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Lifeline Re-Certification – FCC Form 555 AHO MURLED

January 13, 2021

Idaho Public Utilities Commission 472 W. Washington Boise, ID 83720

Re: WC Docket No. 14-171 and IPUC Case Number GNR-T-21-01

Fremont Telcom Co. Respectfully submits the attached certifications pursuant to 47 CFR §54.416 (b) and 54.410 (d) as required by the Federal Communication Commission's Lifeline Reform Order. The filing has been electronically filed in accordance Idaho Public Utilities Commission staff guidance.

Please note that Blackfoot is not responsible for recertications of Lifeline consumers in Montana or Idaho. The directions for form 555 specifically direct filers to include data for those subscribers they were responsible for certifying. As National Verifier states, Montana and Idaho, recertifications are administered by USAC.

If you have questions regarding this filing, please contact me by e-mail at <u>mowens@blackfoot.com</u> or by phone at 406-541-5131.

Sincerely,

/s/ Michelle Owens

Michelle Owens Regulatory Specialist/Paralegal Fremont Telcom Co. 1221 N. Russell St. Missoula, MT 59808

cc: USAC High Cost Low Income Division FCC Secretary Annual Lifeline Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Certification Form All carriers must complete all or portions of all sections Form must be submitted to USAC and filed with the Federal Communications Commission

## **IMPORTANT: PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Deadline: January 31st (Annually)

Study Area Code (SAC) An Eligible Telecommunication		Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) certification form for <b>each SAC</b> through which it provides Lifeline service).
2020	ID	Fremont Telcom Co.
Recertification Year	State	ETC Name
N/A		BTC HOLDINGS INC
DBA, Marketing, or Oth If same as ETC name, list "N/		Holding Company Name (If same as ETC name, list "N/A" Do not leave blank)

Provide a list of all ETCs that are affiliated with the reporting ETC, using page 4 and additional sheets if necessary. Affiliation shall be determined in accordance with Section 3(2) of the Communications Act. That Section defines "affiliate" as "a person that (directly or indirectly) owns or controls, is owned or controlled by, or is under common ownership or control with, another person." 47 U.S.C. § 153(2). See also 47 C.F.R. § 76.1200.

Affiliated ETC's SAC	Affiliated ETC's Name

## ETCs Subject to the Non-Usage Requirements

All ETCs must complete the appropriate check-box. ETCs that do not assess and collect a monthly fee from their Lifeline subscribers are subject to the non-usage requirements. ETCs subject to the non-usage requirements must indicate the number of subscribers de-enrolled by month in Section 4. ETCs that only assess a fee but do not collect such fees are subject to the non-usage requirements and must also indicate the number of subscribers de-enrolled by month.

#### Is the ETC subject to the non-usage requirements?

Yes 🖸 No 🙆

If yes, record the number of subscribers de-enrolled for non-usage by month in Block Q below.

P	Q
Month	Subscribers De-Enrolled for Non-Usage
January	0
February	0
March	0
April	0
May	0
June	0
July	0
August	0
September	0
October	0
November	0
December	0
Total Subscribers	0

For purposes of this filing, an officer is an occupant of a position listed in the article of incorporation, articles of formation, or other similar legal document. An officer is a person who occupies a position specified in the corporate by-laws (or partnership agreement), and would typically be president, vice president for operations, vice president for finance, comptroller, treasurer, or a comparable position. If the filer is a sole proprietorship, the owner must sign the certification.

## Initial Certification All ETCs must complete this section

I certify that the company listed above has certification procedures in place to:

- A) Review income and program-based eligibility documentation prior to enrolling a consumer in the Lifeline program, and that, to the best of my knowledge, the company was presented with documentation of each consumer's household income and/or program-based eligibility prior to his or her enrollment in Lifeline; and/or
- B) Confirm consumer eligibility by relying upon access to a state database and/or notice of eligibility from the state Lifeline administrator prior to enrolling a consumer in the Lifeline program.

I am an officer of the company named above. I am authorized to make this certification for the Study Area Code listed above.

sm Initial

## **Annual Recertification**

Do not leave empty blocks. If an ETC has nothing to report in a block, enter a zero.

