**DA 19-561**

**Released: June 13, 2019**

**Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Rate-of-Return Carriers Electing incentive regulation for their business data services**

**WC Docket No. 17-144**

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) announces that 37 rate-of-return carriers serving 88 study areas in 29 states notified the Bureau of their intention to elect incentive regulation beginning July 1, 2019, for their lower speed business data services (BDS) Time Division Multiplexed (TDM) transport and end user channel termination services pursuant to the *Rate-of-Return BDS Order*.[[1]](#footnote-3) The electing carriers and related study areas are identified in the accompanying Appendix.

In the *Rate-of-Return BDS Order*, the Commission adopted a path for rate-of-return carriers that receive model-based or other forms of fixed high cost universal service support to voluntarily elect to transition their BDS offerings to incentive regulation. The Commission required electing carriers currently in the National Exchange Carrier Association (NECA) pool to notify NECA by March 1, 2019, of their intention to exit the NECA traffic-sensitive pool for their BDS offerings, and to notify the Bureau of their election by May 1, 2019, to be effective July 1, 2019.[[2]](#footnote-4)

For further information, please contact Gregory Capobianco, Wireline Competition Bureau, Pricing Policy Division, at 202-418-0808, or at gregory.capobianco@fcc.gov.

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**Appendix**

**Carriers Electing Incentive Regulation for Lower Speed BDS**

**TDM Transport and End User Channel Termination Services**

| **Rate of Return Carrier** | **Study Area Name** | **State** | **Study Area** **Code No.** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Accipiter Communications Inc. dba Zona Communications | Accipiter Communications Inc.  | AZ | 452191 |
| Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Fremont Telcom Co. | Fremont Telcom Co. | ID | 472222 |
| Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Fremont Telcom Co. | Fremont Telcom Co. | ID | 473333 |
| Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Fremont Telcom Co. | Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc. | MT | 482235 |
| Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Fremont Telcom Co. | Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc. | MT | 483308 |
| Blue Earth Valley Telephone Company | Blue Earth Valley Telephone Co. | MN | 361358 |
| Campti-Pleasant Hill Telephone Co., Inc | Campti-Pleasant Hill  | LA | 270426 |
| Cannon Valley Telecom | Cannon Vly Telecom  | MN | 361440 |
| Cass Telephone Company | Cass Telephone Co.  | IL | 340984 |
| Clarity Telecom | Clarity Telecom, LLC dba Vast Broadband | SD | 391652 |
| ComSouth Telecommunications, Inc. | ComSouth Telecomm | GA | 220369 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of Maine - Community Service | ME | 100015 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Berkshire Telephone Company NY | NY | 150073 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Chautauqua & Erie Tel. Corp. | NY | 150078 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Taconic Telephone Corp. | NY | 150084 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | The Bentleyville Telephone Company | PA | 170145 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Marianna-Scenery Hill Tel. Co. | PA | 170185 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of FL – Florida | FL | 210291 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of FL – Perry | FL | 210329 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of FL – St Joe | FL | 210339 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of OH – Columbus Grove | OH | 300604 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of OH – Germantown | OH | 300618 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of OH – Orwell | OH | 300649 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of Central IL – El Paso | IL | 341004 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of Central IL – C-R | IL | 341009 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of Central IL – Odin | IL | 341065 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of MN – Mid Comm | MN | 361375 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of MN – Mankato | MN | 361427 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of KAS – Sunflower/Bluestem | KS | 411835 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of Missouri | MO | 421472 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of Oklahoma | OK | 431981 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of KS-CO | CO | 461835 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of CO – Big Sandy | CO | 462192 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of CO – Columbine | CO | 462204 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of WA – Ellensburg | WA | 522412 |
| Consolidated Communications Inc | Consolidated Communications of WA – YCOM | WA | 522453 |
