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Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

DA 02-1143 May 14, 2002

## COMMENTS INVITED ON ALLTEL COMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND ALLTEL COMMUNICATIONS OF VIRGINIA APPLICATION TO DISCONTINUE DOMESTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

Comp. Pol. File No. 582

Comments Due: May 28, 2002

**Section 214 Application** 

Applicants: ALLTEL Communications Inc. and ALLTEL Communications of Virginia

On May 3, 2002, ALLTEL Communications Inc. and ALLTEL Communications of Virginia (ALLTEL or Applicants), located at One Allied Drive, Little Rock, AR 72202, jointly filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission), requesting authority under section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214(a), and section 63.71 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue certain of their domestic telecommunications services.

The application indicates that ALLTEL seeks authority to discontinue providing competitive local exchange and exchange access service to their residential and business customers in select markets in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Missouri, Ohio, South Carolina, and Virginia. Applicants state that they will continue to provide wireless, paging, long

Attachment A to the application indicates that the following markets in the listed states will be affected by the discontinuance: **Alabama** – Montgomery and Prattville; **Florida** – Gainesville and Tallahassee; **Georgia** – Augusta and

distance and dial-up Internet services to their customers.

ALLTEL states that they will actively assist their customers find new local telephone service providers, and oversee the smooth transition of their service to the new carrier of their choice. Applicants also state that all affected customers were mailed at least one (1) notification letter prior to the filing of the application. A sample customer notice letter attached to the application contained the language required by Commission rules.<sup>2</sup>

Savannah; **Missouri** – Springfield; **Ohio** – Toledo; **South Carolina** – Charleston, Mt. Pleasant, Summerville, Columbia, Greenville/Spartanburg; and **Virginia** – Norfolk/Virginia Beach, Richmond, Hampton, and Portsmouth.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(5)(i).

In accordance with 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(c), the application will be deemed to be automatically granted on the thirty-first (31<sup>st</sup>) day after the release date of this notice, unless the Commission has notified Applicant that the grant will not be automatically effective. The Commission will normally authorize proposed discontinuances of service unless it is shown that customers or other end users would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier, or that the public convenience and necessity would be otherwise adversely affected.

This proceeding is considered a "permit but disclose" proceeding for purposes of the Commission's *ex parte* rules.<sup>3</sup> Pursuant to Sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.415, 1.419, interested parties may file comments on or before **May 28, 2002**. Such comments should refer to **Comp. Pol. File No. 582.** Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance on the commenter, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service. The original and four (4) copies of the comments should be sent to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554. Two (2) copies of the comments should also be sent to the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room 6-A207, Washington, DC 20554, Attention: Carmell Weathers. In addition, Comments should be served upon Applicant. Commenters are also requested to fax their comments to the FCC at (202) 418-2345, Attention: Carmell Weathers.

Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). The Commission's contractor, Vistronix, Inc., will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 110, Washington, D.C. 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class mail, Express Mail, and Priority Mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20554. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

The application will be available for review and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Center, Portals II, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room CY-A257, Washington, DC 20554, (202) 418-0270. A copy of the application may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room CY-B402, Washington, DC, 20554, telephone 202-863-2893, facsimile 202-863-2898, or via e-mail at **qualexint@aol.com**.

For further information, contact Carmell Weathers, (202) 418-2325 (voice), <a href="mailto:cweather@fcc.gov">cweather@fcc.gov</a>, or Jon Minkoff (202) 418-2353 (voice), <a href="mailto:jminkoff@fcc.gov">jminkoff@fcc.gov</a> of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau. The TTY number is (202) 418-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See generally 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 - 1.1216.

0484. For further information on procedures regarding Section 214 please visit <a href="http://www.fcc.gov/wcb/cpd/other\_adjud">http://www.fcc.gov/wcb/cpd/other\_adjud</a>

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