



# PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission  
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**DA 09-2047**  
**Released: September 14, 2009**

## NOTICE OF NON-STREAMLINED DOMESTIC 214 APPLICATION GRANTED

### WC Docket No. 09-145

Pursuant to section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214, and sections 0.91, 0.291, and 63.03 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.91, 0.291, and 63.03, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) approves the application of Utel, Inc., the ultimate owner of Union Telephone Company (Union) and Freedom Ring Communications, LLC d/b/a Union Long Distance (Freedom Ring), and TDS Telecommunications Corporation (TDS Telecom) to transfer control of Union to TDS Telecom and to transfer the assets and customers of Freedom's Ring's long distance operations in Union's local exchange service area to TDS Telecom.<sup>1</sup> No commenters opposed grant of the application.

The Bureau finds, upon consideration of the record, that the proposed transfer will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity, and therefore grants the requested authorization.<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to section 1.103 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.103, the consent granted herein is effective upon the release of the Public Notice. Petitions for reconsideration under section 1.106 or applications for review under section 1.115 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.106, 1.115, may be filed within 30 days of the date of this Public Notice.

For further information, please contact Tracey Wilson-Parker at 202 / 418-1394, or Jodie May at 202 / 418-0913, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau.

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<sup>1</sup> *Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for the Transfer of Control of Union Telephone Company and Partial Transfer of Assets of Freedom Ring Communications, LLC d/b/a Union Long Distance to TDS Telecommunications Corporation*, WC Docket No. 09-145, Public Notice, DA 09-1799 (rel. Aug. 12, 2009).

<sup>2</sup> *See Joint Applications of Telephone and Data Systems, Inc. and Chorus Communications, Ltd. for Authority to Transfer Control of Commission Licenses and Authorizations Pursuant to Sections 214 and 310(d) of the Communications Act and Parts 22, 63 and 90 of the Commission's Rules*, CC Docket No. 01-73, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 16 FCC Rcd 15293, 15298-99, para. 10 (CCB/WTB 2001) (granting transfer of control involving an incumbent local exchange carrier (LEC) and the transferee, Telephone and Data Systems, Inc. (TDS), where the wireless affiliate of TDS provides service in the area served by the incumbent LEC, and the merger would not harm competition).