



FILED February 1, 2021 INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

## STATE OF INDIANA INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF THE EXPANSION OF THE DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA OF NEW LISBON BROADBAND AND COMMUNICATIONS, LLC AS AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER IN THE STATE OF INDIANA

CAUSE NO. 41052 EEC 75-S1 PETITIONER'S EXHIBIT NO.

### DIRECT TESTIMONY OF JOHN E. GREENE JR. IN SUPPORT OF THE EXPANSION OF THE DESIGNATED SERVICE AREA OF NEW LISBON BROADBAND AND COMMUNICATIONS, LLC AS AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER

### Q1. PLEASE STATE YOUR FULL NAME AND TITLE.

A1. My name is John Greene. I am the CEO and General Manager of New Lisbon Broadband and Communications, LLC ("New Lisbon").

### Q2. WHAT ARE YOUR JOB RESPONSIBILITIES FOR NEW LISBON?

A2. As CEO and General Manager of New Lisbon, I make major corporate decisions, oversee the overall operations and resources of the company, and report directly to the company's sole member, New Lisbon Telephone Company, Inc. ("NLTC"), and its Board of Directors.

# Q3. PLEASE PROVIDE INFORMATION ON YOUR PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND.

A3. I have more than 40 years combined executive and senior management experience in the Information and Communications Technology ("ICT") industry and am uniquely qualified in the areas of technology, operations, human resources, finance, regulatory and legal, as it relates to managing an ICT organization. I have served as chief executive officer and general manager of New Lisbon/NLTC since 2014. I have also served as a board member and president of the Indiana Exchange Carrier Association ("INECA") since 2015 and as an executive board member of QuEST Forum since 2013. Prior to these roles, I served in executive and managerial roles for Great Plains Communications, Ansco & Associates, Wilson Telephone and Stonehenge Telecom; in engineering and consulting roles for Parsons Telecom, TAD Telecom and Paramount Designs; and in various engineering and management roles for BellSouth/AT&T. I have a bachelor of arts degree in general science with a minor in computer science from North Central College in Naperville, Illinois and an information technology certificate (ATI Program) from Carnegie Mellon University, and I received an honorable discharge from the U.S. Naval Academy. I am a frequent speaker on telecom panels at various trade shows and conferences focusing on technology and operations.

## Q4. PLEASE PROVIDE BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON NEW LISBON, INCLUDING THE SERVICES IT PROVIDES.

A4. New Lisbon is an Indiana limited liability company organized under Ind. Code § 23-18-1-1 et seq. and registered with the Indiana Secretary of State. A copy of New Lisbon's Certificate of Existence is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit JG-1</u>. Its principal place of business is located at 6369 E. Dublin Pike, New Lisbon, IN 47366. New Lisbon is a competitive local exchange carrier ("CLEC") and wholly owned subsidiary of NLTC, an Indiana corporation established under Ind. Code § 23-1-1-1 et seq, which serves as an incumbent local exchange carrier ("ILEC") in its authorized service territory. NLTC was founded in 1901 and has a long history of providing voice, video and internet service in Henry County, Indiana. New Lisbon is the CLEC subsidiary for Henry, Wayne and Randolph counties, providing voice, video and broadband services. The management team of NLTC/New Lisbon has more than 100 years of experience in the telecommunications business.

### Q5. WHAT CERTIFICATIONS DOES NEW LISBON CURRENTLY HOLD FROM THE INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION ("COMMISSION")?

A5. On April 15, 2015 in Cause No. 44600, the Commission granted a Certificate of Territory Authority ("CTA") to New Lisbon, authorizing it to provide facilities-based and bundled resale of local exchange service as telecommunications services; internet protocolenabled, broadband and advanced services as information services; and video service throughout Indiana. Therefore, New Lisbon is already authorized by the Commission to provide the services required of an ETC and an RDOF support recipient within the Expanded Service Area.

