



PUBLIC NOTICE

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

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DA 16-229
March 1, 2016

**DOMESTIC SECTION 214 APPLICATION FILED FOR THE
TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF
MANAWA TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. TO
WOOD COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY, D/B/A SOLARUS**

STREAMLINED PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

WC Docket No. 16-35

Comments Due: March 15, 2016
Reply Comments Due: March 22, 2016

Thomas R. Squires as Representative for the shareholders of Manawa Telecommunications, Inc. (Manawa) and Wood County Telephone Company d/b/a Solarus (Solarus) (collectively, Applicants) filed an application pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and Section 63.03 of the Commission's rules, requesting approval to transfer control of Manawa and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Manawa Telephone Company (MTC) and Manawa Telecom, Inc. (MTI), to Solarus.¹

MTC, a Wisconsin corporation, provides local exchange service and exchange access service as an incumbent local exchange carrier (LEC) in rural portions of Waupaca County, Wisconsin. MTC currently provides local exchange service to total of 1,925 access lines (1,563 in the Manawa exchange and 362 in the Ogdensburg exchange) and both dial-up and DSL-based Internet service to approximately 1,156 customers in its service area. MTI, a Wisconsin corporation, resells interstate and intrastate long distance toll services within MTC's local exchange area and also provides cable television services to approximately 546 cable subscribers in portions of the MTC's service area that would not otherwise have access to cable television service.

Solarus, a Wisconsin corporation, provides local exchange service and exchange access service as an incumbent LEC in rural portions of the Wisconsin counties of Wood, Portage, Adams, and Juneau. Solarus's local exchange service area covers approximately 366 square miles and serves approximately 13,001 access lines in four telephone exchanges: Rudolph (550 access lines); Port Edwards (408 access lines); Nekoosa (1,323 access lines) and Wisconsin Rapids (10,720 access lines). Central Wisconsin Communications, LLC (CWC), a wholly owned subsidiary of Solarus, resells interstate and intrastate long distance toll services to approximately 9,900 residential and business customers within Solarus's

¹ See 47 C.F.R § 63.03; 47 U.S.C. § 214. Applicants also filed applications for the transfer of authorizations associated with international services. Any action on this domestic section 214 application is without prejudice to Commission action on other related, pending applications.

local exchange area. CWC also provides wholesale long distance services to approximately 20 carrier customers. CWC provides dial-up and high speed Internet service on both a facilities and resold basis to approximately 1,211 customers and also provides VoIP service to 2,286 customers.

Pursuant to the terms of the proposed transaction, Solarus is acquiring all of issued and outstanding common stock of Manawa. Purchase of this stock will give Solarus control of Manawa and its wholly-owned subsidiaries MTC and MTI. Applicants assert that the proposed transaction is entitled to presumptive streamlined treatment under Section 63.03(b)(2)(iii) of the Commission's rules and that a grant of the application will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity.²

Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for the Transfer of Control of Manawa Telecommunications, Inc. to Wood County Telephone Company, d/b/a Solarus, WC Docket No. 16-35 (filed Feb. 8, 2016).

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 March 15, 2016**, and reply comments **on or before March 22, 2016**. 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://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/>.

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

- 1) Myrva Freeman, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, myrva.freeman@fcc.gov;
- 2) Dennis Johnson, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, dennis.johnson@fcc.gov;
- 3) Jim Bird, Office of General Counsel, jim.bird@fcc.gov;
- 4) David Krech, International Bureau, david.krech@fcc.gov;
- 5) Sumita Mukhoty, International Bureau, sumita.mukhoty@fcc.gov.

² 47 C.F.R. § 63.03(b)(2)(iii).

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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 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 Myrva Freeman at (202) 418-1506 or Dennis Johnson at (202) 418-0809.

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