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January 5, 2021

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LA Public Service Commission

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VIA HAND DELIVERY

Brandon Frey, Executive Secretary
Louisiana Public Service Commission
Galvez Building – 12th Floor
602 North Fifth Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

Re: Docket No.: S-_____ *Charter Fiberlink LA-CCO, LLC, Ex Parte*
In re: Application for Designation As An Eligible Telecommunications Carrier To Receive Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Auction (Auction 904) Support For Voice And Broadband Services. Request for Expedited Consideration

Dear Secretary Frey:

We represent Charter Fiberlink LA-CCO, LLC (“Charter”) in the submission of its application to the LPSC for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier to Receive Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Auction (Auction 904) Support for Voice and Broadband Services. We enclose the original and two copies of Charter’s Application and Exhibits:

1. *Application Of Charter Fiberlink LA-CCO, LLC, for Designation As An Eligible Telecommunications Carrier To Receive Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Auction (Auction 904) Support For Voice And Broadband Services, With Request for Expedited Consideration;*
2. *Exhibit A – List of Census Blocks Where Charter Fiberlink LA-CCO, LLC was Assigned RDOF Auction Support;*
3. *Exhibit B – Louisiana Map of Census Blocks Where Charter Fiberlink LA-CCO, LLC was assigned RDOF Auction Support;*
4. *Exhibit C – Charter’s Certificate of Good Standing from the Louisiana Secretary of State;*
5. *Exhibit D – Charter’s Authorization to Provide Competitive Local Exchange Services in Louisiana;*
6. *Exhibit E – Charter Investment information (filed under seal pursuant to Commission Rule 12.1);*
7. *Exhibit F – Charter’s Certification. The Certification attached is a copy. The original will be filed with the Commission under separate cover.*

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Brandon Frey, Executive Secretary
Louisiana Public Service Commission
January 5, 2021

Exhibit E to the Application is being filed under seal pursuant to Commission Rule 12.1. The unredacted Exhibit E is attached to this application in a fully sealed envelope appropriately marked pursuant to Commission Rule 12.1. We have also included a fully redacted version of Exhibit E.

Please note that Charter submits this Application with a request for expedited consideration.

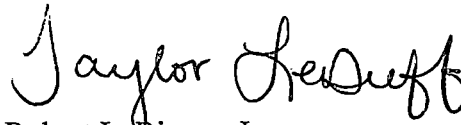
We request that this Application be published in the Commission's *Official Bulletin No. 1236* scheduled for release on January 8, 2021, with a 15-day intervention period. We have attached our firm check in the amount of \$250 to cover the required filing costs.

We have attached an additional copy of this Application and request that it be file-stamped and returned to our courier.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely yours,

ADAMS AND REESE LLP



Robert L. Rieger, Jr.

Grant J. Guillot

Susan N. Eccles

Taylor LeDuff

RLR/lba

Enclosure

BEFORE THE
LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CHARTER FIBERLINK LA-CCO, LLC, *EX PARTE*.

DOCKET No.: _____

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JAN 05 2021

LA Public Service Commission

In Re: Application of Charter Fiberlink LA-CCO, LLC for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier to Receive Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Auction (Auction 904) Support for Voice and Broadband Services

**CHARTER FIBERLINK LA-CCO, LLC'S APPLICATION
FOR DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER TO
RECEIVE RURAL DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY FUND (AUCTION 904) SUPPORT FOR
VOICE AND BROADBAND SERVICES
WITH REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION**

NOW BEFORE THE LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
("Commission" or "LPSC") comes Charter Fiberlink LA-CCO, LLC ("Charter Fiberlink" or "Company"), who hereby submits this Application (the "Application") for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") to the Commission pursuant to Section 214(e)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the "Act"),¹ Sections 54.201 and 54.202 of the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"),² and the Orders of this Commission. CCO Holdings, LLC ("CCO Holdings"), an affiliate of Charter Fiberlink, was selected as a winning bidder in Louisiana³ under the FCC's Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Phase

¹ 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2).

² 47 C.F.R §§ 54.201 and 54.202.

³ See *Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Phase I Auction (Auction 904) Closes; Winning Bidders Announced; FCC Form 683 Due January 29, 2021*, Public Notice, DA 20-1422 (Dec. 7, 2020) ("*Auction 904 Results Notice*").

I Auction (Auction 904) (“RDOF Auction”),⁴ and CCO Holdings assigned its winning bid to Charter Fiberlink in the RDOF Census Blocks identified in **Exhibit A** (“RDOF Census Blocks”). A map illustrating the RDOF Census Blocks is attached at **Exhibit B**. Charter Fiberlink’s receipt of RDOF Auction funding and building to these unserved areas, however, is conditioned upon Charter Fiberlink obtaining designation as an ETC in those RDOF Census Blocks.⁵ Accordingly, Charter Fiberlink seeks ETC designation in the RDOF Census Blocks in Louisiana for which Charter Fiberlink was assigned CCO Holdings’ winning bids in the RDOF Auction.

Section 214(e)(2) of the Act authorizes the Commission to designate a company that meets the requirements of 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1), such as Charter Fiberlink, as an ETC. As demonstrated in this Application, Charter Fiberlink meets all requirements for ETC designation. Charter Fiberlink’s designation as an ETC in the RDOF Census Blocks would allow Charter Fiberlink, either directly or through its affiliates,⁶ to bring high-quality, innovative voice and broadband Internet access services to consumers in unserved portions of Louisiana, advance the goals of universal service, provide greater internet connectivity to the citizenry residing in rural areas, and is in the public interest.

Ensuring that high-speed broadband service is available to those without access to it in Louisiana has been a major priority of the Governor. By granting this Application, the Commission has the potential to bring significant public and private investment to Louisiana and to advance the state’s goals in making sure that more of its citizens have access to high speed

⁴ See *Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Phase I Auction Scheduled for October 29, 2020; Notice and Filing Requirements and Other Procedures for Auction 904*, Public Notice, 35 FCC Rcd 6077 (2020) (“*Auction 904 Procedures Public Notice*”).

⁵ See *Auction 904 Results Notice*, at ¶ 36.