By order approved on September 23, 2015 in Cause No. 41052 ETC 75, the Commission designated New Lisbon as an ETC for specified portions of Henry and Wayne counties in Indiana. In addition to the Expanded Service Area requested in the Verified Petition, the original designated ETC service area of New Lisbon is identified on **Exhibit A** attached to the Verified Petition.

### Q6. PLEASE SUMMARIZE NEW LISBON'S REQUEST IN THIS PROCEEDING.

A6. Pursuant to Section 214(e)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934 (the "Act") and Section 54.201 of the FCC's rules, New Lisbon requests the Commission's approval of the Expanded Service Area in which New Lisbon seeks to be designated as an ETC in order to receive federal support from the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund ("RDOF") Phase I. New Lisbon was allocated RDOF Phase I support through its participation in the NRTC Phase I RDOF Consortium (the "Consortium"). The Consortium was provisionally awarded RDOF Phase I support from the FCC on December 7, 2020, and has allocated the awarded support and census block groups to its members, including New Lisbon. New Lisbon will be eligible to receive this support subject to completing

certain requirements, such as being designated as an ETC in the Expanded Service Area. Pursuant to Section 54.101(d) of the FCC's rules, any ETC, including an ETC designated to receive high-cost support, must offer Lifeline service in its designated service area. Accordingly, to the extent necessary, New Lisbon also requests designation as a Lifeline provider within the Expanded Service Area. New Lisbon respectfully requests that the Commission grant this petition on or before June 7, 2021 to ensure that New Lisbon meets the FCC's June 7, 2021 deadline for designation as an ETC in the Expanded Service Area in order to receive the RDOF Phase I support allocated to New Lisbon.

### Q7. PLEASE PROVIDE A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE RDOF PHASE I AUCTION.

A7. On August 2, 2019, the FCC proposed the RDOF to provide an additional \$20.4 billion in support through a reverse auction to bring broadband service to areas that lack access to both fixed voice and 25/3 Mbps broadband services.<sup>1</sup> The minimum supported speed under RDOF is 25/3 Mbps, but the auction rules gives priority to faster broadband speeds of up to a gigabit per second and lower latency service. RDOF Phase I support recipients must offer the required voice and broadband service to *all* eligible homes and small businesses within the awarded areas. RDOF Phase I support will be disbursed over a 10-year period. While RDOF Phase I targeted census blocks that are *wholly* unserved with broadband at speeds of 25/3 Mbps, the FCC reserved some of the funding for Phase II, which will target census blocks that are only partially served, as well as census blocks unawarded in the Phase I auction.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In the Matter of Rural Digital Opportunity Fund et al., Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 34 FCC Rcd 6778 (August 1, 2019 ("Rural Digital Opportunity Fund NOPR").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In the Matter of Rural Digital Opportunity Fund et al., Report and Order, 35 FCC Rcd 686 (January 20, 2020) ("Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Order").

The FCC used a two-step application process for the RDOF Phase I auction. Potential bidders, including the Consortium, were required to submit a short-form application to establish eligibility to participate in the auction. The Bureau of Wireline Competition reviewed the short-form applications and approved bidders, including the Consortium, as qualified to participate in the auction. Winning bidders in RDOF Phase I must file a long-form application that demonstrates the bidder is legally, technically and financially qualified to receive support. The long-form application includes ownership disclosure, financial and technical capability certification, public interest obligations certification, an extensive description of technology and system design, available funds certification and ETC eligibility and documentation.<sup>3</sup> Winning bidders must also provide an irrevocable standby letter of credit to ensure that awarded funds can be recovered if the recipient does not comply with the RDOF Phase I deployment and service requirements.

### Q8. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE CONSORTIUM'S SHORT-FORM APPLICATION FOR THE RDOF PHASE I AUCTION.

