

1 STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
 )  
2 COUNTY OF COOK )

3 BEFORE THE  
4 ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

5 IN THE MATTER OF: )  
 )  
6 Q LINK WIRELESS LLC ) Docket No. 12-0095  
 )  
7 Application for Designation )  
 as an Eligible )  
8 Telecommunication Carrier )  
 in the State of Illinois )  
9 )

10 Met pursuant to notice on the December 20th, 2013.  
11 Before the HONORABLE JOHN RILEY.

12 APPEARANCES:

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14 LAW OFFICES OF LANCE J.M. STEINHART, P.C, by  
15 MR. LANCE STEINHART (via telephone) &  
 MS. KASEY CHOW

16 On behalf of the Petitioner;

17 ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION, by  
18 MS. JESSICA CORDONE & MR. MICHAEL LANNON

19 On behalf of Commission Staff.

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1 THE COURT: Pursuant to the direction of the  
2 Illinois Commerce Commission, I call docket 12-0095,  
3 this is an application by Q Link Wireless LLC for  
4 designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier in  
5 the State of Illinois.

6 And would counsel for the applicant please state  
7 your name and office address for the record.

8 MS. CHOW: My name is Kasey Chow, K A S E Y,  
9 C H O W, legal counsel for Q Link Wireless LLC. Office  
10 address is 1725 Windward, W I N D W A R D, Concourse,  
11 suite 150 that is in Alpharetta, Georgia 30005.

12 MS. CORDONE: On behalf of the staff for the  
13 Illinois Commerce Commission Jessica Cordone and  
14 Michael Lannon. 160 North LaSalle Street, C-800,  
15 Chicago, Illinois 60601.

16 THE COURT: Thank you. I believe this was a matter  
17 of status for today. I note that rebuttal testimony had  
18 been filed on December 11th as scheduled. There was  
19 also a matter of some other documentation that the  
20 clerk's office had some difficulty with, not the least  
21 of which was a CD containing 979 files of maps which I  
22 don't know if the clerk's office can even load that on  
23 the eDocket system. The only way I can think of  
24 handling it is to just tell them to keep the CD

1 available.

2 MR. LANDON: Yes, your Honor, I think it needs to  
3 be -- I don't know that it needs to be in the record. I  
4 think it needs to be available to be put in the record  
5 as needed, if for nothing else, if there is any appeal  
6 or anything like that, you know.

7 (Brief interruption.)

8 THE COURT: Good morning this is Judge Riley.

9 MR. STEINHART: Judge Riley, this is Lance  
10 Steinhart.

11 THE COURT: How are you?

12 MR. STEINHART: I am doing very well. How about  
13 yourself?

14 THE COURT: We have Ms. Chow here and staff counsel  
15 is here. We have just begun the status. I have noted  
16 that the rebuttal testimony was filed as scheduled on  
17 December 11th. And we were talking about the CD with  
18 979 files of maps, and I think the consensus is just to  
19 keep the CD available if we need it.

20 MR. STEINHART: Do you need me to make an  
21 appearance?

22 THE COURT: Well, Ms. Chow has appeared. You can  
23 go ahead.

24 MR. STEINHART: Okay. This is Lance Steinhart

1 party for Q Link Wireless. Business address is 1725  
2 Windward Concourse, suite 150, Alpharetta, Georgia  
3 30005. Business telephone (770)232-9200

4 THE COURT: Thank you.

5 MR. STEINHART: You are welcome, your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Now, aside from the matter of the CD,  
7 what is the next step in this?

8 MS. CORDONE: Judge, the parties have spoken about  
9 how it is best to proceed with this docket and based on  
10 Q Link's rebuttal testimony, staff has some additional  
11 discovery and Q Link -- that will be going out today.  
12 Q Link has stated that they will be able to respond by  
13 the 17th of January. And then staff can file its  
14 rebuttal on February 9th. And the company could file  
15 its surrebuttal on February 28th.

16 THE COURT: I'm sorry. Give me those last two  
17 dates again. Staff was going to file on --

18 MS. CORDONE: On February 9th. And surrebuttal by  
19 the company on February 28th.

20 THE COURT: Okay. Are these firm dates, or do they  
21 need a little flexibility?

22 MS. CORDONE: I believe they are firm dates.

23 MR. LANDON: Unless they do not fit your schedule.

24 THE COURT: It fits my schedule fine. Do we need

1 another status or are we going to -- in other words, you  
2 are going to have to assess the information again, that  
3 will be in the rebuttal.

4 MS. CORDONE: Perhaps we should set a short date  
5 after they file the surrebuttal. It can be an  
6 evidentiary or a status or whatever is appropriate at  
7 the time.

8 THE COURT: We can always set it for hearing and  
9 reduce it to a status if we are not prepared to proceed  
10 beyond that.

11 MS. CHOW: I think we would rather have an  
12 evidentiary hearing.

13 MR. LANDON: Why don't we move it up then a little  
14 bit, you know, further than a week. If we are going to  
15 put it down as an evidentiary hearing I think we need a  
16 little bit more time.