⁶ While the entity seeking ETC designation will directly provide the supported Lifeline voice services, different Charter affiliated entities may directly provide the broadband Internet access services and non-Lifeline voice services in the RDOF Census Blocks.

broadband Internet access services. The FCC estimates that Louisiana has more than 175,692 unserved residential and small business locations,⁷ and granting this Application will help to lower that number substantially. While Charter Fiberlink, through other Charter affiliates, has participated in state programs to advance broadband buildout in Louisiana, participation through RDOF presents a unique opportunity for Louisiana to do substantially more to help bridge the digital divide in unserved areas.

Charter Fiberlink requests accelerated evaluation and consideration of this Application by the Commission and that the Commission render a final Order granting this Application on or before April 15, 2021.

In support of this Application, Charter Fiberlink states as follows:

I. COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

Pleadings, orders, notices or other correspondence and communications regarding this Application should be provided to:

Daniel Gonzalez
Group VP – State Regulatory Affairs
Charter Communications, Inc.
601 Massachusetts Ave.
Suite 400 West
Washington, DC 20001
Tel: (202) 370-4282
Email: Dan.Gonzalez@charter.com

And

⁷ See *Auction 904 Results Notice*, at Attachment B, p. 1. The FCC defines “locations” as “housing units” and “small businesses” that receive “consumer-grade broadband service.” See *Wireline Competition Bureau Provides Guidance to Carriers Receiving Connect America Fund Support Regarding Their Broadband Location Reporting Obligations*, Public Notice, WC Docket No. 10-90, DA 16-1363 (2016).

Michael R. Moore
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II. BACKGROUND.

Charter Fiberlink. Charter Fiberlink is a Delaware limited liability company with a place of business at 12405 Powerscourt Drive, St. Louis, Missouri 63131. Charter Fiberlink is a majority owned and wholly controlled subsidiary of Charter Communications, Inc. (“Charter”), which is headquartered at 400 Atlantic Street, Stamford, Connecticut 06901. CCO Holdings and Charter Fiberlink are both subsidiaries of Charter. A copy of Charter Fiberlink’s Certificate of Good

Standing with the Louisiana Secretary of State is attached as **Exhibit C**. Charter Fiberlink is authorized by the Commission to provide local exchange telecommunications services in Louisiana under LPSC issued TSP00547. A copy of Charter Fiberlink's authorization is attached as **Exhibit D**.

Charter. Charter is a leading broadband connectivity company, serving more than 30 million customers nationwide. Under the brand name Spectrum, the company offers a suite of advanced communications services, including broadband Internet access, cable video, voice, and mobile services.⁸ Through its subsidiaries, Charter provides these services in 41 states, including to approximately 141,000 customers in Louisiana.

Helping to drive Charter's rapid growth is Charter's strong network investment which has significantly enhanced Charter's broadband Internet access service and allowed Charter to better serve its customers in both urban and rural communities across the United States. In 2018-2019, Charter extended its network to more than 1.5 million unserved homes and businesses, 30% of which were in rural areas. And, from 2015 to 2019, Charter invested nearly \$40 billion in infrastructure and technology to expand the reach of its network.

Charter's customers directly benefit from Charter's commitment to and investment in its network. The FCC recently reported that Charter had one of the fastest, most consistent broadband Internet download speeds in the industry, including at peak times of the day when customer

⁸ Certain of the subjects and benefits discussed in this filing pertain to non-jurisdictional products and services. While those items are included herein in order to provide a comprehensive view of the public interest benefits of designating Charter Fiberlink as an ETC, Charter Fiberlink respectfully reserves all rights relating to the inclusion of or reference to such information, including without limitation Charter Fiberlink's legal and equitable rights relating to jurisdiction, filing, disclosure, relevancy, due process, review, and appeal.

Internet usage is the highest.⁹ Additionally, recognizing Charter’s experience and commitment to its customers, its network, and its products, *Multichannel News* recently awarded Charter as its “Operator of the Year for 2020.”¹⁰ With millions working and learning from home due to the COVID-19 pandemic, access to dependable, high-speed broadband Internet access services and reliable voice services has never been more important, especially in the unserved areas comprising the RDOF Census Blocks. Further, Charter’s network investment has spurred the development of products such as Charter’s Spectrum Mobile service, which relies on the use of the Verizon Wireless mobile network and Charter’s own broadband network infrastructure to provide fast, reliable broadband and voice services from customers’ mobile phones.

Charter is committed to being part of a comprehensive solution to close the digital divide throughout the United States. With more than \$1.2 billion in RDOF funding awarded to the company across the country, Charter plans to continue its efforts as a leader in rural broadband deployment, bringing innovative, high-quality voice and broadband Internet access service offerings to unserved communities, including in Louisiana. In fact, according to the FCC, it assigned Charter the most locations of any provider that participated in the RDOF Auction.

⁹ See *Ninth Measuring Broadband America Fixed Broadband Report, A Report on Consumer Fixed Broadband Performance in the United States*, FCC Office of Engineering and Technology (Aug. 3, 2020), pp. 15-16.

¹⁰ See *Cover Story: Charter’s ‘Giffen Good,’* MultiChannel News (Sept. 28, 2020), <https://www.nexttv.com/features/cover-story-charters-giffen-good#:~:text=Charter%2C%20the%20Multichannel%20News%20Operator%20of%20the%20Year,it%20completed%20the%20purchase%20of%20Time%20Warner%20Cable> (last visited Dec. 13, 2020) (stating that Charter “has managed record broadband and positive video subscriber growth during the pandemic by sticking to its game plan, initiated more than four years ago ... [including setting] out to make Charter’s plant across its 41-state footprint fully digital (achieved in 2018), to roll out DOCSIS 3.1 (completed in 2018), to uniformly align products and packaging across all markets (as of Q4 2019, 85% of its customers were in Spectrum pricing and packaging) and to raise broadband speeds (in 2019, it raised the minimum speed to 200 Megabits per second for 60% of the footprint and that rate continues to grow; the remaining 40% are at 100 Mbps).”).

Additional information discussing Charter's RDOF funding in Louisiana is described at **Exhibit E**, which is being provided to the Commission in accordance with *Rule 12.1* of the Commission's *Rules of Practices and Procedures*.