A8. Following the procedure established in the Auction 904 Notice,<sup>4</sup> the Consortium submitted its FCC Form 183 short-form application prior to the July 15, 2020 deadline. This application provided identification, operations and financial information of the Consortium's members and described their proposed networks using RDOF Phase I funding. Specifically, New Lisbon's proposed deployment in the Expanded Service Area consists of placing an XGS PON-capable fiber-to-the-home ("FTTH") network, including

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See, generally, Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Order, 35 FCC Rcd 686.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> In the Matter of Rural Digital Opportunity Fund et al., Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Phase I Auction Scheduled for October 29, 2020, Notice and Filing Requirements and Other Procedures for Auction 904, 35 FCC Rcd 6077 (June 11, 2020) ("Auction 904 Notice").

two remote cabinets, in the census block group in which it will receive RDOF support. One of these cabinets is existing and is currently fed with a 1 Gbps licensed wireless backhaul link. The second cabinet is proposed. Both cabinets will be added to an existing 10 Gbps ERPS backbone. This design will support 1 Gbps broadband service to every location initially and allow for upgrades to 10Gbps in the future simply by replacing the optics in the OLT. The ERPS ring can also be upgraded to multiple 10Gbps links as needed in the future. Based upon its Form 183 short-form application, the FCC determined that the Consortium members, including New Lisbon, met the legal, technical and financial qualifications to participate in Auction 904 and to meet the service requirements associated with the performance tier and latency combination(s) on which the Consortium bid during Auction 904.

#### Q9. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE CONSORTIUM'S AUCTION 904 WINNING BIDS.

A9. On December 7, 2020, the FCC announced the winning bidders of Auction 904, including the Consortium, which was awarded \$19,791,000.70 in RDOF Phase I funding over 10 years.<sup>5</sup> The Consortium was the successful bidder for 30,318 locations in Indiana and participated in the FCC's Divide Winning Bids procedure to allocate to New Lisbon \$393,412 in RDOF Phase I funding for the census block group identified on Exhibit B attached to the Verified Petition in this Cause. New Lisbon is committed to provide voice and internet fiber optic service with 1G symmetrical speeds in this census block group. Engineering on the network will begin in Q3 2021 and construction in Q1 2022. The entire RDOF project will be completed by Q3 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Phase I Auction (Auction 904) Closes; Winning Bidders Announced; FCC Form 683 Due January 29, 2021, AU Docket No. 20-34; WC Docket No. 19-126; WC Docket No. 10-90 (December 7, 2020) ("Winning Bidders Announcement").

### Q10. PLEASE DESCRIBE NEW LISBON'S SUBSEQUENT AUCTION 904 LONG-FORM APPLICATION.

A10. Winning bidders of Auction 904 must submit the FCC Form 683 long-form post-auction application for support by no later than January 29, 2021 in order to become authorized by the FCC to receive the support awarded during Auction 904.<sup>6</sup> New Lisbon will submit its Form 683 long-form application within the timeframe prescribed by the FCC and, following its submission, will make portions of said application available to the Commission upon request as the Commission considers the Verified Petition and in accordance with the Commission's rules on confidential filings, if applicable. As part of the long-form application, New Lisbon will acknowledge that it must be designated by the Commission as an ETC for the eligible census block group allocated to it. New Lisbon has 180 days from the release of the Auction 904 closing public notice (until June 7, 2021) to obtain ETC designation in the Expanded Service Area and to provide documentation of the same to the FCC.<sup>7</sup> New Lisbon will not be authorized to receive RDOF Phase I support, nor will any such support be released to New Lisbon, if it does not obtain the appropriate ETC designation in the Expanded Service Area.

### Q11. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE SERVICES AND PLANS THAT NEW LISBON INTENDS TO OFFER IN THE EXPANDED SERVICE AREA USING RDOF PHASE I SUPPORT.

