

In the Matter Of:

In Re: Telrite Corporation ETC

HEARING, DOCKET NO. 18-2553-01

April 09, 2019

Job Number: 512821

1 BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH

2

3 Telrite Corporation dba Life Wireless's)
4 Petition to End Designation as an)
5 Eligible Telecommunications Carrier to) Docket No.
6 Participate in the Utah Universal) 18-2553-01
7 Service Fund)

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PUBLIC HEARING PROCEEDINGS

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11 TAKEN AT: Utah Public Service Commission
12 160 East 300 South, Fourth Floor
13 Salt Lake City, Utah
14 DATE: April 9, 2019
15 TIME: 10:00 a.m.
16 REPORTER: Mary R. Honigman, RPR

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16 JOB NO.: 512821

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APPEARANCES

FOR THE UTAH PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION:
Michael J. Hammer, Presiding Officer

FOR THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES:
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1 PROCEEDINGS

2 OFFICER HAMMER: Good morning. This
3 is the time and place noticed for the hearing in the
4 Matter of Telrite Corporation's Petition to Amend
5 Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications
6 Carrier to Participate in the Utah Universal Service
7 Fund. This is Commission Docket No. 18-2553-01. My
8 name is Michael Hammer. I'm the Commission's
9 designated presiding officer for this docket. Let's
10 go ahead and take appearances, please, beginning
11 with the applicant.

12 MR. RUSSELL: This is Phillip Russell
13 on behalf of Telrite, and with us on the phone is
14 our witness, Brian Rathman.

15 MR. JETTER: I'm Justin Jetter with
16 the Utah Attorney General's Office, and I'm here
17 this morning representing the Utah Division of
18 Public Utilities. With me at counsel table is
19 Casey Coleman, expert witness for the Division.

20 MR. MOORE: Robert Moore of the AG's
21 office, representing the Office of Consumer
22 Services. With me at counsel table is
23 Cheryl Murray, a utility analyst from the Office.

24 OFFICER HAMMER: All right. Is
25 there anything to address before we ask Mr. Russell

1 to call his witness? I assume there's no objection
2 to Mr. Rathman testifying telephonically?

3 MR. RATHMAN: No.

4 MR. JETTER: And no objection. We've
5 discussed this ahead of time, and --

6 OFFICER HAMMER: Okay.

7 MR. JETTER: -- we're fine with that.

8 OFFICER HAMMER: Mr. Russell?

9 MR. RUSSELL: Thank you.

10 Mr. Rathman, can you state and spell your name -- he
11 needs to be sworn in.

12 BRIAN RATHMAN,

13 having been first duly sworn to tell the truth, was
14 examined and testified as follows:

15 BY MR. RUSSELL:

16 Q All right. I'll go ahead. Mr. Rathman,
17 state and spell your name for us, if you would,
18 please?

19 A My name is Brian Rathman,
20 B-r-i-a-n R-a-t-h-m-a-n.

21 Q And for the record, if you could provide
22 us your business address, please?

23 A It's 2300 Windy Ridge Parkway, Suite 350S,
24 Marietta, Georgia 30067.

25 Q Thank you. And could you state your

1 **position with Telrite and give us some sense of the**
2 **responsibilities you have in that role?**

3 A My current position is chief technology
4 officer. I'm responsible for all of the technical
5 aspects of the Telrite family of companies. I also
6 have an active role in day-to-day management of
7 customer service operations, regulatory compliance,
8 and IT.

9 Q **Thank you. And can you provide us with a**
10 **brief summary of what Telrite is and what it does?**

11 A Telrite is a telecommunications provider.
12 We've been around for about 20 years now. Started
13 in the long distance business, moved into the
14 wireless business in 2004. We have various
15 different product lines and offerings under
16 different brands, one of which is our Life Wireless
17 brand, which is our Lifeline product, and that is
18 the product that we are discussing today.

19 Q **Did you submit testimony on behalf of**
20 **Telrite in this docket?**

21 A Yes, I did.

22 Q **In fact, you submitted testimony dated**
23 **November 30, 2018, titled, The Direct Testimony of**
24 **Brian Rathman; is that correct?**

25 A Yes.

1 Q Do you have a copy of that testimony
2 before you?

3 A I do.

4 Q Okay. Do you have any corrections to make
5 to that testimony?

6 A No, I do not.

7 Q And if you were asked the same questions
8 today that are in that testimony, would you give the
9 same answers?

10 A I would, yes.

11 Q Okay. And can you provide us a brief
12 summary of what Telrite is requesting in this
13 docket?

14 A Basically, we're looking to expand our
15 Lifeline services in certain areas in Utah and
16 seeking Utah USS support to provide those additional
17 services.