A. RDOF Support Assigned to Charter Fiberlink Will Enable Charter to Extend Voice Services to the RDOF Census Blocks.

Charter provides voice communications services to over 9.3 million residential customers throughout its 41-state footprint using interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol technology.¹¹ Charter's voice service offering includes unlimited long distance calling in the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, and Guam. Calling features include voicemail, call waiting, caller ID, call forwarding, and other features, at no additional charge. In addition, the E911 feature automatically provides the emergency service operator with a caller's phone number and location. With respect to its residential voice services, Charter offers customers a simplified pricing structure with plans that include *all* applicable fees¹² – thus permitting such customers to know their total costs in advance of choosing Charter's services, rather than facing a variety of complicated surcharges after they receive their first billing statement.¹³

The RDOF support assigned to Charter Fiberlink will help enable it to extend and maintain Charter's voice services to and within the RDOF Census Blocks.

¹¹ See Press Release, Charter Communications, Inc., *Charter Announces Third Quarter 2020 Results* (Oct. 30, 2020), <https://corporate.charter.com/newsroom/charter-announces-third-quarter-2020-results>.

¹² The rates, terms and conditions of Charter's voice service plans are subject to change in accordance with applicable federal and state regulations.

¹³ Charter Fiberlink remits fees, such as federal or state universal service fund fees or E911 fees, to the appropriate regulatory agencies, where required, and in accordance with law, but does not generally collect them as separate line items on the bill, in addition to the monthly rate that residential customers pay for Charter Fiberlink's voice service. All such fees are described in Charter Fiberlink's invoices for voice service in accordance with applicable federal and state billing requirements.

B. RDOF Support Assigned to Charter Fiberlink Will Enable Charter to Extend Broadband Internet Access Services to the Louisiana RDOF Census Blocks.

Charter's broadband Internet access services deliver industry-leading speeds to the vast majority of its 26.8 million residential broadband Internet customers.¹⁴ Charter now offers minimum download speeds of at least 200 Mbps in 60% of Charter's national footprint, and 100 Mbps everywhere else in the footprint—including households and small businesses in rural areas. On December 17, 2020, Charter announced that it plans to double Charter's broadband Internet access service starting speeds in 17 U.S. markets, making 200 Mbps the starting flagship speed in 75% of Charter's communities. These speed enhancements will be available to new customers immediately. Existing customers will receive these speed increases with new Charter broadband Internet access service packages during the first quarter of 2021.¹⁵

Charter also offers a 1 Gbps connection with maximum download speeds of up to 940 Mbps to the vast majority of those same households, as well as to small and medium-sized businesses.¹⁶ Additionally, recognizing the need for fast, reliable broadband service for community anchor institutions, Charter offers 10 Gbps symmetrical speed broadband Internet connections to schools, libraries, hospitals, and other important community institutions.

The RDOF support assigned to Charter Fiberlink will enable it to extend Charter's broadband Internet access services to the RDOF Census Blocks in Louisiana. The terms of the support assigned to Charter Fiberlink will require it to offer Charter's 1 Gbps connections in the RDOF Census Blocks. According to the FCC, these areas are currently unserved by any broadband provider offering service at or above 25/3 Mbps. Granting this Application will help extend

¹⁴ See *supra* note 11.

¹⁵ See Press Release, Charter Communications, Inc., *Spectrum Doubles Spectrum Internet Starting Speed to 200 Mbps in 17 Markets* (Dec. 17, 2020), <https://corporate.charter.com/newsroom/spectrum-doubles-internet-starting-speed-to-200-mbps>.

¹⁶ See *supra* note 11.

broadband and unleash tremendous benefits to the communities within these RDOF Census Blocks. Charter's broadband deployment demonstrates its commitment to developing and deploying innovative broadband technology and services in unserved and/or rural areas. Additionally, Charter's services will provide new and innovative services to previously unserved customers in those RDOF Census Blocks including by providing relief to customers struggling as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. It will allow students and households to get or stay connected, and expand broadband Internet access and adoption among low-income households.

As part of its current broadband Internet access service plans, Charter offers *Spectrum Internet Assist*, a program for low-income households, which is available in its service area in Louisiana and elsewhere.¹⁷ Charter does not require customers to sign long-term contracts for its services nor does the company impose early termination fees for failing to fulfill them.¹⁸ Charter maintains a focus on ensuring that the broadband user experience is a positive one.¹⁹

III. CHARTER FIBERLINK'S PROPOSED PARTICIPATION IN THE FCC'S RDOF AUCTION.

A. Background on the RDOF Auction.

On February 7, 2020, the FCC issued a Report and Order establishing the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund, in which service providers would compete to receive up to \$20.4 billion to offer

¹⁷ See *Spectrum Internet Assist*, Spectrum, <https://www.spectrum.com/browse/content/spectrum-internet-assist> (last visited Nov. 24, 2020). The rates, terms and conditions of Charter's *Spectrum Internet Assist* program are subject to change.

¹⁸ The rates, terms and conditions of Charter's Internet services are subject to change.

¹⁹ In the years ahead, cable providers will deploy revolutionary 10 Gbps networks within their footprints. See Press Release, NCTA, *Introducing 10G: The Next Great Leap for Broadband* (Jan. 7, 2019), <https://www.ncta.com/media/mediar-room/introducing-10g>. Successful 10 Gbps field tests by cable providers in residential settings have already occurred, and CableLabs has released specifications for DOCSIS 4.0, a new technical standard, to bring 10 Gbps speed capabilities to consumers. 10 Gbps will deliver to customers broadband speeds 10 times faster than what is delivered by today's networks and will have the speed and capacity to change the way we live.

voice and broadband services in unserved high-cost areas.²⁰ Under this program the FCC will disburse federal universal service funds on a technology neutral basis to providers—including competitive local exchange carriers, cable operators, fixed wireless ISPs, satellite broadband providers, electric co-ops and electric utilities—for deploying voice and broadband-capable networks in these unserved areas.