A11. New Lisbon will offer service plans within the Expanded Service Area that include voice and broadband services that meet the RDOF Phase I tier/latency requirements of New

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Auction 904 Notice, 35 FCC Rcd 6077.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Auction 904 Notice, 35 FCC Rcd 6077. The FCC indicated that if a long-form applicant is unable to obtain the necessary ETC designation within the 180-day timeframe, it would be appropriate to waive the 180-day timeframe if the long-form applicant is able to demonstrate that it has engaged in good faith efforts to obtain an ETC designation, but the proceeding is not yet complete. The FCC will presume that a long-form applicant acted in good faith if it files its ETC application with the state commission within 30 days of the release of the Auction 904 closing public notice.

Lisbon's winning bids. The voice and broadband service plans to be offered by New Lisbon are described in **Exhibit JG-2** attached hereto.

### Q12. IS NEW LISBON MANAGERIALLY, FINANCIALLY AND TECHNICALLY CAPABLE OF PROVIDING THE SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED USING RDOF PHASE I SUPPORT?

A12. Yes. The management team of New Lisbon is familiar with the managerial, financial and technical needs of a communications company. The New Lisbon management team has more than 100 years combined experience in the broadband and telecommunications fields. In addition, New Lisbon and its parent, NLTC, own and operate various network facilities and back office, billing and customer support functions to provide the services required as an ETC. Additionally, New Lisbon will provide to the FCC, pursuant to the Auction 904 procedure, audited financial statements, including balance sheets, net income and cash flow, which have been audited by an independent certified public accountant. As evidenced by the FCC's selection of the Consortium as a winning bidder in Auction 904, the FCC is satisfied, based upon the financial information provided, that the members of the Consortium, including New Lisbon, are financially capable of providing the required services.

## Q13. WHAT IS THE SERVICE AREA IN WHICH NEW LISBON SEEKS DESIGNATION AS AN ETC IN THIS PROCEEDING?

A13. In the Winning Bidders Announcement, the Consortium was named the winning bidder for 30,318 locations in Indiana and participated in the FCC's Divide Winning Bids procedure to allocate to New Lisbon \$393,412 in RDOF Phase I funding for the census block group identified in <u>Exhibit B</u> to the Verified Petition. Thus, New Lisbon is requesting designation as an ETC in the associated census block group in Indiana listed in <u>Exhibit B</u> attached to the Verified Petition. A map of the Expanded Service Area was

attached as **Exhibit A** to New Lisbon's Verified Petition. The awarded census block group is within the ILEC study area of Frontier North, Inc. (Study Area Code 320772), which is not a rural telephone company as defined in 47 CFR § 51.5.

### Q14. IF DESIGNATED AS AN ETC, WILL NEW LISBON PROVIDE THE REQUIRED VOICE AND BROADBAND SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE EXPANDED SERVICE AREA?

A14. Yes. New Lisbon intends to provide all of the required services in the Expanded Service Area. New Lisbon will provide state-of-the-art broadband services via an FTTH network with symmetrical gigabit speeds to all locations within the eligible census block group allocated to New Lisbon as part of the RDOF Phase I auction. This technology provides carrier-grade internet over a fiber optic cable network. New Lisbon will provide voice grade access to the public switched telephone network by using the existing NLTC Ribbon C15 voice switch, which is connected to the outside public switched telephone network with TDM trunks to AT&T and SIP trunks for New Lisbon's long-distance provider. NLTC also uses AT&T as its SS7 provider. This is the same voice network that New Lisbon uses today for its voice customers.

#### Q15. IS NEW LISBON A COMMON CARRIER PURSUANT TO 47 USC § 153(11)?

A15. Yes. The term "common carrier" includes any person engaged as a common carrier for hire in interstate or foreign communication by wire or radio.<sup>8</sup> New Lisbon will offer communication services for sale to the public by wire and transmits communications both interstate and intrastate, making it a "common carrier" for purposes of being designated at an ETC and receiving universal service support.

