



# 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 16-350  
April 4, 2016

**DOMESTIC SECTION 214 APPLICATION FILED FOR THE  
TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF NORTHEAST LOUISIANA TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC.  
AND NORTHEAST LONG DISTANCE, LLC**

**STREAMLINED PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED**

**WC Docket No. 16-105**

**Comments Due: April 18, 2016**  
**Reply Comments Due: April 25, 2016**

Rector L. Hopgood and William Michael George 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 HNG Holdings, LLC (HNG Holdings), parent company of Northeast Louisiana Telephone Company, Inc. (Northeast Louisiana) and Northeast Long Distance, LLC (Northeast LD), from Mr. Hopgood to Mr. George.<sup>1</sup>

Northeast Louisiana, a Louisiana corporation, provides rural incumbent local exchange carrier (LEC) service to approximately 485 access lines in the communities of Collinston, Bonita, and Jones in Morehouse Parish in northeastern Louisiana. Northeast LD is a Louisiana limited liability company that resells interstate and intrastate long distance toll services in Northeast Louisiana's local exchange service area. Both are wholly owned subsidiaries of HNG Holdings, a Louisiana limited liability company that does not directly provide telecommunications services. Applicants state that the current owners of HNG Holdings are: Mr. Hopgood (50 percent), William Michael George (24.37 percent), William A. Norsworthy (7.46 percent), Christine M. George Minority Trust (6.06 percent), Erin E. George Minority Trust (6.06 percent), and Douglas M. George Minority Trust (6.06 percent). All individuals are U.S. citizens, and the trusts are U.S.-based.

Applicants state that Mr. Hopgood is retiring and selling his 50 percent ownership interest in HNG Holdings back to the limited liability company. As a result, the other member interests in HNG Holdings are all doubling in size, including William Michael George's member interest (from 24.37 percent to 48.73 percent), William A. Norsworthy's member interest (from 7.46 percent to 14.93 percent), and the member interests of each of three separate trusts for Mr. George's children (from 6.06 percent to 12.11 percent each). As Mr. Hopgood gives up his current negative control of HNG Holdings and its wholly owned subsidiaries, Mr. George will gain positive control of HNG Holdings via his own 48.73 percent equity and voting interest, plus his right to vote as Trustee an additional 36.33 percent of the

---

<sup>1</sup> See 47 C.F.R § 63.03; 47 U.S.C. § 214.

member interests of HNG Holdings held by the trusts for his children. Applicants state that Mr. George is not otherwise a telecommunications provider.

Applicants assert that the proposed transaction is entitled to presumptive streamlined treatment under section 63.03(b)(1)(ii) of the Commission's rules and that a grant of the application will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity.<sup>2</sup>

Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for the Transfer of Control of Northeast Louisiana Telephone Company, Inc. and Northeast Long Distance, LLC, WC Docket No. 16-105 (filed Mar. 29, 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 April 18, 2016**, and reply comments **on or before April 25, 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](mailto:myrva.freeman@fcc.gov);
- 2) Jodie May, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, [jodie.may@fcc.gov](mailto:jodie.may@fcc.gov);
- 3) Jim Bird, Office of General Counsel, [jim.bird@fcc.gov](mailto:jim.bird@fcc.gov);

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), 1-888-835-5322 (tty).

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

---

<sup>2</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 63.03(b)(1)(ii).

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 Jodie May at (202) 418-0913.

- FCC -