B. CCO Holdings’ Selection as a Winning Bidder and Assignment to Charter Fiberlink.

The FCC’s December 7, 2020 *Auction 904 Results Notice* announced that CCO Holdings was among the winners of the recently concluded RDOF Auction.²¹ Specifically, the FCC announced CCO Holdings as a winning bidder in 2,389 Census Blocks in Louisiana. In accordance with the FCC’s procedures allowing winning bidders to divide and assign their bids to affiliated operating companies within the relevant state,²² CCO Holdings assigned its winning bid in Louisiana to Charter Fiberlink. Charter Fiberlink must demonstrate to the FCC that it has been designated as an ETC in the RDOF Census Blocks where CCO Holdings was the winning bidder in Louisiana. The FCC’s deadline for Charter Fiberlink to submit appropriate documentation of the ETC designation is June 7, 2021.²³

IV. CHARTER FIBERLINK’S FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS.

Charter is one of the nation’s leading providers of broadband Internet access services and voice services, and Charter has played a significant role in expanding the availability of these services—especially broadband Internet access services—across the United States. Indeed, Charter Fiberlink and its affiliates currently provide high-quality voice and broadband services to

²⁰ *Rural Digital Opportunity Fund*, Report and Order, 35 FCC Rcd 686 (2020) (“*RDOF Order*”).

²¹ See *Auction 904 Results Notice*, at Attachment A, p. 4.

²² See *Auction 904 Procedures Public Notice*, at ¶ 43.

²³ See *Auction 904 Results Notice*, at ¶ 36.

approximately 26.8 million residential Internet access service customers and 9.3 million residential voice service customers in 41 states, including many in rural and “high cost” areas.

Charter Fiberlink is highly qualified to meet the FCC’s RDOF service obligations given Charter’s proven track record of financial, managerial, technical and commercial success operating as an existing provider of broadband Internet and voice services. In 2019, Charter generated over \$45 billion in revenue from the provision of all of Charter’s services, along with approximately \$6.5 billion in income from its operations.²⁴ Charter Fiberlink will draw upon Charter’s financial capability and extensive teams of experienced engineers with expertise in the fields of communications technology, hardware design, software development, data analytics, and networking to construct and/or install the networks and infrastructure necessary to provide the required services in the RDOF Census Blocks. Additionally, Charter Fiberlink will leverage the significant operational, managerial and technical expertise of Charter to perform all billing, installation, customer service, and other matters related to providing its services in Louisiana. The Charter corporate family has extensive experience managing the technical and customer service-related issues associated with the provision of mass-market consumer voice and broadband Internet access (as well as other communications services). Charter monitors its network performance on a 24/7/365 basis and has implemented procedures to leverage its extensive engineering resources quickly and effectively to install, modify, repair, and/or restore services, as necessary.

This expertise made it possible for CCO Holdings to confidently participate in the RDOF auction with the certainty that Charter Fiberlink will be able to fulfill its RDOF network and service obligations.

²⁴ 2019 Annual Report. Charter Communications, Inc., 2019. <https://ir.charter.com/financial-information/annual-reports>

V. CHARTER FIBERLINK FULFILLS THE STATUTORY AND REGULATORY PREREQUISITES FOR ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER DESIGNATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL AND LOUISIANA LAW.

Charter Fiberlink meets all applicable federal and state requirements for designation as an ETC in Louisiana, including 47 U.S.C. § 214(e) and 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.201 *et seq.*, in that Charter Fiberlink:

A. Charter Fiberlink is a Common Carrier.

For purposes of its ETC designation, Charter Fiberlink will operate as a common carrier and offer interstate and intrastate communications on a common carrier basis in the RDOF Census Blocks. Designation as an ETC is a predicate to Charter Fiberlink's eligibility to receive RDOF support to provide voice and broadband Internet services in the RDOF Census Blocks (47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1); 47 C.F.R. § 9.3; 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(d)).

B. Charter Fiberlink is a Facilities-Based Telecommunications Provider.

Charter is a facilities-based broadband Internet access and voice service provider, with its own network, gateways, switching facilities, and other associated facilities. Charter Fiberlink will offer the RDOF supported services using its own facilities within the meaning of the FCC's rules or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's services (47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1)(A); 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(d)(1)) within the RDOF Census Blocks. In Louisiana, Charter Fiberlink is authorized to provide voice services as a competitive local exchange carrier by virtue of LPSC-issued TSP00547.

C. Charter Fiberlink Offers the Services Supported by Federal Universal Service Support Mechanisms.

As required by 47 C.F.R. § 54.101, Charter Fiberlink, either directly or through an affiliate, will offer voice services and broadband Internet access services supported by federal universal service support mechanisms, including the following capabilities within the RDOF Census Blocks:²⁵

Voice Grade Access to the Public Switched Telephone Network – Charter Fiberlink meets this requirement through the provision of a competitive voice service that includes minutes of use for local service provided at no charge to end users and access to emergency services via 911 or E911, wherever available from local government or public safety organizations.²⁶ Toll limitation services will also be offered to qualifying low income consumers as provided in the FCC’s rules (47 C.F.R. § 54.101(a)(1)) in the RDOF Census Blocks.

Broadband Internet Access Service – Charter’s broadband Internet access service provides 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 the communications service (47 C.F.R. § 54.101(a)(2)).

Charter Fiberlink commits that these services will be provided consistent with applicable high-cost universal service support rules (47 C.F.R. § 54.101(c)) in the RDOF Census Blocks. Charter Fiberlink will also ensure that Lifeline voice and broadband Internet services are offered in accordance with the FCC’s rules in all Census Blocks where Charter Fiberlink has been assigned RDOF support (47 C.F.R. § 54.101(d)). Moreover, for its Lifeline voice service offering, Charter

²⁵ Charter’s broadband Internet access and voice services are provided through subsidiaries controlled and majority owned by Charter. While the entity seeking ETC designation will directly provide the supported Lifeline voice services, different Charter affiliated entities may directly provide the broadband Internet access services and non-Lifeline voice services in the RDOF Census Blocks.

²⁶ See Section II(A) of this Application for a detailed description of Charter’s voice service.

Fiberlink will offer to Lifeline-eligible customers a Charter voice service plan, as described above, at the discounted Lifeline voice service rate in the RDOF Census Blocks. This voice service plan is comparable (if not superior) to the Lifeline voice service offerings of other Lifeline providers in Louisiana.