Report the number of Lifeline subscribers due for recertification by month (January-December)

- A. Subscribers eligible for recertification by anniversary month
- B. Subscribers de-enrolled prior to recertification attempts
- C. Total number of subscribers ETC is responsible for recertifying (A-B)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year Total
А.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
В.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
C.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

#### **Recertification Methods**

#### State of federal database

D. Subscribers recertified through ETC access to state or federal database by anniversary month

Report the number of eligible subscribers verified through access to a state or federal database.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year Total
D.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

E. Name of the data source(s) used to verify consumer eligibility:

#### **ETC Direct Contact**

F. Subscribers contacted by ETC directly to recertify (You may also use this section to report subscriber initiated recertifications).

Report the number of Lifeline subscribers the ETC contacted directly to obtain recertification of eligibility

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year Total
F.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

G. Subscribers who failed to recertify through ETC direct outreach attempt

Report the number of Lifeline subscribers de-enrolled due to ineligibility or non-response to the ETC's outreach attempt.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year Total
G.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

#### H. Subscribers who recertified through ETC direct outreach attempt

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year Total
H.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Report the number of Lifeline subscribers that successfully recertified through ETC's outreach attempt

#### **Third Party**

I. Subscribers whose eligibility was reviewed by state administrator, third party administrator, or USAC

#### Report the number of Lifeline subscribers contacted by a state administrator, third party administrator, or USAC for the purpose of recertification.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year Total
I.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

J. Name of third party administrator used to verify subscriber eligibility:

K. Subscribers de-enrolled as a result of a third party recertification attempt

Report the number of subscribers as a result of ineligibility or non-response to outreach from a state administrator, third party administrator, or USAC.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year Total
K.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

L. Subscribers who recertified through a state administrator, third party administrator, or USAC's recertification effort

Repor	Report the number of subscribers that recertified through a request from a state administrator, third party administrator, or USAC												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
				-					_				Total
L.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	$\cap$
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	U	U	0	U	U	U

Report the number of subscribers that recertified through a request from a state administrator, third party administrator, or USAC

## **Certification:**

#### **Recertification Method: Database**

I certify that the company listed above has procedures in place to recertify consumer eligibility by relying on a database. I am an officer of the company named above. I am authorized to make this certification for the SAC(s) listed above.

Initial \_\_\_\_\_

## **Recertification Method: ETC**

I certify that the company listed above has procedures in place to recertify the continued eligibility of all of its Lifeline subscribers, and that, to the best of my knowledge, the company obtained signed certifications from all subscribers attesting to their continuing eligibility for Lifeline. I am an officer of the company named above. I am authorized to make this certification for the SAC(s) listed above.

Initial \_\_\_\_\_

## **Recertification Method: Third Party**

I certify that the company listed above has procedures in place to recertify consumer eligibility by relying on an administrator. I am an officer of the company named above. I am authorized to make this certification for the SAC(s) listed above.

Initial

## No Subscribers

I certify that my company did not claim federal low income support for any Lifeline subscribers for the current Form 555 data year. I am an officer of the company named above. I am authorized to make this certification for the SAC listed above.

Initial SM

M = (G+K)	$\mathbf{N} = (\mathbf{D} + \mathbf{F} + \mathbf{I})$	$\mathbf{O} = \mathbf{M}/\mathbf{N}^*100$
Total number of subscribers de-enrolled as a result of recertification	Total number of subscribers ETC is responsible for recertifying	Percent of subscribers due for recertification who were de-enrolled
0	0	0.0%

## **Signature Block**

By signing below, I certify that the company listed above is in compliance with all federal Lifeline certification procedures. I am an officer of the company named above. I am authorized to make this certification for the Study Area Code (SAC) listed above.

Signed, Stacey Mueller CFO

Signature of Officer smueller@blackfoot.com Email Address of Officer Michelle Owens Person Completing This Certification Form

## **Stacey Mueller CFO**

Printed Name and Title of Officer Jan 12, 2021

Date 406-541-5131

Contact Phone Number

# Affiliated ETCs

SAC	Name
482235	Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative Inc.
483308	Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative Inc.