



PUBLIC NOTICE

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

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

DA 16-557
May 18, 2016

**DOMESTIC SECTION 214 APPLICATION FILED FOR THE
ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN ASSETS OF SPOC, LLC BY
CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS ENTERPRISE SERVICES, INC.**

STREAMLINED PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

WC Docket No. 16-136

Comments Due: June 1, 2016

Reply Comments Due: June 8, 2016

SPOC, LLC (SPOC) and Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc. (CCES), (collectively, the 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 complete a proposed transaction whereby CCES will acquire certain telecommunications related assets from SPOC.¹

SPOC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Champaign Telephone Company, Inc. (Champaign Telephone and together with SPOC, CTC), an Illinois corporation. SPOC is a competitive local exchange carrier (LEC) and interexchange carrier in Illinois.

CCES, a Delaware corporation, is part of the Consolidated Communications group of companies whose ultimate parent is Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc. (CCHI), a Delaware corporation.² CCHI's various operating subsidiaries (the Consolidated Companies and together with CCHI, Consolidated Communications) provide telecommunications services to residential and business customers in primarily in California, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas and Wisconsin. CCES provides service as a competitive LEC in California, Illinois, Kansas, Missouri, Pennsylvania, and Texas. Applicants state that CCHI is a widely held publicly traded company and no individual or entity currently has a ten percent or greater ownership interest in CCHI.

Pursuant to the terms of an Asset Purchase Agreement, CCES will acquire substantially all of the assets of Champaign Telephone, including the customer base and other assets associated with SPOC's telecommunications services operations. As a result, CCES will replace SPOC as the telecommunications service provider for SPOC's current customers and SPOC will cease providing telecommunications

¹ See 47 C.F.R § 63.03; 47 U.S.C. § 214.

² See Application for a complete list of CCES affiliated telecommunications providers.

services. Applicants assert that the proposed transaction is entitled to presumptive streamlined treatment under section 63.03(b)(2)(ii) of the Commission's rules and that a grant of the application will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity.³

Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for the Acquisition of Certain Assets of SPOC, LLC by Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc., WC Docket No. 16-136 (filed Apr. 22, 2016).

GENERAL INFORMATION

The transfer of assets 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 June 1, 2016**, and reply comments **on or before June 8, 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 assets 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) Tracey Wilson, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, tracey.wilson@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.

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), 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

³ 47 C.F.R. § 63.03(b)(2)(ii).

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 Tracey Wilson at (202) 418-1394 or Dennis Johnson at (202) 418-0809.

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