Charter Fiberlink will offer its voice service as a standalone service and at rates that are reasonably comparable to urban rates (47 U.S.C. § 254(b)(3); 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(3)) in the RDOF Census Blocks.²⁷

D. Charter Fiberlink Will Provide the Supported Services Throughout Its Assigned RDOF Census Blocks.

Charter Fiberlink will provide the supported services throughout its assigned RDOF Auction awarded Census Blocks (47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1); 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(d)).

E. Charter Fiberlink Will Advertise the Availability of Its Universal Service Offerings and Charges for Such Offerings Using Media of General Distribution.

In the RDOF Census Blocks, Charter Fiberlink will advertise the availability of its universal service offerings and charges for such offerings using media of general distribution (47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1)(B); 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(d)(2)), and in a manner reasonably designed to reach those likely to qualify for the service (47 C.F.R. § 54.405(b)).

F. Charter Fiberlink Will Make Available Supported Services the RDOF Census Blocks.

Charter Fiberlink will provide the supported services throughout the designated RDOF Auction assigned Census Blocks where it has customers (47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(1); 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(d)).

²⁷ See RDOF Order, at ¶ 42.

G. Charter Fiberlink Will Use Federal Universal Service Support Only for Intended Purposes.

Charter Fiberlink certifies that, in accordance with 47 U.S.C. § 254(e) and 47 C.F.R. § 54.7(a), it will use federal universal service support only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the universal service support is intended.

H. Charter Fiberlink Meets All the Applicable Requirements Under 47 C.F.R. § 54.202.

Charter Fiberlink further certifies that it meets all of the applicable requirements for designation as an ETC²⁸ under 47 C.F.R. § 54.202 as follows and will comply with these requirements in the RDOF Census Blocks:

Compliance with Applicable Service Requirements. Charter Fiberlink certifies that it will comply with the service requirements applicable to the support that it receives,²⁹ including the requirements of the RDOF Auction.

Ability to Remain Functional in Emergency Situations. Charter has been providing voice and broadband Internet access services to customers on a 24/7/365 basis for almost twenty years. As part of providing these services, it is necessary to have in place contingency plans for emergency situations for each of Charter's major network hubs and/or facilities that are geographically distributed across the United States. These plans contain activation, staffing, escalation, and communication procedures to identify and respond to such emergencies. Additionally, all switching facilities are equipped with independent power generators and sufficient fuel to operate for several days to mitigate commercial power outages. The design of

²⁸ The FCC waived the requirement for a winning bidder to file a five-year plan (47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a)(1)(ii)) and to demonstrate that it will satisfy applicable consumer protection and service quality standings (47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a)(3)). *WCB Reminds Connect America Fund Phase II Applicants of the Process for Obtaining Federal Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier*, WC Docket Nos. 09-197, 10-90, Public Notice, DA 18-714, at 4-5 (rel. July 10, 2018) ("*FCC ETC Procedures Notices*").

²⁹ 47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a)(1)(i).

these facilities contains multiple levels of redundancy and autonomy that also mitigate the need for dedicated human interaction. Charter Fiberlink will apply this successful model to its RDOF services in the RDOF Census Blocks in Louisiana.

VI. DESIGNATION OF CHARTER FIBERLINK AS AN ETC IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST CONSISTENT WITH FEDERAL AND LOUISIANA LAW.

As a winning bidder in the RDOF Auction, Charter Fiberlink is eligible to receive funding to bring high-quality, innovative voice and broadband Internet access services to consumers in unserved portions of Louisiana. The RDOF funding assigned to Charter Fiberlink will help enable it to “[b]ring[] digital opportunity to Americans living on the wrong side of the digital divide,”³⁰ and thereby advance the goals of universal service. Expedited Commission action on this Application by rendering an order on or before April 15, 2021 serves the public interest by accelerating the deployment of high-quality, innovative voice and broadband Internet access services in unserved portions of Louisiana that Charter Fiberlink and its affiliates will serve in the RDOF Census Blocks.

A. Broadband Deployment Will Promote New Investment, Job Growth and Opportunities in Louisiana

Bringing broadband to unserved areas of Louisiana has been a major priority of the Governor. Governor John Bel Edwards recognizes that “Universal access to broadband service for all Louisiana residents is a key competitive factor for economic development and quality of life in the new global marketplace” and that “[u]niversal connectivity, particularly in rural areas, is needed for attracting new and expanding business and to facilitate education and training, health care and government services.”³¹ Granting this Application will further the Governor’s goals and

³⁰ *RDOF Order*, at ¶ 1.

³¹ See Exec. Order No. JBE 19-15, State of Louisiana Exec. Dept., *Broadband for Everyone in Louisiana Commission* (Aug. 29, 2019), [https://gov.louisiana.gov/assets/ExecutiveOrders/JBE-19-15-Broadband-for-Everyone-in-Louisiana-Commission-\(BEL\)..pdf](https://gov.louisiana.gov/assets/ExecutiveOrders/JBE-19-15-Broadband-for-Everyone-in-Louisiana-Commission-(BEL)..pdf).

the public interest through the deployment of broadband Internet and voice services to unserved high-cost areas in Louisiana. Deployment of those services will spur investment in facilities and equipment and promote new economic opportunities and job growth in Louisiana.

Designating Charter Fiberlink as an ETC will permit it to receive RDOF Auction funds for 2,389 Census Blocks in Louisiana, directly advancing the goals of the RDOF Auction and universal service in those RDOF Census Blocks. Moreover, the more than \$1.2 billion of RDOF funding assigned to Charter, which includes approximately \$29.5 million in Louisiana, will help enable it to expand the availability of Charter's network and services throughout Charter's service areas, including in Louisiana, as discussed in **Exhibit E**. Charter's deployments will bring expanded voice and broadband connectivity to these areas, many of which are rural and less densely populated in Louisiana, which will help close the digital divide for residents of Louisiana and expand economic opportunity and job growth in communities that will benefit from increased connectivity. Lawmakers in the State, such as United States Senator John Kennedy, are also calling for more access to broadband, especially in rural areas like the vast majority of those associated with the RDOF Census Blocks: "The pandemic has made it more urgent that ever to bridge the digital divide in underserved rural areas – telehealth, telework, and online classes demand broadband expansion."³² Because granting this Application will allow Charter Fiberlink to use the RDOF funds as intended to expand voice and broadband Internet access services in the RDOF Census Blocks in Louisiana, designating Charter Fiberlink as an ETC is in the public interest.