### Q16. WILL NEW LISBON PROVIDE SERVICES REQUIRED TO BE PROVIDED BY AN ETC USING ITS OWN FACILITIES OR VIA RESALE OF ANOTHER CARRIER'S SERVICES?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 47 USC § 153(11).

A16. Consistent with the requirements of Section 214(e)(1) of the Act and sections 54.101 through 54.207 of the FCC's rules, New Lisbon will provide all services required in order to be eligible for high-cost universal service support using its own facilities. Specifically, New Lisbon will use both buried and aerial single mode, loose tube design fiber optic cable with electronics equipment from Adtran, a leading US manufacturer of middle-mile and last-mile equipment.

# Q17. WILL NEW LISBON PROVIDE VOICE GRADE ACCESS TO THE PUBLIC SWITCHED TELEPHONE NETWORK OR ITS EQUIVALENT?

A17. As set forth above, New Lisbon will provide voice grade access to the public switched telephone network or its equivalent by using the existing NLTC Ribbon C15 voice switch to facilitate voice services. This is the same voice network that New Lisbon uses today for its voice customers.

# Q18. WILL NEW LISBON PROVIDE MINUTES OF USE FOR LOCAL SERVICE AT NO ADDITIONAL CHARGE TO END USERS?

A18. As part of the voice grade access to the public switched telephone network, an ETC must provide minutes of use for local service at no additional charge to end users.<sup>9</sup> The FCC has yet to specify a minimum amount of local usage to be offered by an ETC, but New Lisbon will offer rate plans that provide subscribers with minutes of use for local service at no additional charge.

### Q19. WILL NEW LISBON PROVIDE ACCESS TO EMERGENCY SERVICES?

A19. New Lisbon will provide access to emergency services for its customers in the requested ETC service area, including access to both 911 and enhanced 911 service from local

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 47 CFR § 54.101(a)(1).

public service answering points ("PSAPs"). Specifically, New Lisbon has connectivity to

InDigital, which provides 911 services for the RDOF area in Randolph County.

# Q20. WILL NEW LISBON PROVIDE TOLL LIMITATION SERVICES TO QUALIFYING LOW-INCOME CUSTOMERS?

A20. New Lisbon will offer toll limitation to qualifying low-income customers at no additional charge within the Expanded Service Area. This feature is already available to all customers through NLTC's C15 softswitch.

### Q21. WILL THE BROADBAND SERVICES PROVIDED BY NEW LISBON IN THE EXPANDED SERVICE AREA BE CAPABLE OF TRANSMITTING AND RECEIVING DATA FROM ALL OR SUBSTANTIALLY ALL INTERNET ENDPOINTS?

A21. Pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.101(a)(2), New Lisbon will provide broadband services with the capability to transmit data to and receive data from all or substantially all internet endpoints, including any capabilities that are incidental to and enable the operation of communications service, but excluding dial-up service. New Lisbon will not prioritize among endpoints, and there is no plan or intent to limit connectivity within or outside the network.

### Q22. HOW WILL NEW LISBON ADVERTISE THE AVAILABILITY OF THE VOICE AND BROADBAND SERVICES REQUIRED TO BE PROVIDED BY AN ETC?

A22. New Lisbon will advertise the availability and rates for the voice telephony and broadband access services to be offered within the Expanded Service Area using media of general distribution, as required by Section 54.201(d)(2) of the FCC's rules.<sup>10</sup> Specifically, New Lisbon will advertise these services on its internet website, on door hangers and in local newspaper and radio advertisements. For Lifeline services, New Lisbon will advertise the availability of these services and charges through media of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 47 CFR § 54.201(d)(2).

general distribution in a manner reasonably designed to reach potential Lifeline customers and make them aware of such offers. New Lisbon intends to follow the FCC's Lifeline advertising guidelines in establishing an advertising program for its Lifeline services to reach eligible households that do not currently receive service. These guidelines suggest posting notices at public transportation stops and agencies, shelters and soup kitchens; running public service announcements; providing information booths at central locations; providing customer service to disabled program participants on an equal basis by using telecommunications relay services ("TRS"), text telephone ("TTY"), and speech-to-speech ("STS") services; and providing outreach materials in Braille. Additionally, the guidelines suggest developing advertising that can be read by members of any sizeable non-English speaking populations and coordinating outreach efforts with governmental agencies that administer relevant government assistance programs.

