



PUBLIC NOTICE

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

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

DA 16-246
Released: March 3, 2016

COMMENTS INVITED ON SECTION 214 APPLICATION(S) TO DISCONTINUE DOMESTIC DOMINANT CARRIER TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

WC Docket No(s). 16-51, 16-52, 16-53, 16-60, 16-61, 16-62, 16-63 & 16-64

Comments Due: April 4, 2016

Unless otherwise specified, the following procedures and dates apply to the application(s) (the Section 214 Discontinuance Application(s)) listed in the Appendix.

The Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau), upon initial review, has found the Section 214 Discontinuance Application(s) listed herein to be acceptable for filing and subject to the procedures set forth in Section 63.71 of the Commission's rules.¹ The application(s) request authority, under section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended,² and section 63.71 of the Commission's rules,³ to discontinue, reduce, or impair certain domestic telecommunications service(s) (Affected Service(s)) in specified geographic areas (Service Area(s)) as applicable and as fully described in each application.

In accordance with section 63.71(e) of the Commission's rules, the Section 214 Discontinuance Application(s) listed in the Appendix will be deemed granted automatically on May 2, 2016, the 60th day after the release date of this public notice, unless the Commission notifies any applicant(s) that their grant will not be automatically effective.⁴ We note that the date on which an application for Commission authorization is deemed granted may be different from the date on which applicants are authorized to discontinue, reduce, or impair service ("Authorized Date"). Any applicant whose application has been deemed granted may discontinue, reduce or impair their Affected Service(s) in their Service Area(s) on or after the authorized date(s) specified in the Appendix, in accordance with their filed representations. Accordingly, pursuant to section 63.71(e), and the terms outlined in each application, absent further Commission action, each applicant may discontinue, reduce or impair the Affected Service(s) in the Service Area(s) described in their application on or after the authorized discontinuance date(s) listed in the Appendix. For purposes of computation of time when filing a petition for reconsideration, application for review, or petition for judicial review of the Commission's decision(s), the date of "public notice" shall be the latter of the auto grant date stated above in this Public Notice, or the release date(s) of any further public notice(s) or order(s) announcing final Commission action, as applicable. Should no

¹ 47 CFR § 63.71.

² 47 U.S.C. § 214.

³ 47 CFR § 63.71.

⁴ See 47 CFR § 63.71(e) (stating, in relevant part, that an application filed by a dominant carrier "shall be automatically granted on the 60th day... unless the Commission has notified the applicant that the grant will not be automatically effective.").

petitions for reconsideration, applications for review, or petitions for judicial review be timely filed, the proceeding(s) listed in this Public Notice shall be terminated, and the docket(s) will be closed.

Comments objecting to any of the applications listed in the Appendix must be filed with the Commission on or before **April 4, 2016**. Comments should refer to the specific WC Docket No. and Comp. Pol. File No. listed in the Appendix for the particular Section 214 Discontinuance Application that the commenter intends to address. Comments should include specific information about the impact of the 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.⁵ Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs>. 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 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.

Copies of the comments may 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, or faxed to the FCC at (202) 418-1413, Attention: Carmell Weathers. In addition, comments should be served upon the Applicant(s).

These proceedings are considered "permit but disclose" proceedings for purposes of the Commission's *ex parte* rules.⁶ Participants should familiarize themselves 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).

⁵ See *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1998).

⁶ 47 CFR § 1.1200 *et seq.*

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), (888) 835-5322 (tty).

For further information, please see the contacts for the specific discontinuance proceeding you are interested in as listed in the Appendix. The tty number is (888) 835-5322. For further information on procedures regarding section 214 please visit <https://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/domestic-section-214-discontinuance-service>.