³² See JC Canicosa, *FCC Grants Louisiana \$342 million to Expand High Speed Internet in Rural Communities*, Louisiana Illuminator (Dec. 14, 2020), <https://www.bethmizell.com/pdf/news-12-14-2020.pdf>.

B. Access To Broadband Will Transform Rural And Unserved Areas

The availability of Charter's RDOF supported broadband Internet access services and voice services will have a transformative effect on the unserved and/or rural areas in the RDOF Census Blocks. Charter is committed to expanding access to this life-changing connectivity that will enable consumers to use new technologies, such as distance education, telemedicine, live streaming video, or interactive programming (e.g., a Zoom call). These technologies will create new opportunities for consumers in education, healthcare, business, and civic engagement activities. For example, with access to an online network made available through a Charter broadband Internet connection, an individual may start their own business or take online classes in pursuit of an education. Similarly, local businesses, through use of Charter's broadband Internet and voice services, may connect to vendors and employees, grow their sales, and create new jobs. In short, Charter's broadband Internet access and voice services will enhance the opportunities available to the consumers served by Charter Fiberlink and its affiliates in the RDOF Census Blocks.

C. The Public Will Benefit from Charter's Experience as a Lifeline Voice Service Provider.

Charter and its subsidiaries have substantial experience in providing Lifeline voice services to low income consumers and communities, which provides Charter Fiberlink with important familiarity with the FCC's Lifeline program and with the interactions necessary with the Universal Service Administrative Company, the National Lifeline Accountability Database, and other third party Lifeline administrators. These experiences will facilitate Charter Fiberlink's swift offering of Lifeline voice services for qualifying low-income customers in the Census Blocks where Charter Fiberlink receives RDOF support in Louisiana.

D. The Public Will Benefit from Charter's Customer-Oriented Policies, Such as those During the COVID-19 Pandemic.

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Charter joined other telecommunications providers in the Keep Americans Connected Pledge. As part of that effort, Charter voluntarily committed to suspend collections and not charge late fees or terminate service for residential or small business customers who informed Charter that they were experiencing COVID-related economic challenges. Charter extended its commitment through June 30th. During that time, Charter kept connected approximately 700,000 customers who had difficulties meeting bills because of COVID-related economic hardship. Charter has also forgiven approximately \$85 million in customer overdue balances.

Additionally, as schools across the country began to transition to remote learning in March, Charter took action to benefit students, faculty and families. Charter committed to offering broadband Internet service up to 200 Mbps for free for 60-days, including in-home Wi-Fi and a self-installation kit, to households with K-12 and/or college students or educators who did not already have a Charter broadband Internet service subscription for sixty days. Charter extended this offer through June 30th and, by the end of the 2020 school year, Charter was able to help nearly 450,000 students and teachers nationally continue schooling through remote learning. To help ease the strain for families and teachers who still lacked broadband, Charter relaunched its Remote Education Offer beginning on September 21, 2020. Furthermore, for schools and school districts seeking to establish a centralized purchasing arrangement for the benefit of both students and teachers to support remote learning, Charter currently offers Stay Connected K-12 throughout the Charter footprint. Under Stay Connected K-12, Charter contracts directly with schools and school districts to assist them in offering high-speed broadband Internet access to students, educators and staff in their homes. Charter's Stay Connected K-12 is designed as a single-payer option for

communities to allow payment by a school or school district, based upon the number of connections purchased. This partnership between Charter and the school or school district helps to ensure that learning, teaching, and working are uninterrupted by giving schools and school districts the flexibility to add students to the program, when needed, and to provide much needed in-home broadband Internet connectivity.

Lastly, recognizing the importance of digital skills during this time of unprecedented volume in distance learning and remote working, Charter has doubled the amount of funds available for its Spectrum Digital Education Grants for 2020-21.³³ These customer-oriented policies, along with others that Charter implements from time to time, will enhance the choices and capabilities available to the consumers served by Charter Fiberlink and its affiliates in the RDOF Census Blocks.

E. The Public Will Benefit from Charter Fiberlink’s Advanced Service Offerings.

Designating Charter Fiberlink as an ETC in the RDOF Census Blocks will promote the deployment of advanced voice and broadband Internet services in these areas. Charter is widely recognized as a premier provider of voice and broadband Internet offerings that relies on advanced systems, technologies, and infrastructure. As stated previously, Charter provides voice and broadband Internet services to approximately 26.8 million residential Internet access service customers and 9.3 million residential voice service customers in 41 states. Its investments have enabled it to offer minimum download speeds of at least 200 Mbps in 60% of Charter’s national footprint, and 100 Mbps everywhere else in the footprint—including households and small businesses in rural areas. On December 17, 2020, Charter announced that it plans to double Charter’s broadband Internet access service starting speeds in 17 U.S. markets, making 200 Mbps

³³ See *Spectrum Digital Education Grant*, Spectrum, <https://corporate.charter.com/digital-education/grants> (last visited Dec. 13, 2020).

the starting flagship speed in 75% of Charter's communities. These speed enhancements will be available to new customers immediately. Existing customers will receive these speed increases with new Charter broadband Internet access service packages during the first quarter of 2021.³⁴

Charter also offers a 1 Gbps connection with maximum download speeds of up to 940 Mbps to the vast majority of those same households, as well as to small and medium-sized businesses. Charter's broadband Internet service offerings enable customers "to use tomorrow's Internet applications as well as today's."³⁵ These levels of service will be made available to consumers in Charter Fiberlink's RDOF Census Blocks, as well.

F. Designating Charter Fiberlink as an ETC Satisfies the LPSC's Criteria in its *Public Interest General Order* dated May 20, 2004.

