



PUBLIC NOTICE

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

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

DA 14-1097
Released: July 30, 2014

COMMENTS INVITED ON APPLICATION OF CENTURYLINK ON BEHALF OF CENTURYLINK COMMUNICATIONS, LLC TO DISCONTINUE INTERCONNECTED VOIP SERVICES

WC Docket No. 14-117
Comp. Pol. File No. 1160

Comments Due: August 14, 2014

On **June 24, 2014**, **CenturyLink** (CenturyLink or Applicant) filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) on behalf of **CenturyLink Communications, LLC** (CenturyLink Communications or Applicant), located at **100 CenturyLink Drive, Monroe, LA 71203**, requesting authority, under section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214, and section 63.71 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue a certain interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) service in Florida, Missouri, Nevada, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee and Texas (Service Areas).¹

CenturyLink indicates that its competitive local exchange company, CenturyLink Communications, currently offers regional Hosted VoIP service (Affected Service) in the Service Areas. According to CenturyLink, regional Hosted VoIP service is an interconnected VoIP service that is the Internet Protocol equivalent of Time Division Multiplexing Centrex service.² CenturyLink explains that, with regional Hosted VoIP service, the customer does not have to have a phone system on their premise and the service is provided off a Broadsoft VoIP switch. CenturyLink states, however, that CenturyLink Communications plans to discontinue offering regional Hosted VoIP service to new customers on August 30, 2014, or as soon thereafter as the necessary regulatory approvals can be obtained. CenturyLink emphasizes that the proposed discontinuance to new customers will have no impact on the 40 existing customers of regional Hosted VoIP service. For example, CenturyLink explains that existing customers still will have the ability to add additional features and functionality if they desire, and that they will be able to continue using their current service without change. In addition, CenturyLink states that a new CenturyLink Hosted VoIP service that uses the Broadsoft platform is currently available but is national in scope rather than regional. According to CenturyLink, the new national Hosted VoIP service has all the current features of the existing regional Hosted VoIP service plus the added feature functionality that the market desires. CenturyLink maintains that existing customers that wish to migrate to the new national Hosted VoIP service will be able to sign a new contract, and that CenturyLink will waive any early termination penalties on their old contract. CenturyLink represents that it is considered non-dominant with respect to the Affected Service.

¹ The Competition Policy Division of the Wireline Competition Bureau subsequently received the filed application on June 30, 2014.

² Counsel for CenturyLink has confirmed with Commission staff that regional Hosted VoIP service is an interconnected VoIP service.

In accordance with section 63.71(c) of the Commission's rules, CenturyLink's application will be deemed to be granted automatically on the 31st day after the release date of this public notice, unless the Commission notifies CenturyLink that the grant will not be automatically effective. In the application, CenturyLink indicates that CenturyLink Communications plans to discontinue offering regional Hosted VoIP service to new customers in the Service Areas on August 30, 2014, or as soon thereafter as the necessary regulatory approvals can be obtained. Accordingly, pursuant to section 63.71(c) and the terms of the application, absent further Commission action, CenturyLink Communications may discontinue offering regional Hosted VoIP service to new customers in the Service Areas on or after **August 30, 2014**, in accordance with CenturyLink's filed representations. The Commission normally will 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.

Comments objecting to this application must be filed with the Commission on or before **August 14, 2014**. Such comments should refer to **WC Docket No. 14-117 and Comp. Pol. File No. 1160**. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance on the commenter, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies. *See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1998). Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/>. Filers should follow the instructions provided on the Web site for submitting comments. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. In completing the transmittal screen, filers should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number.

Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing. Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission. All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary must be delivered to FCC Headquarters at 445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-A325, Washington, D.C. 20554. The filing hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes 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, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

Two copies of the comments should also be sent to the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-C140, Washington, D.C. 20554, Attention: Carmell Weathers. In addition, comments should be served upon the Applicant. Commenters are also requested to fax their comments to the FCC at (202) 418-1413, Attention: Carmell Weathers.

This proceeding is considered a "permit but disclose" proceeding for purposes of the Commission's *ex parte* rules.³ 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

³ 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*

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 deemed to be written *ex parte* presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b). In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written *ex parte* presentations and memoranda summarizing oral *ex parte* presentations, and all attachments thereto, must be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (*e.g.*, .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.

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).

For further information, contact Carmell Weathers, (202) 418-2325 (voice), Carmell.Weathers@fcc.gov, or Kimberly Jackson, (202) 418-7393 (voice), Kimberly.Jackson@fcc.gov, of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau. The tty number is (202) 418-0484. For further information on procedures regarding section 214 please visit http://www.fcc.gov/wcb/cpd/other_adjud.

– FCC –