| Consolidated Companies, Inc (Neb) | Consolidated Telco, Inc. | NE | 371530 |
| Consolidated Companies, Inc (Neb) | Consolidated Telephone Company, Inc. | NE | 371532 |
| Consolidated Companies, Inc (Neb) | Curtis Telephone Company | NE | 371536 |
| Consolidated Companies, Inc (Neb) | Consolidated Telecom, Inc. | NE | 371562 |
| Cross Tel. Co. | Cross Telephone Co.  | OK | 431985 |
| Don Miller (Northwest Telephone Cooperative Association, Ayrshire Farmers Mutual Telephone Company) | Ayrshire Farmers Mutual Telephone Company | IA | 351105 |
| Don Miller (Northwest Telephone Cooperative Association, Ayrshire Farmers Mutual Telephone Company) | Northwest Telephone Cooperative Association | IA | 351261 |
| East Buchanan Telephone Coop | East Buchanan Cooperative  | IA | 351156 |
| Easton Telephone Co. | Easton Telephone Co.  | MN | 361384 |
| Eckles Telephone Co. | Eckles Telephone Co.  | MN | 361386 |
| Fail Telecommunications Corporation | Chickamauga Telephone Corporation | GA | 220354 |
| Fail Telecommunications Corporation | Bruce Telephone Company, Inc. | MS | 280447 |
| Fail Telecommunications Corporation | Fulton Telephone Company, Inc. | MS | 280455 |
| Fail Telecommunications Corporation | Mound Bayou Telephone & Communications, Inc. | MS | 280462 |
| Geneseo Telephone Company | Geneseo Telephone Co.  | IL | 341016 |
| Granada Telephone Company | Granada Telephone Co.  | MN | 361399 |
| Hanson Communications | The Middle Point Home Telephone Company | OH | 300633 |
| Hanson Communications | Telephone Service Company | OH | 300659 |
| Hanson Communications | Clara City Telephone Exchange | MN | 361370 |
| Hanson Communications | Sacred Heart Telephone Company | MN | 361476 |
| Hanson Communications | Starbuck Telephone Company | MN | 361487 |
| Hanson Communications | Zumbrota Telephone Company | MN | 361515 |
| Hanson Communications | Fort Randall Telephone Company | SD | 391660 |
| Hanson Communications | Mt Rushmore Telephone Company | SD | 391660 |
| Henry County Telephone Company | Henry County Telephone Co.  | IL | 341029 |
| Inter-Community Telephone | Inter-Community Telephone | ND | 381616 |
| Magna5 RTC LLC d/b/a Richmond Telephone Company | X5 RTC, LLC  | MA | 110737 |
| Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative | Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. | MT | 482246 |
| Millry Telephone Company, Inc. | Millry Telephone Co., Inc. | AL | 250304 |
| Moapa Valley Telephone Company | Moapa Valley Telephone Co  | NV | 552353 |
| Mt. Horeb Telephone Company | Mount Horeb Telephone Co.  | WI | 330916 |
| Nebraska Central Telephone Company | Nebraska Central Telephone | NE | 371574 |
| Otelco, Inc. | Pine Tree Telephone LLC  | ME | 100020 |
| Otelco, Inc. | Saco River Telephone LLC  | ME | 100022 |
| Otelco, Inc. | Mid-Maine Telecom  | ME | 103315 |
| Otelco, Inc. | Granby Telephone & Telegraph Co. of Mass*.*  | MA | 110036 |
| Otelco, Inc. | War Telephone LLC | WV | 200258 |
| Otelco, Inc. | Blountsville Telephone Co.  | AL | 250282 |
| Otelco, Inc. | Brindlee Mountain Telephone Co.  | AL | 250283 |
| Otelco, Inc. | Hopper Telecommunications Co.  | AL | 250300 |
| Otelco, Inc. | Otelco Telephone LLC  | AL | 250312 |
| Otelco, Inc. | Mid-Missouri Telephone Co. | MO | 421917 |
| Pine Island Telephone Company | Pine Island Telephone Co.  | MN | 361454 |
| Pioneer Telephone Cooperative, Inc. | Pioneer Telephone Cooperative  | OK | 432018 |
| Smithville Telephone Company | Smithville Telephone Co.  | MS | 280467 |
| Sycamore Telephone Company | Sycamore Telephone Co.  | OH | 300658 |
| Thomas Conry (Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Co.) | Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Co. (Defiance) | IA | 351149 |
| Thomas Conry (Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Co.) | Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Co. | IA | 351168 |
| Thomas Conry (Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Co.) | Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Co. (Manilla) | IA | 351235 |
| Union Telephone Company | Union Telephone Company | WY | 512297 |
| West Carolina Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. | West Carolina Rural | SC | 240550 |
| Western Iowa Telephone Association | Western Iowa Association  | IA | 351334 |
| Wyoming Mutual Telephone Company | Wyoming Mutual Telephone  | IA | 351343 |

1. *Regulation of Business Data Services for Rate-of- Return Local Exchange Carriers et al.*, WC Docket Nos. 17-144 et al., Report and Order, Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 33 FCC Rcd 10403 (2018) (*Rate-of-Return BDS Order*). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
2. *See id.* at 10445, para. 119. Rate-of-return carriers that receive model-based or other forms of fixed high cost universal service support also have the option of moving their BDS offerings to incentive regulation effective July 1, 2020 by notifying NECA of their intent to do so by March 1, 2020, and the Bureau of their election by May 1, 2020. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)