In its *Public Interest Order*,³⁶ the LPSC adopted thirteen (13) factors that would be applied, on a case-by-case basis, to requests for ETC designation in rural areas. The LPSC established these criteria against a background of different historical policies and considerations based upon impact on rural incumbent local exchange companies ("ILECs"). The Order predates the roll out of different federal funding initiatives such as the Connect America Fund ("CAF") and now RDOF, and the LPSC has not yet updated its factors to reflect these changed initiatives.³⁷ Charter Fiberlink's request for ETC designation in the RDOF Census Blocks

³⁴ See supra note 15.

³⁵ *RDOF Order*, at ¶ 2.

³⁶ LPSC Docket No. R-27841, *In re: Establishment of public interest criteria applicable to telecommunications carriers seeking Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") designation pursuant to 47 USC § 214(e)(2) in areas served by rural telephone companies* (released May 20, 2004).

³⁷ The Commission has applied the Public Interest General Order criteria to at least two ETC applicants who obtained CAF funding, and granted both. See Docket No. S-35070, *In re: Allen's T.V. Cable Service, Inc., ex parte*. (In Re: Application for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier to Receive Connect America Fund Phase II Auction (Auction 903) Support for Voice and Broadband Services, Application filed November 14, 2018, Order rendered February 1, 2019) and Docket No. S-35027 *In re: Viasat Carrier Service, Inc.* (In Re: Application for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier to Receive Connect America Fund Phase II Auction (Auction 903) Support for Voice and Broadband Services Application Filed September 27, 2018, Order rendered August 1, 2019).

fulfills the thirteen LPSC factors as they should be applied in connection with the RDOF program.

1. Benefits of Increased Competitive Choice Resulting from the Designation.

Consumers rely on voice and broadband services for their everyday communications needs. According to the FCC, the RDOF Census Blocks are currently unserved by any broadband provider offering service at or above 25/3 Mbps. Charter is widely recognized as a premier provider of voice and broadband Internet offerings that relies on advanced systems, technologies, and infrastructure. The RDOF support assigned to Charter Fiberlink will enable it to extend Charter's broadband Internet access services to the RDOF Census Blocks in Louisiana. The terms of the support assigned to Charter Fiberlink will require it to offer Charter's 1 Gbps connections in the RDOF Census Blocks. Accordingly, Charter Fiberlink's designation as an ETC to provide voice and broadband Internet services in the RDOF Census Blocks will result in previously unserved consumers gaining access to new and innovative advanced broadband and voice services in these areas.

2. Impact of Multiple Designations on the Universal Service Fund.

CCO Holdings' participation in the RDOF Auction led to Charter Fiberlink being assigned support to provide voice and broadband Internet services in the RDOF Census Blocks in Louisiana. Any RDOF Auction funds assigned to Charter Fiberlink are dedicated for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services in the RDOF Census Blocks for which the universal service support is intended. Because RDOF Auction winning bids are fixed amounts and Census Blocks assigned under the RDOF Auction do not overlap, Charter Fiberlink would not expect multiple ETC designations in Louisiana to negatively impact the Universal Service Fund.

3. Unique Advantages and Disadvantages of the Competitive Service Area Offering.

As previously noted, the RDOF Census Blocks are currently unserved by any broadband provider offering service at or above 25/3 Mbps. If Charter Fiberlink is designated as an ETC, then Charter Fiberlink will be eligible to invest its RDOF Auction support to build new networks, provide higher upload/download speeds, and create new and improved service offerings in the RDOF Census Blocks – many of which are located in rural areas of Louisiana.

4. Commitment to Quality of Service.

As discussed throughout this Application,³⁸ Charter Fiberlink is highly qualified to meet the FCC’s RDOF service obligations given Charter’s proven track record of technical and commercial success operating as an existing provider of broadband Internet and voice services. Charter prides itself on its commitment to quality service and its customers directly benefit from Charter’s commitment to and investment in its network. The FCC recently reported that Charter had one of the fastest, most consistent broadband Internet download speeds in the industry, including at peak times of the day when customer Internet usage is the highest.³⁹ Additionally, recognizing Charter’s experience and commitment to its customers, its network, and its products, *Multichannel News* recently awarded Charter as its “Operator of the Year for 2020.”⁴⁰

5. Submission of Records and Documentation, on a Quarterly Basis, Declaring that Carrier’s Plans for Use of Universal Service Funding Received as a Result of this Commission’s Designation, including Updates as to the Progress of Said Projects.

As an RDOF Auction participant obtaining ETC designation and/or constructing network facilities, Charter Fiberlink must annually submit FCC Form 481, along with broadband deployment reports, to the Universal Service Administrative Company (“USAC”). However, the

³⁸ See Section IV, CHARTER AND ITS TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS, *supra*.

³⁹ See *supra* note 9.

⁴⁰ See *supra* note 10.

LPSC is authorized to access Charter Fiberlink's Form 481 filings through USAC, as well as the broadband deployment reporting data that is submitted to USAC's HUBB Portal. Form 481 provides financial and operations information that may be used to validate an ETC's use of high cost support funds. Additionally, the HUBB calculates an ETC's progress towards meeting its broadband build-out obligations, including any interim deployment milestones.

To the extent additional reports are required in connection with Charter Fiberlink's provision of supported services in the RDOF Census Blocks, Charter commits to make them available to the Commission.⁴¹

6. For Wireless Carriers, Compliance with the CTIA Consumer Code for Wireless Services and Submission of the Number of Consumer Complaints per 1000 Mobile Headsets to the LPSC on a Quarterly Basis.

This provision is not applicable, as Charter Fiberlink is not a wireless carrier.

7. Information Regarding the Number of Requests for Service in the Designated Area that Go Unfulfilled.

The FCC eliminated its prior requirement that ETCs report unfulfilled service requests as being both subjective and unnecessary in light of the current broadband deployment reporting obligations under the modified federal high-cost universal service programs.⁴² As such, the Commission may wish to re-evaluate whether gathering this information from ETCs remains in the public interest. As previously represented, Charter Fiberlink will provide RDOF supported service to customers residing in the RDOF Census Blocks on a timely basis after receipt of a customer's reasonable request for such service.

