



State of Utah  
Department of Commerce  
Division of Public Utilities

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**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Public Service Commission

**From:** Division of Public Utilities  
Chris Parker, Director  
Bill Duncan, Telecommunications / Water Manager  
Casey J. Coleman, Utility Technical Consultant

**Date:** February 14, 2011

**Re:** In the Matter of Sprint Spectrum L.P. dba Sprint's Request for Relinquishment of Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation in Utah Docket No. 10-2227-01.

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**RECOMMENDATION (Approval):**

The Division has reviewed the request by Sprint Spectrum L.P. dba Sprint to have their Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) designation in the State of Utah cancelled, and recommends the Commission grant this request.

**EXPLANATION:**

On December 15, 2010, Sprint Spectrum L.P. dba Sprint, ("Sprint") filed with the Commission notice of relinquishment of Sprint's eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") designation in Utah. The Division has reviewed this request and found the following:

Sprint was granted an ETC designation in certain areas of Utah, specifically Qwest exchanges on September 15, 2003 in Docket 03-2227-01. Since that time Sprint has been operating within the state of Utah as an ETC carrier and receiving high-cost support from the Federal Universal Service Fund ("USF"). As a result of a decision by the Federal Communication Commission in WT Docket No. 08-94, Sprint agreed to reduce its federal high-cost USF support in five equal increments beginning in January 2009. To meet Sprint's high-cost USF phase-out obligation, Sprint is able to relinquish ETC status in various states. Sprint is requesting this relinquishment in Utah to meet the 2011 requirements of the FCC's docket.

Even though Sprint will not be receiving high-cost support after December 31, 2010, Sprint plans to continue to provide wireless service in all of its designated areas in the state as a non-ETC. Customers of Sprint will be able to still use the service, just not receive any high-cost support. Additionally, because Sprint was granted ETC status only within Qwest exchanges, there are other providers who will be able to

offer service to any customers of Sprint who decide to transition to another carrier. Because Sprint will still be offering service, and there are other providers who can serve customers within all exchanges served by Sprint, the Division recommends the Commission grant the relinquishment of the ETC designation sought by Sprint.

cc: Kristin L. Jacobson, Regulatory Counsel, Sprint Nextel  
Felise Thorpe Moll, Assistant Attorney General