COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND CABLE

Investigation by the Department on its Own Motion into the Implementation in Massachusetts of the Federal Communications Commission's Order Reforming the Lifeline Program	)	D.T.C. 13-4

PETITION TO INTERVENE OF TRACFONE WIRELESS, INC.

TracFone Wireless, Inc. ("TracFone"), pursuant to 220 CMR 1.03, files this Petition to Intervene in this proceeding. In this proceeding, the Department seeks comment on the implementation of the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC's") *Lifeline Reform Order.*[1] As noted by the Department in its Request for Comments and Notice of Public Hearing issued in this proceeding on April 1, 2013, the *Lifeline Reform Order* comprehensively reformed the Lifeline program by strengthening protections against waste, fraud, and abuse, and improving the program's efficiency. The *Lifeline Reform Order* included new requirements for eligible telecommunications carriers ("ETCs") and confirmed the states' authority to implement rules regarding the Lifeline program consistent with the FCC's rules.[2] TracFone, as a designated ETC which has provided Lifeline service in Massachusetts since December 2008, has a substantial interest in this proceeding.

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[1] *In the Matter of Lifeline & Link Up Reform & Modernization, et al.*, WC Docket No. 11-42, et al., *Rep. & Order & Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, FCC 12-11 (rel. Feb. 6, 2012) ("*Lifeline Reform Order*").

[2] *See* 47 U.S.C. § 254(f); *Lifeline Reform Order*, ¶¶ 65, 140.

TracFone provides the following information in support of its Petition as required by 220 CMR 1.03:

TracFone is located at 9700 NW 112th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33178. In this proceeding the Department specifically asked for comment on: (1) compliance with existing Department ETC requirements; (2) annual ETC certifications and other reporting obligations; (3) expansion of Lifeline eligibility criteria; (4) outreach, consumer safeguards, and service quality issues; and (5) other reasonably related matters, such as whether ETCs should take more action to retain eligible Lifeline subscribers during the annual re-certification process. Any Lifeline procedures or requirements adopted by the Department as a result of this proceeding will have a direct impact on TracFone's provision of Lifeline service in Massachusetts. Given that this proceeding will affect the procedures all ETCs, including TracFone, must follow, TracFone's participation in this proceeding is warranted.

Based on the foregoing, TracFone requests that the Department grant it status as a full party Intervenor in this docket. TracFone reserves the right to file comments in this proceeding on a date prior to the hearing on May 14, 2013, participate in the hearing, and file reply comments.[3]

[3] TracFone recognizes that initial comments are due April 29, 2013. Therefore, if TracFone decides to file initial comments, it will file a motion requesting the Department to accept late-filed comments.

Respectfully submitted,

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