

TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN

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May 29, 2012

Ms. Mary Jo Kunkle  
Executive Secretary  
Michigan Public Service Commission  
6545 Mercantile Way  
P.O. Box 30221  
Lansing, MI 48909

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MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

RE: Surrender of ETC license by Drenthe Telephone Company - MPSC Case No. U-11548

Dear Ms. Kunkle:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced case is the Relinquishment by Drenthe Telephone Company of its designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

Michael A. Holmes

Enclosures

cc: Darren Moser  
Mike Osborne  
Cynthia Sweet

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MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

**State of Michigan**

**Before the Michigan Public Service Commission**

In the matter of the Application of ) MPSC Case No. U-11548  
ALLENDALE TELEPHONE COMPANY )  
for certification as an eligible telecommunications )  
carrier for universal service purposes. )

**DRENTHÉ TELEPHONE COMPANY'S  
RELINQUISHMENT OF  
ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER STATUS**

Allendale Telephone Company ("Allendale"), as successor to Drenthe Telephone Company ("Drenthe"), and pursuant to 47 USC 214(e)(4), 47 CFR 54.205, and §§201 and 203 of the Michigan Telecommunications Act ("MTA"), hereby notifies the Michigan Public Service Commission ("Commission") of the relinquishment of the status of Drenthe Telephone Company as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC"). In support of this filing, Allendale states as follows:

1. Drenthe was licensed to provide and was providing basic local exchange service, in an area known as the Drenthe exchange, by virtue of the Commission's August 14, 1992 Order in Case No. U-10054. Drenthe was a wholly-owned subsidiary of Allendale.

2. Drenthe also received designation as an ETC in the Drenthe exchange by virtue of the Commission's November 25, 1997 Order in this docket. The Commission has further approved Drenthe for receipt of Universal Service Fund support on numerous occasions, including most recently in its minute action of September 13, 2011 in Case No. U-16576. Drenthe's study area code, assigned by the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") is 310692.

3. In its Orders dated August 29, 2011 and October 4, 2011, respectively, in Case No. U-16835, the Commission granted Allendale a license to provide local exchange service in the Drenthe exchange. In Case No. U-16894 in an Order dated December 6, 2011, the Commission granted ETC status to Allendale in the Drenthe exchange.

4. Allendale's license and ETC requests were prompted by the May 25, 2011 approvals of the respective Boards of Directors of Allendale and Drenthe to consolidate Drenthe into Allendale with Allendale the only surviving legal entity and to have Allendale provide local exchange service and other telecommunications services to residential and business customers in the Drenthe exchange, with Drenthe ceasing to provide such service.

5. Since Drenthe was a wholly-owned subsidiary of Allendale, the consolidation of Drenthe into Allendale is a proforma transaction for which FCC approval was not required under 47 USC §214.

6. As a result of the consolidation, Drenthe no longer owns any telecommunications facilities, and no longer provides local exchange service to any customers, in the Drenthe exchange. Allendale owns the telecommunications facilities formerly owned and used by Drenthe to provide local exchange service, and Allendale has provided such service to former Drenthe customers in the Drenthe exchange using such facilities since October 4, 2011.

7. The Federal Telecommunications Act states:

A State commission (or the Commission in the case of a common carrier designated under paragraph (6)) shall permit an eligible telecommunications carrier to relinquish its designation as such a carrier in any area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier. An eligible telecommunications carrier that seeks to relinquish its eligible telecommunications carrier designation for an area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier shall give advance notice to the State commission (or the Commission in the case of a common carrier designated under paragraph (6)) of such relinquishment. Prior to

permitting a telecommunications carrier designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier to cease providing universal service in an area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier, the State commission (or the Commission in the case of a common carrier designated under paragraph (6)) shall require the remaining eligible telecommunications carrier or carriers to ensure that all customers served by the relinquishing carrier will continue to be served, and shall require sufficient notice to permit the purchase or construction of adequate facilities by any remaining eligible telecommunications carrier. 47 USC 214(e)(4); Accord, 47 CFR 54.205.

8. With its filings in Case Nos. U-16835 and U-16894, Allendale has already made representations to the Commission regarding its commitment to serve the Drenthe exchange customers. Because Allendale is using the telecommunications facilities formerly used by Drenthe to serve the Drenthe exchange, Allendale is not aware of any immediate need for the purchase or construction of facilities by Allendale or any other ETC to serve the Drenthe exchange.

9. Drenthe may, under 47 USC 214(e)(4), relinquish its ETC designation in Michigan. This “advance notice to the commission” therefore completes all requirements under federal law, and the Commission should accept Drenthe’s relinquishment.

10. Because Drenthe is relinquishing its certification as an ETC, and will not be seeking high cost or other support for additional periods going forward, including the 2012 funding year, Drenthe will not be filing further annual ETC reports with the Commission, including the annual ETC report due on June 1, 2012.

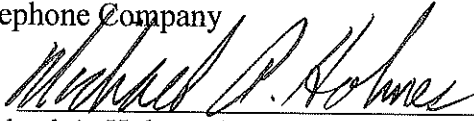
11. This Notice may be accepted and the requested order issued without the time and expense of a hearing under § 203(1) of the MTA. Neither the MTA nor any other law requires a hearing.

## **CONCLUSION**

Wherefore, Drenthe , having fulfilled the requirements of Federal law, respectfully requests that the Michigan Public Service Commission accept the relinquishment of its ETC designation.

Respectfully submitted,

Telecommunications Association of Michigan  
on behalf of its member company, Allendale  
Telephone Company as successor to Drenthe  
Telephone Company

By:   
Michael A. Holmes (P24071)

Dated: May 29, 2012

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