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PSC Releases Video on Coming Lifeline Changes

Broadband services added to telecommunications assistance program for lowincome consumers; eligibility rules revised

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Nov. 28, 2016) – The Kentucky Public Service Commission (PSC) has released a video that summarizes coming changes to the Lifeline telecommunications assistance program for low-income consumers.

The seven-minute video is available on the PSC's YouTube channel at this location: https://youtu.be/PsXHmwCqBUc

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC), which sets the rules for the Lifeline program, earlier this year added broadband to the list of subsidized services. The Lifeline program currently offers subsidies only for voice service for either landline or wireless telephone service.

In addition, the FCC also changed the rules for demonstrating eligibility for Lifeline services. Some proofs of eligibility will no longer be accepted; others have been added.

The PSC video reviews the changes to the process for eligibility verification and provides an overview of the broadband services that may be offered by Lifeline providers. It also previews planned reductions to subsidies for voice-only services.

The changes begin to take effect on December 2, 2016.

The PSC is an independent agency attached for administrative purposes to the Energy and Environment Cabinet. It regulates more than 1,500 gas, water, sewer, electric and telecommunication utilities operating in Kentucky and has approximately 85 employees.

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