18 MR. RUSSELL: Thank you. At this
19 point, I'd move for the admission of Mr. Rathman's
20 prefiled direct testimony.

21 MR. JETTER: No objections.

22 MR. MOORE: No objections.

23 OFFICER HAMMER: It's admitted.

24 MR. RUSSELL: He's available for
25 cross-examination.

1 OFFICER HAMMER: Mr. Jetter?

2 MR. JETTER: I have no questions.

3 Thank you.

4 OFFICER HAMMER: Mr. Moore?

5 MR. MOORE: No questions. Thank you.

6 OFFICER HAMMER: And I don't have
7 any. Mr. Russell, you don't have any other
8 witnesses, do you?

9 MR. RUSSELL: I do not.

10 OFFICER HAMMER: All right. Thank
11 you, Mr. Rathman. We'll go to Mr. Jetter.

12 MR. RATHMAN: Thank you.

13 MR. JETTER: Thank you. The Division
14 would like to call and have sworn in Casey Coleman.

15 CASEY COLEMAN,

16 having been first duly sworn to tell the truth, was
17 examined and testified as follows:

18 BY MR. JETTER:

19 Q Mr. Coleman, would you please state your
20 name and occupation for the record?

21 A I'm Casey Coleman. I'm a utility
22 technical consultant for the Division of Public
23 Utilities.

24 Q Thank you. And in the course of your
25 employment with the Division, have you had an

1 opportunity to review the petition filed by Telrite
2 in this docket, along with the testimony of
3 Mr. Rathman?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And in light of the requests made in the
6 petition, do you believe that -- and your, I guess,
7 knowledge as an analyst in this field -- do you
8 believe that the stipulation and settlement
9 agreement that was filed by the parties in this
10 docket is just, reasonable, and in the public
11 interest?

12 A Yes.

13 Q And are you aware of any reason that the
14 Commission should not approve the application or
15 the -- excuse me, the settlement stipulation in this
16 docket?

17 A No.

18 Q And do you have anything further you'd
19 like to add?

20 A No.

21 MR. JETTER: Thank you. I have no
22 further questions for Mr. Coleman. He's available
23 for cross.

24 OFFICER HAMMER: Mr. Russell?

25 MR. RUSSELL: No questions. Thank

1 you.

2 OFFICER HAMMER: Mr. Moore?

3 MR. MOORE: No questions. Thank you.

4 OFFICER HAMMER: All right. Thank
5 you, Mr. Coleman. Mr. Moore?

6 MR. MOORE: The Office will call and
7 ask to be sworn in Cheryl Murray.

8 CHERYL MURRAY,
9 having been first duly sworn to tell the truth, was
10 examined and testified as follows:

11 BY MR. MOORE:

12 Q Could you please state your name and
13 occupation?

14 A My name is Cheryl Murray, and I am a
15 utility analyst with the Office of Consumer
16 Services.

17 Q In your course of employment, have you had
18 the opportunity to review the application,
19 testimony, and stipulation presented in this docket?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Have you participated in negotiations
22 resulting in the stipulation?

23 A Yes, I have.

24 Q Do you believe that the stipulation is
25 just and reasonable in result and in the public

1 **interest?**

2 A Yes, I do.

3 MR. MOORE: Ms. Murray is available
4 for cross.

5 OFFICER HAMMER: Mr. Russell?

6 MR. RUSSELL: No questions. Thank
7 you.

8 OFFICER HAMMER: Mr. Jetter?

9 MR. JETTER: I have no questions.
10 Thank you.

11 OFFICER HAMMER: And I don't have
12 any. Thank you, Ms. Murray. Well, that was short.
13 Is there anything else before we adjourn?

14 MR. JETTER: Not from the Division.

15 MR. RUSSELL: Nothing from the
16 petitioner.

17 MR. MOORE: Nothing from the Office.

18 OFFICER HAMMER: Thank you, everyone.
19 Ms. Murray, thank you. Thank you, Mr. Rathman.

20 (The hearing concluded at 10:08 a.m.)

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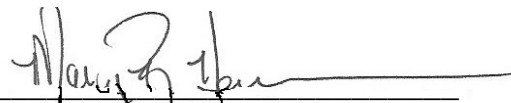
REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF UTAH)
COUNTY OF SUMMIT)

I, Mary R. Honigman, a Registered Professional Reporter, hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing proceedings were taken before me at the time and place set forth in the caption hereof; that the witnesses were placed under oath to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; that the proceedings were taken down by me in shorthand and thereafter my notes were transcribed through computer-aided transcription; and the foregoing transcript constitutes a full, true, and accurate record of such testimony adduced and oral proceedings had, and of the whole thereof.

I have subscribed my name on this 11th day of April, 2019.



Mary R. Honigman
Registered Professional Reporter #972887

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