

1 employed as a Senior Consultant at TELEC Consulting
2 Resources now known as Consortia Consulting.

3 **Q: What Is Your Educational Background?**

4 A: I have Master of Arts degree in Economics and a Bachelor of
5 Science degree in Business Administration, both from the
6 University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

7 **Q: What is the purpose of your testimony?**

8 A: To make recommendations and to discuss the Department's
9 opinion regarding the application of Pinpoint Wireless,
10 Inc. d/b/a BLAZE Wireless (BLAZE).

11 **Q: Will you please describe the Department's views regarding
12 BLAZE's application for NUSF support?**

13 A: Yes. My testimony will generally support the grant of
14 support to BLAZE. The Commission has conditioned the grant
15 of dedicated wireless fund program support on compliance
16 with several requirements in prior years. I will briefly
17 discuss these requirements.

18 **Q: Please describe the conditions the Commission has adopted
19 in order for an applicant to receive Dedicated Wireless
20 Fund Program support.**

21 A: The Commission has adopted five conditions for carriers
22 seeking Dedicated Wireless Fund Program support. First,
23 the Commission will approve new towers only in high-cost
24 unserved and underserved areas. Mr. Tyler Frost, the

1 Commission's economist, will present testimony more fully
2 explaining the staff's methodology for determining towers
3 which meet these criteria and for ranking the proposed
4 tower locations in order to receive benefits for the
5 greatest number of households.

6 Second, the Commission requires a carrier receiving support
7 to construct the towers in such a way that the towers would
8 be able to accommodate the collocation of additional
9 equipment, such as CDMA and GSM, and have space reserved on
10 those towers for public safety equipment. Third, the
11 Commission requires a carrier receiving support to enter
12 into roaming agreements with other carriers where
13 technically feasible. Fourth, the Commission requires a
14 carrier receiving support to place equipment on its towers
15 to ensure that it is Phase II E911 capable in the event
16 that it is requested to provide Phase II E911 by the
17 particular PSAP in the area. Finally, the Commission will
18 require a commitment from dedicated wireless fund program
19 recipients which provide mobile broadband service in
20 Nebraska to submit broadband availability data to the
21 Commission and its vendors for the duration of the State
22 Broadband Data and Development (SBDD) program so that this
23 broadband coverage area can be depicted on the Commission's
24 state broadband data inventory map and on the National

1 Telecommunications and Information Administration's
2 (NTIA's) national broadband map. This requirement applies
3 to all towers a carrier operates which provide broadband
4 service, not only the towers for which a carrier may
5 receive dedicated wireless fund program support. The data
6 should be updated on the schedule for updating data under
7 the SBDD program, which calls for semiannual updates.

8 **Q. Do you have any recommendations as to costs the Commission**
9 **should consider to be eligible for funding?**

10 A. Yes. The Commission has paid for equipment to be located
11 on towers and for the costs associated with constructing a
12 tower. We believe that these are the minimum necessary
13 costs to fund so that a wireless carrier may construct a
14 tower in an unserved or underserved area. BLAZE has
15 included permitting costs and legal costs in its
16 application. These costs have not been funded for any
17 other applicants under this program. Therefore, the staff
18 recommends that the permitting and legal costs should not
19 be funded.

20 **Q: Does this conclude your testimony?**

21 A: Yes it does.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

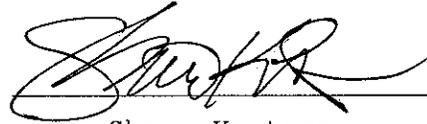
The undersigned hereby certifies that an original of the foregoing Direct Testimony of Sue Vanicek was filed with the Commission on this 22nd day of October 2013, and that a copy of the Direct Testimony was sent via e-mail to the following:

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shana Knutson', is written over a horizontal line.

Shana Knutson