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DA 20-499

Released: May 8, 2020

NOTICE OF NON-STREAMLINED DOMESTIC 214 APPLICATION GRANTED

WC Docket No. 20-69

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) grants the application filed by Onvoy, LLC (Onvoy) and Garden Valley Telephone Company (Garden Valley) (collectively, Applicants), pursuant to section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and sections 63.03-04 of the Commission's rules, requesting approval for the transfer of certain assets of Onvoy to Garden Valley.¹ No party filed comments in opposition to a grant of the Application.

Onvoy is authorized to provide competitive local exchange carrier (LEC) and/or interexchange telecommunications services in the District of Columbia and every state except Alaska. Onvoy provides long distance services under its "Garden Valley Long Distance" branded product to approximately 8,100 customers in, and adjacent to, Garden Valley's service area (the Onvoy/Garden Valley Customer Base). Garden Valley provides services as an incumbent LEC to 24 exchanges and as a competitive LEC to two exchanges in Northeastern Minnesota. Pursuant to the terms of the proposed transaction, Garden Valley will acquire all of Onvoy's rights, title, interest, and obligations to the long distance telephone service accounts related to the Onvoy/Garden Valley Customer Base.

The Bureau finds, upon consideration of the record, that the proposed transfer of assets will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity, and therefore grants the requested authorization.² Pursuant to section 1.103 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.103, the consent granted herein is effective upon the release of the Public Notice. Petitions for reconsideration under section 1.106 or applications for review under section 1.115 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.106, 1.115, may be filed within 30 days of the date of this Public Notice.

¹ Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for the Acquisition of Assets of Onvoy, LLX by Garden Valley Telephone Company, WC Docket No. 20-69 (filed Mar. 4, 2020) (Application). A grant of the domestic 214 application is without prejudice to Commission action on other related, pending applications.

² See, e.g., Applications of Level 3 Communications, Inc. and CenturyLink, Inc. for Consent to Transfer Control of Licenses and Authorizations, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 32 FCC Rcd 9581, 9594, 9605, paras. 26 and 52 (2017) (finding no harm to competition in CenturyLink's incumbent LEC territory, nor outside of CenturyLink's incumbent LEC territory, where applicants operate as competitive LECs, and further finding that the transaction "will expand the on-net reach of the newly combined firm resulting in a more effective and stronger competitor against larger cable and incumbent LEC competitors, among others, particularly outside of Century Link's incumbent LEC region, where it, like Level 3, operates as a competitive LEC.").

For further information, please contact Gregory Kwan, 202-418-1191, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau.

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