



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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DA 13-2158

Released: November 12, 2013

DOMESTIC SECTION 214 APPLICATION FILED FOR THE TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF DUCOR TELEPHONE COMPANY

STREAMLINED PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

WC Docket No. 13-262

Comments Due: November 26, 2013

Reply Comments Due: December 3, 2013

On November 1, 2013, The Virgil A. Roome Trust, dated April 23, 2002 (Trust) and Mr. Galen D. Norsworthy (Norsworthy) (together, Applicants) filed an application pursuant to section 63.03 of the Commission's rules¹ to transfer control of Ducor Telephone Company (Ducor) from Trust to Norsworthy.

Ducor, a California corporation, is a rural incumbent local exchange carrier that provides local exchange telephone service and other services in the Ducor, Kennedy Meadows, and Rancho Tehama areas of California. The ultimate parent company of Ducor is VarComm, Inc. (VarComm), a California corporation. All of VarComm's issued and outstanding stock was held and voted by Virgil A. Roome until his death on January 27, 2013. Prior to his death, Mr. Roome created the Virgil A. Roome Trust, dated April 23, 2002, for estate planning purposes and contributed 100 percent of the issued and outstanding shares of VarComm, Inc. to the Trust.²

As part of the administration of Mr. Roome's estate, Norsworthy will receive a majority of the stock of VarComm and, therefore, indirect control over Ducor. Specifically, as part of the administration of his estate, seventy-five percent (75 percent) of the shares of VarComm are to be distributed to Norsworthy. Accordingly, upon the consummation of the proposed transaction, Norsworthy will acquire indirect control of Ducor, which enjoys blanket domestic 214 authorization. The remaining (minority) shares of VarComm are to be distributed to Ronald L. Roome (20 percent) and Eric Wolfe (5 percent).

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 63.03; *see* 47 U.S.C. § 214. Applicants also filed an application for transfer of control of Ducor's Conventional Industrial/Business Pool Service license, call sign WQNS817. A 30-day post-closing forbearance notification will be submitted for Ducor's Common Carrier Fixed Point-to-Point Microwave licenses, call signs WPNB545, WPNB546, WPNB547, and WPNL467.

² *See*, Letter from Benjamin H. Dickens, Jr. to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, re: Notification of Involuntary Transfer of Control of Domestic Section 214 Authorization, filed August 29, 2013.

Applicants assert that the proposed transaction is entitled to presumptive streamlined treatment under section 63.03(b)(1)(ii) of the Commission's rules and that a grant of the application will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity.³

Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for the Transfer of Control of Ducor Telephone Company, WC Docket No. 13-262 (filed Nov 1, 2013).

GENERAL INFORMATION

The transfer of control identified herein has been found, upon initial review, to be acceptable for filing as a streamlined application. The Commission reserves the right to return any transfer application if, upon further examination, it is determined to be defective and not in conformance with the Commission's rules and policies. Pursuant to section 63.03(a) of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 63.03(a), interested parties may file comments **on or before November 26, 2013**, and reply comments **on or before December 3, 2013**. Pursuant to section 63.52 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.52, commenters must serve a copy of comments on the Applicants no later than the above comment filing date. Unless otherwise notified by the Commission, the Applicants may transfer control on the 31st day after the date of this notice.

Pursuant to section 63.03 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 63.03, parties to this proceeding should file any documents in this proceeding using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS): <http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/>.

In addition, e-mail one copy of each pleading to each of the following:

- 1) Tracey Wilson, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, tracey.wilson@fcc.gov;
- 2) Dennis Johnson, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, dennis.johnson@fcc.gov;
- 3) David Krech, Policy Division, International Bureau, david.krech@fcc.gov; and
- 4) Jim Bird, Office of General Counsel, jim.bird@fcc.gov.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (tty).

The proceeding in this Notice shall be treated as a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding in accordance with the Commission's ex parte rules. Persons making ex parte presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral ex parte presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the ex parte presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter's written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during ex parte meetings are

³ 47 C.F.R. § 63.03(b)(1)(ii).

deemed to be written ex parte presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b), 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's ex parte rules.

For further information, please contact Tracey Wilson at (202) 418-1394 or Dennis Johnson at (202) 418-0809.

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