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

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Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Effective Date for Mandatory Electronic Filing of Domestic Section 214 Applications and Notices of Network Changes

GC Docket No. 10-44

On November 26, 2014, the Commission released an order requiring electronic filing through the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) for three common types of wireline proceedings: (a) applications for authorization of domestic transfers of control under section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (Act);<sup>1</sup> (b) applications for authorization to discontinue, reduce, or impair a service under section 214(a) of the Act;<sup>2</sup> and (c) notices of network changes under section 251(c)(5) of the Act.<sup>3</sup> Mandatory electronic filing begins today, February 12, 2015, which is thirty days after publication of the revised rules in the Federal Register.<sup>4</sup>

When e-filing a new domestic section 214 application or notice of network change, a filer must select either "Section 214 Domestic Transfer of Control Application," "Section 214 Domestic Discontinuance Application," or "Section 251 Network Change Notification" from the Inbox list of the "Submit a Non-Docketed Filing" module of ECFS.

For domestic section 214 transfer of control applications, applicants will no longer submit a hard copy of the application to U.S. Bank with the fee payment as described in section 1.1105 of the Commission's rules.<sup>5</sup> Instead, applicants must first transmit the application processing fee to the designated payment center and then file the application electronically using ECFS. One option for paying the fee is the Commission's Fee Filer System (http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/fee-filer), which provides for online payment of the application filing fee, as well as immediate payment verification, and assists the filer in completing Form 159 online (both documents must be filed with the application).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 214(a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 251(c)(5). Amendment of Certain of the Commission's Part 1 Rules of Practice and Procedure and Part 0 Rules of Commission Organization, GC Docket No. 10-44, Order, FCC 14-183 (rel. Nov. 26, 2014) (Wireline E-Filing Order).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Amendment of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure; Electronic Filing of Domestic Section 214 Applications and Notices of Network Changes, 80 Fed. Reg. 1586-01 (Jan. 13, 2015).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See 47 C.F.R. § 1.1105. There are no application processing fees for domestic section 214 discontinuance applications or notices of network changes.

If a pleading includes confidential information, the party must file a redacted version of the pleading via ECFS and must also file a paper copy of the confidential version with the Office of the Secretary. <sup>6</sup> Parties should file the redacted and confidential versions of pleadings on the same day. Anything submitted to ECFS will become public. Contact ECFS Help immediately at ecfshelp@fcc.gov, or 202-418-0193, if there is a filing error.

For further information, please contact ECFS Help at ecfshelp@fcc.gov or 202-418-0193, or Myrva Freeman at (202) 418-1506, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Wireline E-Filing Order at para. 21 (providing instructions for filing of confidential information).