



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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DA 14-1778
Released: December 5, 2014

COMMENTS INVITED ON APPLICATION OF CENTURYLINK TO DISCONTINUE DOMESTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

WC Docket No. 14-238
Comp. Pol. File No. 1195

Comments Due: January 5, 2015

Section 214 Application **Applicant: CenturyLink**

On **November 13, 2014**, **CenturyLink** (CenturyLink or Applicant), located at **100 CenturyLink Drive, Monroe, LA 71203**, filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) 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 certain domestic telecommunications services in Colorado.¹

CenturyLink indicates that it currently offers basic local exchange and related services (Affected Services) in portions of its territory located in the Sterling Exchange in Colorado (Service Areas). According to CenturyLink, these Service Areas in the Sterling Exchange may be identified as: Township 8N, Range 54W, Section 30 and the western half of Section 29; Township 7N, Range 54W, the southwest ¼ of Section 10 and the western half of Section 15; and Township 6N, Range 54W, the northwest ¼ of Section 4 and the northern half of Sections 5 and 6. CenturyLink explains, however, that it received approval from the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (Colorado Commission) for a local service boundary change with Willard Telephone Company (Willard Telephone) on July 25, 2014. CenturyLink represents that, as a result of this approval, it is in the process of transferring responsibility for the affected Service Areas to Willard Telephone. CenturyLink states that it, therefore, plans to discontinue the Affected Services in the Service Areas on December 1, 2014, or as soon thereafter as the necessary regulatory approvals can be obtained. CenturyLink maintains that it currently has only four customers that are affected by the proposed discontinuance. CenturyLink submits that, on September 30, 2014, it sent letters to these affected customers by U.S. Mail regarding the proposed discontinuance. The Applicant asserts that it is considered dominant with respect to the services to be discontinued.

In accordance with section 63.71(c) of the Commission's rules, CenturyLink's application will be deemed to be granted automatically on the 60th day after the release date of this public notice, unless the Commission notifies CenturyLink that the grant will not be automatically effective. In its application, CenturyLink indicates that it plans to discontinue basic local exchange and related services in the Service Areas on December 1, 2014, or as soon thereafter as the necessary regulatory approvals can be obtained.

¹ The Competition Policy Division of the Wireline Competition Bureau subsequently received the application on November 14, 2014.

Accordingly, pursuant to section 63.71(c) and the terms of CenturyLink's application, absent further Commission action, CenturyLink may discontinue its basic local exchange and related services in the Service Areas on or after **February 3, 2015**, in accordance with its 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 **January 5, 2015**. Such comments should refer to **WC Docket No. 14-238 and Comp. Pol. File No. 1195**. 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.² 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

² 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*

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.

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