



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

Re: Docket No. 21-2631-01 DPU Action Request Response - 9-10-2021

1 message

Troy Helming <troy@earthgrid.io>

Sun, Sep 12, 2021 at 5:44 PM

To: DataRequest DPU <dpudatarequest@utah.gov>

Cc: Public Service Commission <psc@utah.gov>, Abdinasir Abdulle <AABDULLE@utah.gov>, Bhavana Venjimuri <bhavanavenjimuri@utah.gov>, Bob A Davis <RADAVIS@utah.gov>, Brenda Gines Salter <BSalter@utah.gov>, Casey Jay Coleman <CCOLEMAN@utah.gov>, Chris Parker <chrisparker@utah.gov>, David Williams <dcwilli@utah.gov>, Douglas Drew Wheelwright <dwheelwright@utah.gov>, Eric Neal Orton <eorton@utah.gov>, Gary Smith <garysmith@utah.gov>, Jeff Einfeldt <jeffeinfeldt@utah.gov>, Joanna Matyjasik <jmatyjasik@utah.gov>, Joni Zenger <jzenger@utah.gov>, Justin Christensen <justinchristensen@utah.gov>, Justin Jetter <Jjetter@agutah.gov>, Mark Long <mlong@utah.gov>, Michael Healy <mlhealy@utah.gov>, Patricia Schmid <Pschmid@agutah.gov>, Paul Allen Hicken <phicken@utah.gov>, Ronald Slusher <rslusher@utah.gov>, Russell Cazier <russellc@utah.gov>, Shauna Marie Benvegna-springer <sbenvegna@utah.gov>, Trevor Jones <trevorjones@utah.gov>, Tyler Mcintosh <tmcintosh@utah.gov>, William Powell <wpowell@utah.gov>, Alex Ware <aware@utah.gov>, Alyson Anderson <akanderson@utah.gov>, Bela Vastag <BVastag@utah.gov>, Michele Beck <mbeck@utah.gov>, Robert Moore <rmoore@agutah.gov>

Mr. Parker, et al -

I recently recovered from being quite ill, following a 2-week vacation with my family. During those 3 weeks, I was doing my best to be on the lookout for any emails or voicemails from the PSC. However, I scoured emails and checked voicemail again, and see no record of any attempts by anyone from the PSC to reach out to me or my COO to ask any questions. We have only received the notice of the filing & comment period and the filing acknowledgment - each of which came from Mr. Widerburg.

My apologies if we missed any such emails. Note that we are fully aware that the PSC has no jurisdiction over tribal lands. Our intent in stating that as part of our vision is because we're being told by one of our attorneys (Rachelle Chong, former FCC commissioner) that providing the "Middle Mile" is crucial to be able to effectively serve tribal communities. And to offer that missing link of the middle mile, we need access to public ROW for fiber to reach the borders of those tribal lands. Regarding tunnel size, we have multiple options, from small tunnels (just conduits for 144 strands of fiber) up to larger sizes where other utility companies would like to co-locate their fiber in a larger conduit (or other utilities such as power lines to run the telecommunications equipment along the route). We've been told that having spare capacity in the conduit can reduce the disruption of other utilities trenching or boring in the same ROW for their needs. It's more costly for us to do so, but in some areas that added cost may be worth the investment. If the PSC prefers smaller sizes only at this time, we're happy to entertain and/or accommodate that request.

I'm not sure what to do now, after seeing that the recommendation is to decline approval of our application without having been given an opportunity to explain our intentions and address any concerns or questions by PSC staff. We've been approved for a CPCN in several other states, so we're obviously disappointed in this outcome. We have plans to invest significant capital in the state of Utah if the CPCN is granted. Please let us know if there is something we can do about this.

Troy Helming, Founder & CEO
EarthGrid PBC, a public benefit corp
EarthGrid.io
troy@earthgrid.io M) 415-940-5768

If you wish to schedule a call or meeting with me, go here: [Calendly](#)

On Fri, Sep 10, 2021 at 8:53 AM DataRequest DPU <dpudatarequest@utah.gov> wrote: