

STARLINK

February 22, 2024

Via Electronic Filing

Ms. Lisa Felice
Executive Secretary of the Commission
Michigan Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 30221
Lansing, MI 48909

RE: Docket No. U-21035 – Starlink Services, LLC – Request to Surrender License to Provide Facilities-Based Competitive Local Exchange Services

Dear Ms. Felice,

Please find enclosed Starlink Services, LLC's Request to Surrender License to Provide Facilities-Based Competitive Local Exchange Services in the State of Michigan.

Any questions you may have regarding this filing should be directed to my attention via email to Aishani.Shukla@SpaceX.com. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Aishani Shukla

Aishani Shukla
Regulatory
Analyst

Cc: Lori Thelen

**BEFORE THE
MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of Starlink
Services, LLC License to Provide Facilities-Based
Competitive Local Exchange Services Within
Michigan

Case No. U-21035

**APPLICATION OF STARLINK SERVICES, LLC,
FOR APPROVAL TO SURRENDER LICENSE
TO PROVIDE COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE**

Starlink Services, LLC (“Starlink”) was granted the above-captioned license by the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) on June 23, 2021, and hereby requests that the Commission approve this Application to surrender Starlink’s License to provide Facilities-Based Competitive Local Exchange (“CLEC”) Services in the state of Michigan as soon as possible.

I. BACKGROUND

Space Exploration Technologies Corp. (“SpaceX”) is a private American company founded in 2002 by Elon Musk to revolutionize space technologies. SpaceX is incorporated in Texas, with its principal office located at 1 Rocket Road, Hawthorne, California 90250. Starlink is a wholly-owned subsidiary of SpaceX, with its principal office located at 1 Rocket Road, Hawthorne, California 90250. The Commission granted Starlink’s request for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (“ETC”) in certain exchanges in Michigan on June 23, 2021, in Case No. U-20954, which Starlink is separately requesting to relinquish, in addition to Starlink’s license to provide CLEC services. Starlink sought designation as an ETC and CLEC in Michigan in connection with the Federal Communication Commission’s (“FCC”) Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (“RDOF”) Phase I auction. SpaceX was awarded \$885 million of this support to provide broadband and standalone voice services in 35 states, including \$9,852,045 in Michigan.

II. JUSTIFICATION TO SURRENDER LICENSE

Starlink is seeking to surrender its CLEC license in the state of Michigan after the

Wireline Competition Bureau (“Bureau”) denied Starlink’s RDOF “Long Form” application¹, Starlink appealed this Bureau decision to the FCC², and the FCC later affirmed the Bureau’s decision.³ As a result, Starlink will not receive any RDOF support to provide service in the state. Starlink is deeply disappointed and perplexed by the FCC’s decision to exclude the Starlink satellite broadband service from RDOF and this decision directly undermines the very goal of RDOF: to connect unserved and underserved Americans. As a result of these changes in circumstances since the license was applied for and granted, Starlink respectfully requests to relinquish the CLEC license.

III. CUSTOMER NOTICE

Starlink did not initiate operations in Michigan and has no voice, High Cost or Lifeline customers in the state. As a result, there will be no impact on customers resulting from Starlink’s surrender of CLEC license. Starlink never provided services in Michigan and thus the discontinuance provisions in section 484.2313 of the Michigan Telecommunications Act are not applicable in this case. Starlink has never had customers in the state of Michigan, thus there are no customers to ensure continuance of service, nor are there any customer notices to provide. Starlink never obtained a Section 214 form from the FCC because it did not commence voice services.

Starlink respectfully requests expedited consideration of this request. Starlink notes that the unregulated Starlink-branded broadband service provided by SpaceX, a separate entity, remains available in the state and this request for relinquishment will have no impact on those subscribers.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Aishani Shukla

Aishani Shukla, Regulatory Analyst

¹ See *Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Auction Support for 80 Winning Bids Ready to Be Authorized, Bid Defaults Announced*, AU Docket No. 20-34 et al., Public Notice, DA 22-848, at 8-11 (WCB/OEA Aug. 10, 2022).

² See *Application for Review of Starlink Services, LLC*, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Sept. 9, 2022).

³ See *Order on Review*, WC Docket No. 10-90, et al. (rel. Dec. 12, 2023).