17 THE COURT: My March calendar is wide open.

18 MR. LANDON: Okay. We are pretty open, too. Do  
19 you guys have any preference?

20 THE COURT: Two weeks after the surrebuttal?

21 MR. ASSAD: If two weeks allows them enough time to  
22 be before us.

23 MR. LANDON: So that would be the week of the 10th,  
24 is that what we are looking at?

1 THE COURT: Right.

2 MR. LANDON: Can we move it to the next week, let's  
3 say the 18th?

4 THE COURT: The 18th, March 18th?

5 MR. LANDON: Yes.

6 THE COURT: It will be 10 a.m. central time.

7 Mr. Steinhart, are you still with us?

8 MR. STEINHART: Yes, I am.

9 MS. CORDONE: I don't think my date is right  
10 because February 9th is a Sunday.

11 THE COURT: I'm sorry.

12 MS. CORDONE: February 9th is a Sunday.

13 MS. CHOW: The 7th.

14 MS. CORDONE: The 7th of February.

15 THE COURT: Okay. Just to the make sure we are on  
16 the same page, staffs' rebuttal is going to be filed on  
17 February 7th, 2014 and surrebuttal will still be due on  
18 February 28th.

19 And we have set a hearing date of March 18th,  
20 2014, and again, that is 10 a.m. local time.

21 Is there anything further that we need to  
22 discuss?

23 MR. LANDON: Not from the staff.

24 MR. ASSAD: Can I?

1 MS. CHOW: Sure.

2 MR. ASSAD: Would you ascertain -- can we have ten  
3 minutes of your time to explain a little bit about our  
4 company because I believe that the request and the  
5 documents from staff -- I would like to address the  
6 comparison of what the staff has done in Illinois  
7 compared to 25 other states that we are approved in.

8 THE COURT: I am not sure that that would be  
9 appropriate right now. That is the kind of thing that  
10 you would go into testimony.

11 MR. LANDON: Sounds like evidence.

12 MR. ASSAD: I am not trying to prove evidence.

13 THE COURT: But -- it is not an appropriate subject  
14 for status. I know what you are trying to say, but this  
15 should be either taken care of in a hearing or  
16 testimony.

17 MR. LANDON: Or a brief.

18 MR. ASSAD: Our counsel has reached out to the  
19 analyst, and the analyst keeps referring them back to  
20 counsel, and counsel refers them back to the analyst.  
21 So we are kind of in a blockade of working with staff  
22 because the analyst has referred us back to their  
23 attorneys, their attorneys say we cannot talk to you,  
24 talk to staff. And we are kind of bouncing back and

1    forth.  So we would like to be able to work with staff  
2    in a more open manner.  That is really what the request  
3    is:  How do we work with the staff where we don't keep  
4    getting bounced back?

5           THE COURT:  For the court reporters benefit, can  
6    you identify yourself to her?

7           MR. ASSAD:  I have already identified myself.

8           THE COURT:  Oh, you did?

9           MR. ASSAD:  Yes, I gave her my business card.  My  
10   name is Issa Assad.  I am the CEO of Q Link Wireless.

11          MR. LANDON:  You Honor, I am going to object to  
12   what I believe counsel is referring to is a request to  
13   sit down with staff in order to I presume settle certain  
14   issues, narrow issues.  Either way those discussions, if  
15   we engage in them, in my mind even the communications he  
16   is talking about right now are confidential in nature  
17   under the settlement confidentiality.  So I don't see  
18   any reason that you should entertain, talk about  
19   communications between staff or OGC and the company  
20   because it has nothing to do with evidence, and it  
21   really, you know, it is not required by any of our rules  
22   that we talk to them.

23                   And I just object to any discussion of that in  
24   front of you who is the ultimate decision maker.  I

1 think it just works to prejudice us and I think that is  
2 frankly the intent.

3 THE COURT: I am not sympathetic to what you are  
4 saying.

5 MR. ASSAD: Not at all the intent. The intent is  
6 just to create some method of open dialogue. That is  
7 the intent.

8 THE COURT: But what I am saying is that the status  
9 session that we are having here is not the forum for  
10 that.

11 MR. ASSAD: Absolutely not

12 THE COURT: So if you can get staff -- I would like  
13 to directly speak to you about certain issues. You are  
14 more than free to try and do that, but I cannot compel  
15 staff --

16 MR. ASSAD: Of course not.

17 THE COURT: -- to engage in that.

18 MR. ASSAD: We have just not been able to reach out  
19 to staff and do that, so that is all we are asking

20 THE COURT: Okay.

21 MR. ASSAD: Not here. Not now. Not at all. We  
22 are just trying to set it up somewhere in the future  
23 where we can sit there and talk.

24 MR. LANDON: I am just saying my point and I

1 believe the Judge is -- that you are asking in front of  
2 the Judge.

3 THE COURT: Right. We are going to leave it at  
4 that then. I will reiterate that the DR's, the daily  
5 requests, you are talking about the discovery?

6 MS. CORDONE: Yes.

7 THE COURT: Okay. The applicants will reply on  
8 January 17th, 2014. Staff rebuttal February 7th, 2014.  
9 Surrebuttal by February 28th, 2014. And we will  
10 reconvene for hearing on March 18th, 2014 at  
11 10 a.m., okay?

12 MR. LANDON: Thank you, your Honor.

13 THE COURT: Thank you very much.

14 MS. CHOW: Thank you, your Honor.

15 (Which were all the proceedings in  
16 the above-entitled cause.)

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1 STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
2 COUNTY OF COOK ) SS.

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4 Robin Memisovski, being first duly sworn, on  
5 oath says that she is a Certified Shorthand Reporter,  
6 Registered Professional Reporter, doing business in the  
7 City of Chicago, County of Cook and the State of  
8 Illinois;

9 That she reported in shorthand the proceedings  
10 had at the foregoing status hearing;

11 And that the foregoing is a true and correct  
12 transcript of her shorthand notes so taken as aforesaid  
13 and contains all the proceedings had at the said status  
14 hearing.

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ROBIN MEMISOVSKI, CSR, RPR

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CSR No. 084-004776

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20 SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO  
21 before me this 3rd day of  
22 January, A.D., 2014.

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NOTARY PUBLIC

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