### Q23. WHAT INFORMATION HAS NEW LISBON PROVIDED THE FCC THAT SATISFIES THE REQUIREMENTS OF A FIVE-YEAR IMPROVEMENT PLAN WITH RESPECT TO THE SERVICES PROVIDED USING RDOF PHASE I SUPPORT?

A23. In accordance with the ETC designation requirements applicable to winning bidders in Auction 904 adopted by the FCC, New Lisbon requested in its Verified Petition that the Commission waive the requirement in the Commission's General Administrative Order 2019-5 that New Lisbon file a five-year improvement plan.<sup>11</sup> As an Auction 904 winning

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> General Administrative Order of the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission 2019-5 (December 27, 2019) ("GAO 2019-5"); *WCB Reminds Connect America Fund Phase II Auction Applicants of the Process for Obtaining a Federal Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier*, WC Docket Nos. 09-197, 10-90 (July 10, 2018) ("*Federal ETC Procedural Guidance*"). The Federal ETC Procedural Guidance was released during the CAF Phase II Auction and provided guidance for CAF Phase II recipients seeking federal ETC designation. However, the Federal ETC Procedural Guidance was re-released during the RDOF Phase I Auction, and its justification for waiving the five-year plan requirement remains true with respect to RDOF Phase I recipients. *See* RDOF Phase I (Auction 904) releases: https://www.fcc.gov/auction/904/releases.

bidder, New Lisbon will provide the FCC with audited financials, cost estimates and descriptions of proposed improvements to its network throughout the Expanded Service Area. In addition, as part of its Form 683 long-form application, New Lisbon will provide the FCC with a project schedule describing the major milestones associated with the project and defining a plan to complete the network deployment within the timeframe prescribed by the FCC.

# Q24. EXPLAIN THE CAPABILITY OF NEW LISBON TO REMAIN FUNCTIONAL IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.

A24. New Lisbon provides access to a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, the ability to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and the capability of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations. In its Verified Petition, New Lisbon described its capabilities of remaining functional in emergency situations for the Expanded Service Area.

### Q25. EXPLAIN HOW NEW LISBON INTENDS TO COMPLY WITH APPLICABLE CONSUMER PROTECTION AND SERVICE QUALITY STANDARDS WITH RESPECT TO THE SERVICES PROVIDED USING RDOF PHASE I SUPPORT.

A25. New Lisbon commits to satisfying all applicable state and federal requirements related to consumer protection and service quality standards with respect to the services provided using RDOF Phase I support. In its Verified Petition, New Lisbon described its planned compliance with applicable consumer protection and consumer quality standards.

### Q26. HOW WILL NEW LISBON'S SERVICE OFFERINGS RECEIVING RDOF PHASE I SUPPORT BENEFIT INCREASED CONSUMER CHOICE?

A26. The Expanded Service Area is generally considered unserved or underserved by communication providers. New Lisbon's service offerings will provide services to some customers who currently do not have access to such services. To the extent some

customers within the ETC areas already have access to some level of service, New Lisbon's service offerings in the requested Expanded Service Area will promote increased competitive choice, thereby increasing innovation and incentivizing other carriers to improve their existing networks to remain competitive. This will ultimately result in greater access to high-speed broadband and voice services, as well as improved service quality for customers in the requested ETC service area.

## Q27. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE UNIQUE ADVANTAGES OF NEW LISBON'S SERVICE OFFERINGS RECEIVING RDOF PHASE I SUPPORT.

