PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
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DA 20-1291
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COMMENTS INVITED ON SECTION 214 APPLICATION(S) TO DISCONTINUE DOMESTIC DOMINANT CARRIER TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

WC Docket No. 20-326

Comments Due: November 30, 2020

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(f) of the Commission's rules, the Section 214 Discontinuance Application(s) listed in the Appendix will be deemed granted automatically on **December 29, 2020**, 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(f), 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 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.

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[1] 47 CFR § 63.71. *See* the Appendix for additional details regarding specific proceedings.

[2] 47 U.S.C. § 214.

[3] 47 CFR § 63.71.

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

Should no 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 **November 30, 2020**. 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. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, filers must submit one additional copy for each additional docket or rulemaking number. Filings can be sent by commercial overnight courier or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail.[6] All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission. Commercial overnight mail and U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express Mail and Priority Mail must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701.

Copies of the comments may also be emailed to the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, using the contact information listed in the Appendix for the appropriate Section 214 Application. 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.[7] 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).

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

[6] In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the FCC has closed its current hand-delivery filing location at FCC Headquarters. We encourage outside parties to take full advantage of the Commission's electronic filing system. Any party that is unable to meet the filing deadline due to the building closure may request a waiver of the comment or reply comment deadline, to the extent permitted by law. *FCC Announces Closure of FCC Headquarters Open Window and Change in Hand-Delivery Filing*, Public Notice, DA 20-304 (rel. Mar. 19, 2020), https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-closes-headquarters-open-window-and-changes-hand-delivery-policy.

[7] 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): Verizon Washington, DC Inc.**
WC Docket No. 20-326, Comp. Pol. File No. 1647
Link – https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/filings?proceedings_name=20-326&sort=date_disseminated,DESC
Affected Service(s) – the following Interstate Special Access and Switched Access data and switching services: Voice Grade Service, WATS Access Line Service, Digital Data Service, and Feature Group A (also known as PagePath)
Service Area(s) – multiple wire centers in Washington, DC
Authorized Date(s) – on or after December 31, 2020
Contact(s) – Kimberly Jackson, (202) 418-7393 (voice), Kimberly.Jackson@fcc.gov of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau
Note: Verizon plans to grandfather the Affected Services as follows: On or after **December 31, 2020**, no new customers will be added and existing customers may continue their service, but will be prohibited from making moves, additions, and changes.