



# PUBLIC NOTICE

**Federal Communications Commission**  
**445 12<sup>th</sup> St., S.W.**  
**Washington, D.C. 20554**

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

**DA 15-110**

**Released: January 26, 2015**

## **COMMENTS INVITED ON APPLICATION OF CENTURYLINK COMMUNICATIONS, LLC TO DISCONTINUE DOMESTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES**

**WC Docket No. 15-10**  
**Comp. Pol. File No. 1198**

**Comments Due: February 10, 2015**

### **Section 214 Application**

**Applicant: CenturyLink Communications, LLC**

On December 18, 2014, CenturyLink Communications, LLC (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 Bloomington/Normal and Peoria, Illinois (Service Areas).

CenturyLink indicates that it currently offers certain voice services, such as traditional telephone service, Integrated Service Digital Network-Primary Rate Interface (ISDN-PRI) service, long distance service, and data services, such as DS1 and Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) services (Affected Services), in the Service Areas. According to CenturyLink, these Affected Services previously were offered through its Madison River Communications (Madison River) affiliate until April 2014 when the Madison River affiliate was merged into CenturyLink. CenturyLink states, however, that it now seeks authority to discontinue all of the Affected Services previously provided in the Service Areas by its Madison River affiliate, given the aging equipment used to provide these services. CenturyLink specifies that it plans to discontinue all of the Affected Services in the Service Areas on January 30, 2015, or as soon thereafter as the necessary regulatory approvals can be obtained. CenturyLink emphasizes, however, that the proposed discontinuance will have no impact on the other services currently offered and provided by CenturyLink in the Service Areas. In addition, CenturyLink maintains that the proposed discontinuance will not affect the services offered and provided in other states by CenturyLink's former Madison River operations. CenturyLink submits that it has notified affected customers of the proposed discontinuance and the alternative services available to them through CenturyLink, through a series of letters and other contacts over the past several months. CenturyLink also states that, on December 15, 2014, it sent an additional letter by U.S. Mail containing language required by the Commission's rules to the remaining 48 customers that may still be receiving one of the Affected Services. The Applicant asserts that it is considered non-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 31st 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 and notice to customers, CenturyLink indicates that it plans to discontinue the Affected Services in the

Service Areas on January 30, 2015, or as soon thereafter as the necessary regulatory approvals can be obtained. Accordingly, pursuant to section 63.71(c) and the terms of CenturyLink's application, absent further Commission action, CenturyLink may discontinue the Affected Services in the Service Areas on or after **February 26, 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 **February 10, 2015**. Such comments should refer to **WC Docket No. 15-10 and Comp. Pol. File No. 1198**. 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.<sup>1</sup> 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

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<sup>1</sup> 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*

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](mailto: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](mailto:Carmell.Weathers@fcc.gov), or Kimberly Jackson, (202) 418-7393 (voice), [Kimberly.Jackson@fcc.gov](mailto: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](http://www.fcc.gov/wcb/cpd/other_adjud).

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