A27. As fully set forth in the Verified Petition, New Lisbon's use of the RDOF Phase I support in the awarded census block group will directly advance the Act's principal goals of securing lower prices and higher quality services for consumers and encouraging the rapid deployment of new technology to all citizens regardless of location or income.<sup>12</sup> Not only will New Lisbon's service offerings in the Expanded Service Area provide critical high-speed and reliable connectivity to consumers and promote economic growth and competition, it also has been determined by the FCC, in awarding RDOF Phase I support to New Lisbon, that said service offerings would promote the public interest. New Lisbon will construct a fiber network that has almost unlimited bandwidth and is easily upgradable, allowing New Lisbon to easily increase customer bandwidth as needed in the future. Fiber networks are also far more reliable than copper or wireless-based networks, meaning less down time for customers who utilize the network for remote schooling, work at home and entertainment.

### Q28. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW NEW LISBON'S USE OF RDOF PHASE I SUPPORT WILL IMPACT THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Telecommunications Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56.

A28. As set forth in the Verified Petition, the funds awarded to New Lisbon pursuant to Auction 904 have already been set aside by the FCC for that specific purpose; thus, New Lisbon's use of said funds will have no *per se* impact on the Universal Service Fund. The use of Auction 904 to award the funds ensured that funding went to bidders who could provide services to unserved or underserved areas for the lowest possible cost to the Universal Service Fund. Additionally, as set forth in the Verified Petition, permitting New Lisbon to provide services in previously unserved areas will increase the contributions that New Lisbon makes to the Universal Service Fund based upon a portion of its revenues.

# Q29. IS THE DESIGNATION OF NEW LISBON AS AN ETC IN THE EXPANDED SERVICE AREA IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST?

A29. Yes. As explained herein, New Lisbon's designation as an ETC in the Expanded Service Area and subsequent provision of services in this area would benefit increased consumer choice, provide unserved and underserved areas with critical communications infrastructure and promote economic development without having a detrimental impact upon the Universal Service Fund. Such designation furthers the goals of the Act and subsequent FCC rules.

### Q30. PLEASE DESCRIBE NEW LISBON'S PLANNED LIFELINE SERVICE OFFERINGS IN THE EXPANDED SERVICE AREA.

A30. New Lisbon will provide Lifeline voice and broadband service throughout the Expanded Service Area to qualifying low-income consumers pursuant to the Lifeline program rules.<sup>13</sup> The terms and conditions of New Lisbon's Lifeline offering will be posted on its website at www.nlbc.com. They include details on the number of minutes provided as

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> See 47 CFR §§ 54.101(c), (d); 54.405(a); 47 CFR Subpart E; Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization et al., Third Report and Order et al., WC Docket No. 11-42 et al., 31 FCC Rcd 3962 (2016).

part of the plan, additional charges (if any) for toll calls and rates for each plan. Customers will be provided with these terms after completion of enrollment. New Lisbon will complete income verifications based on information provided by Lifeline.

## Q31. HOW WILL NEW LISBON ADVERTISE AND DISCLOSE THE TERMS OF ITS LIFELINE SERVICE OFFERINGS TO QUALIFYING CUSTOMERS?

A31. New Lisbon will advertise the availability of Lifeline services and charges through media of general distribution in a manner reasonably designed to reach potential Lifeline customers and make them aware of such offerings, as required by 47 CFR § 54.405(b), including by disclosing New Lisbon's name, that the service is a Lifeline service, that it is a government assistance program, that the service is non-transferable, and that it is available only to eligible consumers and limited to one discount per household. Specifically, New Lisbon will advertise the availability of Lifeline services using the same media outlets as described herein for the advertisement of telephone and internet services and including all required statements pertaining to the availability of Lifeline services. Guidelines for participation in Lifeline will be available on New Lisbon's website and printed materials.

