through the provision of wireline voice  
110 communications service and interconnection to the public switched telephone network.  
111 ATC offers broadband internet access services with the capability to transmit and receive  
112 data by wire or radio from all or substantially all internet endpoints, including any  
113 capabilities that are incidental to and enable the operation of the communications service.

114 Does ATC Provide Local Usage.

115 ATC's rate plans provide local usage consistent with Section 54.101(a)(1) of  
116 the FCC's Rules, including minutes of use for local service at no additional charge to  
117 end users.

118 Does ATC Provide Access to Emergency Services and Does ATC Have the  
119 Ability to Remain Functional in Emergency Situations.

120 ATC provides 911 and E911 service from local public service answering points  
121 ("PSAPs").

122 Consistent with the FCC rules, ATC also has the ability to remain functional in  
123 emergency situations. Since ATC is providing service to its customers through the use  
124 of its own redundant facilities, ATC will provide to its customers functionality in emergency  
125 situations, including access to a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure  
126 functionality without an external power source, rerouting of traffic around damaged  
127 facilities and the capability of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations.

128 Does ATC Provide Access to Operator Services.

129 Access to operator services is defined as any automatic or live assistance  
130 provided to a consumer to arrange for the billing or completion, or both, of a telephone  
131 call. ATC provides customer access to operator services through CenturyLink.

132 Does ATC Provide Access to Directory Assistance.

133 Subscribers to ATC's services are able to dial "411" to reach directory assistance.

134 Does ATC Provide Toll Limitation for Qualifying Low Income Consumers.

135 ATC has the capability to provide toll limitation services to qualified low-  
136 income Lifeline customers as provided in the FCC rules.

137 **Q. WILL ATC PROVIDE LIFELINE SERVICE?**

138 A. Yes. Upon designation, ATC will offer Lifeline service to eligible residents in the  
139 Census Block Groups where it is the winning bidder in Auction 904. Additionally, ATC  
140 commits to comply with all applicable requirements adopted by the FCC to limit fraud,  
141 waste and abuse in the low-income program. As an operating ETC in the state of Idaho,  
142 ATC is familiar with and already complies with the requirement relating to Lifeline service.

143 **Q. WILL ATC ADVERTISE THE AVAILABILITY OF ITS SERVICE AND**  
144 **CHARGES?**

145 A. Yes. Pursuant to § 54.201 of the FCC's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 54.201, ATC currently  
146 advertises the availability of each of the supported services detailed above, throughout  
147 the Designated Service Area, by media of general distribution. In addition, once it  
148 receives its ETC designation, ATC will promote its Lifeline Services through traditional  
149 media avenues. ATC will develop an information sheet that explains the program and  
150 directs interested parties to the proper agencies to assist with the program qualification



151 process. The methods of advertising utilized may include website, newspaper,  
152 digital/online ads, radio, direct mailings, bill inserts, and telephone directory advertising.

153 **Q. CAN YOU BRIEFLY DESCRIBE YOUR LIFELINE OFFERING?**

154 A. Information regarding ATC's Lifeline offerings can be found at  
155 <https://www.atcnet.net/lifeline/>.

156 **Q. IS ATC SEEKING ANY FUNDS FROM THE UTAH UNIVERSAL SERVICE**  
157 **SUPPORT FUND?**

158 A. ATC is not currently seeking any funds from the Utah Universal Service Fund  
159 ("UUSF"). If ATC seeks UUSF funding in the future, ATC will file a separate application  
160 requesting such support.

161 **Q. PLEASE IDENTIFY THE AREAS IN WHICH ATC SEEKS TO BE DESIGNATED**  
162 **AS AN ETC.**

163 A. ATC seeks ETC designation and commits to provide the supported services  
164 throughout its Designated Service Areas in portions of Box Elder County, identified in  
165 Exhibits 1 and 2 attached to ATC's Petition in this matter.

166 **Q. WILL ATC PROVIDE SERVICE THROUGHOUT ITS ETC DESIGNATED AREA?**

167 A. ATC commits to provide the supported service throughout the ETC requested area  
168 in accordance with the requirements and timeframes set forth in connection with the  
169 granting of RDOF support.

170 **Q. WILL GRANT OF THIS APPLICATION SERVE THE PUBLIC INTEREST?**

171 A. For areas served by rural telephone companies, ATC must show that granting the  
172 ETC designation would serve the public interest. For areas not served by rural telephone  
173 companies, Congress requires that the Commission grant ETC Petitions without

174 requirement of a showing of public interest. Nevertheless, grant of ATC's Petition for  
175 ETC designation for purposes of receiving RDOF support will serve the public interest.  
176 Granting ETC status to ATC would allow ATC to obtain federal RDOF support, which  
177 it will use for the deployment of advanced services to unserved and underserved  
178 areas of Utah. Grant of this Petition also will ensure that RDOF support is used  
179 efficiently and effectively.

180 **Q. WILL ATC TIMELY PAY ALL APPLICABLE FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL**  
181 **REGULATORY FEES AND ASSESSMENTS APPLICABLE TO ITS ETC OPERATIONS**  
182 **IN UTAH?**

183 A. Yes. ATC acknowledges and accepts its obligations with respect to payment of  
184 federal, state, and local regulatory fees, taxes, and assessments, including, but not limited  
185 to, universal service fees (subject to Utah Code Admin. R746-8-403), emergency  
186 services, and relay services.

187 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

188 A. Yes, it does.

Certificate of Service  
Docket No. 21-038-01

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Direct Testimony of Kyle Bradshaw was served by email this 4<sup>th</sup> day of February 2021 on the following:

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