Federal Communications Commission 45 L Street NE Washington, DC 20554

News Media Information 202-418-0500 Internet: www.fcc.gov

DA 25-980

Released: November 21, 2025

DOMESTIC SECTION 214 APPLICATION FILED FOR THE TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF VTX COMMUNICATIONS, LLC FROM VALLEY TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC. TO CONTINENT COM OPERATING, INC.

STREAMLINED PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

WC Docket No. 25-261

Comments Due: December 5, 2025

Reply Comments Due: December 12, 2025

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment from interested parties on an application filed by Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (Valley Telephone) and Continent Com Operating, Inc. (Continent Com) (together, Applicants), pursuant to section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and section 63.04 of the Commission's rules, requesting Commission consent to transfer control of VTX Communications, LLC (VTX), a wholly owned subsidiary of Valley Telephone, to Continent Com.²

VTX, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Valley Telephone, is a Texas limited liability company and competitive local exchange carrier (LEC) providing telecommunications and broadband services to customers in 52 counties throughout Texas.³ Valley Telephone, a Texas corporation, is an established telephone cooperative offering communications service as an incumbent LEC.⁴

Continent Com is a newly formed Texas corporation established to acquire, invest in, and operate communications networks across Texas.⁵ Continent Com is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Continent Communications, LLC (Continent), a Texas limited liability company, wholly owned by U.S. entities and

¹ See 47 U.S.C. § 214(a); 47 CFR § 63.03-04.

² Domestic Section 214 Application for the Transfer of Control of VTX Communications, LLC from Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc. to Continent Com Operating, Inc., WC Docket No. 25-261 (filed Aug. 27, 2025) (Application). Applicants filed a supplement to the Application on September 17, 2025. Letter from Ulises R. Pin and Patricia Cave, Counsel for Continent Com Operating, Inc., and David Rodriguez and Tucker Villarreal, Counsel for Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc. and VTX Communications, LLC, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC (filed Sept. 17, 2025) (Supplement). Applicants also filed applications for the transfer of authorizations associated with wireless and international services (ICFS File No. ITC-T/C-20250811-00081). Any action on the Application is without prejudice to Commission action on other related, pending applications.

³ Application at 2. VTX participates in the Lifeline program and will continue to do so post-consummation of the transaction. Supplement at 2.

⁴ Application at 2.

⁵ *Id*.

individuals,6 that also does not provide telecommunications services.7

Pursuant to the terms of the purchase agreement, Continent Com will acquire all of the outstanding membership interests in VTX from Valley Telephone and, as a result, VTX will be a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of Continent Com.⁸

Applicants assert that a grant of the Application would serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity. We accept the Application for streamlined processing under section 63.03(b)(1)(ii) of the Commission's rules. 10

Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for the Transfer of Control of VTX Communications, LLC from Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc. to Continent Com Operating, Inc., WC Docket No. 25-261 (filed Aug. 27, 2025).

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. Interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates indicated on the first page of this document. 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, interested parties must file comments using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS): https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs.

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.

In addition, e-mail one copy of each pleading to each of the following:

- 1) Megan Danner, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, megan.danner@fcc.gov.
- 1) David Krech, Telecommunications and Analysis Division, Office of International Affairs,

⁶ The following U.S. entities, individuals, and familial trusts will have a 10% or greater interest in VTX post-consummation of the transaction: (1) Continent Com (direct 100% equity and voting interests); (2) Continent (indirect 100% equity and voting interests); (3) Zoro Capital, LLC, a Texas limited liability company (indirect 45% equity and voting interests); (4) Michael Mallick (indirect 36% equity and voting interests); (5) MRR Investments, LLC, a Texas entity (indirect 10% equity and voting interests); (7) Manny Ramirez (indirect 10% equity and voting interests); (8) Keating Family, LP, an Oklahoma entity (indirect 45% equity and voting interests); (9) Keating Family GP, LP, an Oklahoma entity (indirect less than 1% equity and indirect 45% voting interest as general partner of Keating Family, LP); (10) Brittany O. Keating, trustee of the Brittany O. Keating Revocable Trust, an Oklahoma entity (indirect 22.28% equity and 45% voting interests); and (11) Anthony F Keating III, managing member of the Keating Management GP, LP and trustee of the Anthony F Keating III Revocable Trust, an Oklahoma entity (indirect 22.28% equity and 45% voting interests). *Id.* at 7-9; Supplement at 1, Attach. A.

⁷ See Application at 2, 9, 11.

⁸ *Id.* at 3.

⁹ *Id.* at 3-5.

¹⁰ 47 CFR § 63.03(b)(1)(ii).

david.krech@fcc.gov; and

2) Jim Bird, Office of General Counsel, jim.bird@fcc.gov.

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. 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 Megan Danner, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at (202) 418-1151.

-FCC-

3

¹¹ See 47 CFR § 1.45(c).