#### Q32. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?

A32. Yes.

### **VERIFICATION**

I, John E. Greene Jr., CEO and General Manager of New Lisbon Broadband and Communications, LLC, affirm under penalties of perjury that the foregoing representations are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Dated: 1/29/21

Ha John K. Greene Jr.

CEØ and General Manager New Lisbon Broadband and Communications, LLC

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Direct Testimony of John E. Greene Jr. in Support of the Expansion of Designated Service Area of New Lisbon Broadband and Communications, LLC as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier has been electronically served upon the following this 1st day of February, 2021:

Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor 115 W. Washington Street, Suite 1500 South Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 infomgt@oucc.in.gov

/s/ Jeremy L. Fetty

Jeremy L. Fetty (26811-06) PARR RICHEY FRANDSEN PATTERSON KRUSE LLP 251 N. Illinois Street, Suite 1800 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 Telephone: (317) 269-2500 Facsimile: (317) 269-2514 Email: jfetty@parrlaw.com

### State of Indiana Office of the Secretary of State

#### CERTIFICATE OF EXISTENCE

To Whom These Presents Come, Greeting:

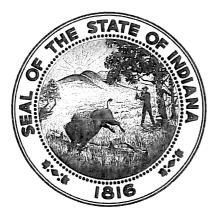
I, CONNIE LAWSON, Secretary of State of Indiana, do hereby certify that I am, by virtue of the laws of the State of Indiana, the custodian of the corporate records and the proper official to execute this certificate.

I further certify that records of this office disclose that

### NEW LISBON BROADBAND AND COMMUNICATIONS, LLC

duly filed the requisite documents to commence business activities under the laws of the State of Indiana on November 18, 2014, and was in existence or authorized to transact business in the State of Indiana on January 29, 2021.

I further certify this Domestic Limited Liability Company has filed its most recent report required by Indiana law with the Secretary of State, or is not yet required to file such report, and that no notice of withdrawal, dissolution, or expiration has been filed or taken place. All fees, taxes, interest, and penalties owed to Indiana by the domestic or foreign entity and collected by the Secretary of State have been paid.



In Witness Whereof, I have caused to be affixed my signature and the seal of the State of Indiana, at the City of Indianapolis, January 29, 2021

Corrie Farmon

CONNIE LAWSON SECRETARY OF STATE

2014111800072 / 20211837875 All certificates should be validated here: https://bsd.sos.in.gov/ValidateCertificate Expires on February 28, 2021.



## **New Lisbon Broadband and Communications**

### **Internet Pricing**

25x25Mbps - \$60.00 50x50Mbps - \$75.00 100x100Mbps - \$85.00 500x500Mbps - \$99.00 1000x1000Mbps - \$149.00

### **Ala Carte Features**

ReadyNet Router - \$5.00 per month Static IP Address - \$10.00 per month Paper Bill Fee - \$1.00 per month

### **Landline Telephone**

\$5.00 per month – per line

### **Long Distance Options**

\$5.00 per month (60 Day Review) \$10.00 per month – Unlimited

### **Telephone Features**

Voicemail - \$5.00Non-Published Number - \$0.50Distinctive Ringing - \$2.50Caller Name Delivery - \$2.50International Block - \$0.00Non-Listed - \$0.00Call Features Package - \$5.00 (Includes the following features)3-Way Calling, Automatic Call Back, Automatic Recall, Call Waiting, Cancel Call Waiting,<br/>Call Forward Busy, Call Forwarding, Caller Number Delivery, Selective Call Rejection

## Wire Maintenance Plan

\$5.00 per month - The plan covers all wiring inside the customer's premise that was installed by NLTC/NLBC, plus any NLTC/NLBC owned equipment that is being leased. Customer owned equipment is not covered. This plan is optional. However, customers who choose to opt out of the plan may be charged appropriate trip charges for maintenance work of premise wiring and associated equipment. Details are included within the agreement.