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Appendix

- 1) Applicant(s): Brazoria Telephone Company**
WC Docket No. 16-60, Comp. Pol. File No. 1278
Link – <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/proceeding/view?name=16-60>
Affected Service(s) – The following operator services: Bill to Credit Card, Billed to a Third Number, Busy Interrupt, Collect Calls, Line Status Verification, and Person-to-Person
Service Area(s) – Texas, within the company’s service area in Brazoria and Matagorda counties including the Brazoria, Churchill, and partially Jones Creek exchanges
Authorized Date(s) – On or after May 2, 2016
Contact(s) – Rodney McDonald, (202) 418-7513 (voice), Rodney.McDonald@fcc.gov, or Carmell Weathers, (202) 418-2325 (voice), Carmell.Weathers@fcc.gov, of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau
- 2) Applicant(s): Central Arkansas Telephone Cooperative, Inc.**
WC Docket No. 16-61, Comp. Pol. File No. 1279
Link – <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/proceeding/view?name=16-61>
Affected Service(s) – The following operator services: Busy Interrupt and Busy Line Verification
Service Area(s) – Arkansas, in the company’s Antioch, Bismarck, Brown Springs, Caney, Donaldson, Friendship, Lambert, Midway, New Deroche, Point Cedar, and Witherspoon exchanges
Authorized Date(s) – On or after May 2, 2016
Contact(s) – Rodney McDonald, (202) 418-7513 (voice), Rodney.McDonald@fcc.gov, or Carmell Weathers, (202) 418-2325 (voice), Carmell.Weathers@fcc.gov, of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau
- 3) Applicant(s): Hill Country Telephone Cooperative, Inc.**
WC Docket No. 16-62, Comp. Pol. File No. 1281
Link – <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/proceeding/view?name=16-62>
Affected Service(s) – The following operator services: Busy Interrupt and Line Status Verification
Service Area(s) – Texas, within the company’s service area in 15 exchanges located in 14 counties
Authorized Date(s) – On or after May 2, 2016
Contact(s) – Rodney McDonald, (202) 418-7513 (voice), Rodney.McDonald@fcc.gov, or Carmell Weathers, (202) 418-2325 (voice), Carmell.Weathers@fcc.gov, of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau
- 4) Applicant(s): Industry Telephone Company**
WC Docket No. 16-63, Comp. Pol. File No. 1282
Link – <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/proceeding/view?name=16-63>
Affected Service(s) – The following operator services: Busy Interrupt and Line Status Verification
Service Area(s) – Texas, within the company’s service area in Austin, Colorado, Fayette, Lee, and Washington counties including the Carmine, Industry, and New Ulm exchanges
Authorized Date(s) – On or after May 2, 2016
Contact(s) – Rodney McDonald, (202) 418-7513 (voice), Rodney.McDonald@fcc.gov, or Carmell Weathers, (202) 418-2325 (voice), Carmell.Weathers@fcc.gov, of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau

- 5) **Applicant(s): Madison County Telephone Company**
WC Docket No. 16-64, Comp. Pol. File No. 1283
Link – <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/proceeding/view?name=16-64>
Affected Service(s) – The following operator services: Busy Interrupt and Busy Line Verification
Service Area(s) – Arkansas, within the company’s service area in the County of Madison including the Aurora, Forum, Huntsville, and Kingston exchanges
Authorized Date(s) – On or after May 2, 2016
Contact(s) – Rodney McDonald, (202) 418-7513 (voice), Rodney.McDonald@fcc.gov, or Carmell Weathers, (202) 418-2325 (voice), Carmell.Weathers@fcc.gov, of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau
- 6) **Applicant(s): Magazine Telephone Company, Inc.**
WC Docket No. 16-51, Comp. Pol. File No. 1284
Link – <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/proceeding/view?name=16-51>
Affected Service(s) – The following operator services: Busy Interrupt and Busy Line Verification
Service Area(s) – Arkansas, in the Blue Mountain and Magazine exchanges
Authorized Date(s) – On or after May 2, 2016
Contact(s) – Kimberly Jackson, (202) 418-7393 (voice), Kimberly.Jackson@fcc.gov, or Carmell Weathers, (202) 418-2325 (voice), Carmell.Weathers@fcc.gov, of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau
- 7) **Applicant(s): Northern Arkansas Telephone Company, Inc.**
WC Docket No. 16-52, Comp. Pol. File No. 1285
Link – <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/proceeding/view?name=16-52>
Affected Service(s) – The following operator services: Billed to Credit Card, Billed to a Third Number, Busy Interrupt, Busy Line Verification, Collect Call, and Person-to-Person
Service Area(s) – Arkansas, within the company’s service area in the Bull Shoals, Diamond City, Flippin, Lead Hill, Omaha, and Pyatt exchanges
Authorized Date(s) – On or after May 2, 2016
Contact(s) – Kimberly Jackson, (202) 418-7393 (voice), Kimberly.Jackson@fcc.gov, or Carmell Weathers, (202) 418-2325 (voice), Carmell.Weathers@fcc.gov, of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau
- 8) **Applicant(s): Southwest Arkansas Telephone Cooperative, Inc.**
WC Docket No. 16-53, Comp. Pol. File No. 1286
Link – <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/proceeding/view?name=16-53>
Affected Service(s) – The following operator services: Busy Interrupt and Busy Line Verification
Service Area(s) – Arkansas, within the company’s service area in the Doddridge, Emerson, Fouke, Fulton, Garland, Trigg, and Washington exchanges including portions of Columbia, Hempstead, Howard, and Miller counties
Authorized Date(s) – On or after May 2, 2016
Contact(s) – Kimberly Jackson, (202) 418-7393 (voice), Kimberly.Jackson@fcc.gov, or Carmell Weathers, (202) 418-2325 (voice), Carmell.Weathers@fcc.gov, of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau