



# PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission  
45 L St., N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500  
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>

DA 21-1382  
November 4, 2021

**DOMESTIC SECTION 214 APPLICATION FILED FOR THE  
TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF UNION TELEPHONE COMPANY AND  
UNION INFORMATION SYSTEMS, LLC TO AMHERST TELEPHONE COMPANY**

**STREAMLINED PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED**

**WC Docket No. 21-412**

**Comments Due: November 18, 2021**

**Reply Comment Due: November 26, 2021**

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) seeks comment from interested parties on an application filed by Union Telephone Company (Union) and Amherst Telephone Company (Amherst) (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 consent to transfer control of Union and its wholly owned subsidiary, Union Information Systems, LLC (UIS), to Amherst.<sup>1</sup>

Union, a Wisconsin corporation, provides telecommunications services to approximately 2,164 access lines as an incumbent local exchange carrier (LEC) in the Plainfield, Hancock, Coloma, and Almond exchanges in portions of Waushara, Portage, Adams, and Marquette Counties in central Wisconsin. UIS, a Wisconsin limited liability company, provides resold domestic and Internet Protocol television services to customers in and around Union's local exchange service area.

Amherst, a Wisconsin corporation, provides telecommunications services to approximately 4,400 access lines as an incumbent LEC in the Amherst, Polonia, and Rosholt exchanges in portions of Portage, Marathon, and Waupaca Counties in central Wisconsin. Applicants state that portions of Union's Almond exchange and Amherst's Amherst exchange are adjacent to one another. Amherst is held by 23 stockholders, with two holding a 10% or greater interest: Carl F. Bohman (18.10% interest) and Rita L. Danielson (13% interest) (both U.S. citizens).

Pursuant to the terms of the proposed transaction, Amherst would purchase 100% of the issued and outstanding common stock of Union. As a result, Union and UIS would become wholly owned subsidiaries of Amherst.

Applicants assert that a grant of the application would serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity. We accept this application for streamlined processing pursuant to our authority to afford streamlining to applications on a case-by-case basis.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See 47 U.S.C. § 214; 47 CFR §§ 63.03-04. Applicants also filed applications for the transfer of authorizations associated with international services. Any action on this domestic section 214 application is without prejudice to Commission action on other related, pending applications

<sup>2</sup> See *Implementation of Further Streamlining Measures for Domestic Section 214 Authorizations*, Report and Order, 17 FCC Rcd 5517, 5531-32, 5535, paras. 28, 34 (2002); 47 C.F.R. § 63.03(a).

Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for the Transfer of Control of  
Union Telephone Company and Union Information Systems, LLC  
To Amherst Telephone Company, WC Docket No. 21-412 (filed Oct. 20, 2021).

## **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 November 18, 2021**, and reply comments **on or before November 26, 2021**. Pursuant to section 63.52 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 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 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 Charles, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, [myrva.charles@fcc.gov](mailto:myrva.charles@fcc.gov);
- 2) Dennis Johnson, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, [dennis.johnson@fcc.gov](mailto:dennis.johnson@fcc.gov);
- 3) David Krech, Telecommunications and Analysis Division, International Bureau, [david.krech@fcc.gov](mailto:david.krech@fcc.gov); and
- 4) Jim Bird, Office of General Counsel, [jim.bird@fcc.gov](mailto:jim.bird@fcc.gov).

People with Disabilities: We ask that requests for accommodations be made as soon as possible in order to allow the agency to satisfy such requests whenever possible. Send an email to [fcc504@fcc.gov](mailto:fcc504@fcc.gov) or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530.

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 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 CFR § 1.1206(b). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.

To allow the Commission to consider fully all substantive issues regarding the application in as timely and efficient a manner as possible, petitioners and commenters should raise all issues in

their initial filings. New issues may not be raised in responses or replies.<sup>3</sup> A party or interested person seeking to raise a new issue after the pleading cycle has closed must show good cause why it was not possible for it to have raised the issue previously. Submissions after the pleading cycle has closed that seek to raise new issues based on new facts or newly discovered facts should be filed within 15 days after such facts are discovered. Absent such a showing of good cause, any issues not timely raised may be disregarded by the Commission.

For further information, please contact Myrva Charles at (202) 418-1506 or Dennis Johnson at (202) 418-0809.

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<sup>3</sup> See 47 CFR § 1.45(c).