⁴¹ The LPSC has provided flexibility on any reporting requirements, including lessening the frequency, under the appropriate circumstances. See Order No. S-35070 (February 1, 2018) in Docket No. S-35070, *In re: Allen's T.V. Cable Service, Inc, ex parte*. (In Re: Application for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier to Receive Connect America Fund Phase II Auction (Auction 903) Support for Voice and Broadband Services, Application filed November 14, 2018, Order rendered February 1, 2019).

⁴² See *Connect America Fund ETC Annual Reports and Certifications*, Report and Order, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 14-58 (2017).

8. Compliance with All Existing and Future State and Federal 911 and E-911 Mandates.

Charter Fiberlink will in the future maintain compliance with both applicable federal and state requirements for providing E-911 services to its customers in the RDOF Census Blocks.

9. Compliance with Section 401B of the LPSC's Regulations for Competition in the Local Telecommunications Market.

Section 401(B) applies to providers of Commercial Radio Mobile Service ("CMRS") and Private Mobile Radio Service ("PMRS"), and therefore it is not applicable to Charter Fiberlink's Application.

10. Compliance with Section 302(A) of the LPSC's Regulations for Competition in the Local Telecommunications Market. (Annual Report Filings).

Section 302(A) was deleted by General Order No. R-31839 dated March 11, 2014 and is not applicable to Charter Fiberlink's Application.

11. Compliance with Sections 301A-C and 401 of the Commission's TSP Billing Order.⁴³

Charter Fiberlink has been, and will continue to be, compliant with Sections 301A-C and 401 of the LPSC's Regulations. In the RDOF Census Blocks, Charter Fiberlink will send a printed bill at least once a month to a customer unless the customer agrees to accept billing in electronic form.

⁴³ LPSC General Order dated July 14, 2000 issued in Docket No. U-24050, *In re: Rules and regulations concerning Telecommunications Service Provider ("TSP") billing.*

12. Compliance with any additional requirements established by the Commission in Docket R-27733, *In re: Establishment of Reporting Requirements for Telecommunications Service Providers Designated as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (“ETCs”) by the Commission.*

Charter Fiberlink is currently unaware of any additional ETC reporting requirements that have been adopted by the LPSC as a result of Docket R-27733.⁴⁴ In the event that new requirements are adopted pursuant to such docket, Charter Fiberlink agrees to comply with those requirements that are applicable to its operation as an ETC in the RDOF Census Blocks.

13. A Rural Cream-Skimming Analysis.

Due to revisions to 47 C.F.R. § 54.202, cream-skimming considerations are no longer applicable to the “public interest” standard of this provision. Thus, this criterion is not relevant to consideration of Charter Fiberlink’s Application.

VII. CERTIFICATION FOR USE OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUNDS.

Charter Fiberlink certifies that it will comply with the service requirements applicable to the support that it receives (47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a)(1)(i)) and that it will use federal high-cost universal service support only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, in accordance with 47 U.S.C. § 254(e). As previously mentioned, Charter Fiberlink’s certification is attached to this Application at **Exhibit F**.⁴⁵

VIII. REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION.

As noted, CCO Holdings has been selected as a winning bidder in the RDOF Auction for 2,389 Census Blocks contained in nine (9) Louisiana parishes. The timeframe for Charter Fiberlink to obtain ETC designation is short and, so that Charter Fiberlink may plan its RDOF construction and deployment schedule, Charter Fiberlink respectfully requests that the LPSC grant

⁴⁴ LPSC Docket No. R-27733, *In re: Establishment of reporting requirements for Telecommunications Service Providers designated as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (“ETCs”) by the Commission*, has been dormant since 2006.

⁴⁵ See Exhibit F, *in globo*.— This exhibit covers all certifications an applicant is required to affirm.

Charter Fiberlink ETC designation on an expedited basis by rendering an order on or before April 15, 2021. As part of expediting this Application, Charter respectfully requests that it be published in the Commission's Official Bulletin No. 1236 scheduled for release January 8, 2021 with a 15-day intervention period. Granting this Application on an expedited basis will allow Charter Fiberlink to meet its RDOF deployment milestones for voice and broadband Internet services in the RDOF Census Blocks. Expedited Commission action would serve the public interest and advance the goals of universal service by accelerating the deployment of high quality, innovative voice and broadband Internet services in unserved portions of Louisiana.⁴⁶

IX. CONCLUSION AND PRAYER FOR RELIEF.

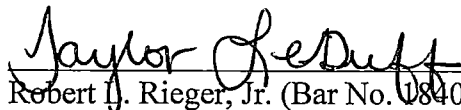
Granting this Application will serve the public interest through the deployment of broadband Internet and voice services to unserved high-cost areas in Louisiana, support investment in facilities and equipment, and expand the number of providers operating in Louisiana. Designating Charter Fiberlink as an ETC will permit it to receive RDOF Auction funds designated for Louisiana, directly advancing the goals of the RDOF Auction and universal service. Charter Fiberlink's resulting deployments will bring expanded voice and broadband connectivity to rural areas in Louisiana, helping to close the digital divide for residents of the RDOF Census Blocks in Louisiana, and expanding economic opportunity for communities that will benefit from increased connectivity. Because granting this Application will allow Charter Fiberlink to use the RDOF funds as intended to expand voice and broadband Internet access services in the RDOF Census Blocks in Louisiana, designating Charter Fiberlink as an ETC is in the public interest.

⁴⁶ The LPSC has expedited ETC requests in the Connect America Phase II Auction (Auction 903). See Docket No. S-35070, *In re: Allen's T.V. Cable Service, Inc., ex parte*. (In Re: Application for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier to Receive Connect America Fund Phase II Auction (Auction 903) Support for Voice and Broadband Services, Application filed November 14, 2018, Order rendered February 1, 2019).

WHEREFORE, Charter Fiberlink LA-CCO, LLC respectfully requests that the Commission: (1) accept this Application for filing and publish it in the Commission's Official Bulletin No. 1236 scheduled for release January 8, 2021 with a 15 day intervention period; (2) after due proceedings, issue an order granting this Application and designating Charter Fiberlink as an ETC in the RDOF Census Blocks identified in **Exhibits A and B**; (3) render the Order on or before April 15, 2021 and; (4) grant other such relief via Order as may be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

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