



# PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission  
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Washington, DC 20554

News Media Information 202-418-0500  
Internet: [www.fcc.gov](http://www.fcc.gov)

DA 26-247

Released: March 16, 2026

## DOMESTIC SECTION 214 APPLICATION FILED FOR THE TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF CLEARWAVE FIBER LLC TO POINT BROADBAND HOLDINGS, LLC

### NON-STREAMLINED PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

#### WC Docket No. 26-14

**Comments Due: March 30, 2026**

**Reply Comments Due: April 6, 2026**

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment from interested parties on an application filed by Point Broadband Holdings, LLC (PB Holdings, or with its operating subsidiaries, Point Broadband) and Clearwave Fiber LLC, (Clearwave Fiber, with its operating subsidiaries, Clearwave) (together, Applicants), pursuant to section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and section 63.04 of the Commission's rules,<sup>1</sup> requesting Commission consent for the transfer of control of Clearwave to PB Holdings.<sup>2</sup>

Clearwave Fiber, a Delaware limited liability company, and its subsidiaries provide domestic telecommunications services as competitive local exchange carriers (LECs) in Florida, Georgia, Illinois, and Missouri, and other services in Kansas.<sup>3</sup> Clearwave Fiber's indirect, wholly-owned subsidiaries, Hargray of Georgia LLC (Hargray Georgia) and Hargray of Florida LLC (Hargray Florida), operate as competitive LECs in Georgia and Florida, respectively.<sup>4</sup> Clearwave Fiber is a joint venture controlled by its Board of Managers that is majority owned by Cable One, Inc. (Cable One) (57.7% equity interest,

<sup>1</sup> See 47 U.S.C. § 214(a); 47 CFR § 63.04.

<sup>2</sup> Domestic Section 214 Application for the Transfer of Control of Clearwave Fiber LLC to Point Broadband Holdings, LLC, WC Docket No. 26-14 (filed Jan. 16, 2026) (Application). Applicants filed a supplement to their Application on March 2, 2026. Letter from Matthew DelNero, et al., Counsel for PB Holdings, and Matthew Brill, et. al., Counsel for Clearwave, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 26-14 (filed Mar. 2, 2026) (Supplement). Any action on the domestic section 214 application is without prejudice to Commission action on other related applications.

<sup>3</sup> Application at 1, 13. Applicants state that Clearwave does not receive universal service fund (USF) support. *Id.* at 6. Applicants state that Clearwave is designated as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) in Illinois, but does not receive Lifeline funding. *Id.* at 6-7. Clearwave's subsidiary, Delta Communications, L.L.C. d/b/a Clearwave Fiber, is a party to another pending application (MCC Transaction) for the acquisition of certain Clearwave Fiber assets, in Illinois and Missouri by MCC Network Services, LLC and Metro CW Holdings, LLC (together, MCC). See Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for the Acquisitions of Certain Assets of Delta Communications, L.L.C. d/b/a Clearwave Fiber by Metro CW Holdings, LLC, WC Docket No. 25-323, Public Notice, DA 26-93 (WCB 2026). Applicants acknowledge that Clearwave previously received funds under the Rural Broadband Experiments (RBE) program for certain assets that are being transferred as part of the MCC Transaction and state that the MCC Transaction will close prior to the proposed transaction that is the subject of this Public Notice. Application at 6-7.

<sup>4</sup> Application at 3.

54.5% voting interest), a publicly traded Delaware corporation.<sup>5</sup>

PB Holdings, a Delaware limited liability company, through its subsidiaries and affiliates, offers telecommunications services or other services in Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Maryland, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.<sup>6</sup> PB Holdings is the parent company of a fiber-to-the-premise provider, Point Broadband Fiber Holding, LLC (Point Broadband Fiber), which serves residential and commercial customers in the Midwest and Eastern United States.<sup>7</sup> Applicants state that Point Broadband Fiber is designated as an ETC and is authorized to receive high-cost, Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) support to serve 2,000 locations in Alabama, Georgia, New York, Michigan, and Virginia.<sup>8</sup> Applicants further state that Point Broadband Fiber also receives high-cost support in the form of Connect America Fund (CAF) support in Michigan.<sup>9</sup> Point Broadband's subsidiaries, Sunset Fiber and Sunset Digital, are authorized to provide telecommunications services in Virginia.<sup>10</sup> Applicants maintain that Sunset Digital is designated as an ETC and is authorized to receive high-cost support in the form of CAF support in Tennessee and Virginia.<sup>11</sup> PB Holdings is held by the following U.S. entities: GTCR Investment XIII LLC (GTCR Investment XIII) (39.8 percent equity interest) and Tenth Berkshire Associates LLC (Tenth Berkshire) (31.7 percent equity interest), with both entities holding a controlling voting interest.<sup>12</sup>

Applicants state that, pursuant to the terms of the proposed transaction, at consummation, Clearwave Fiber would ultimately become an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of PB Holdings.<sup>13</sup> Applicants state that as a part of the proposed transaction "certain existing equity holders of Clearwave will roll over all or portion of their equity interest in Clearwave into equity interest in PB Holdings, while others will receive cash consideration in exchange for all or a portion of their equity interests in Clearwave."<sup>14</sup> Applicants further state that, post-transaction, the following entities would indirectly and jointly control PB Holdings: GTCR Investment XIII, as general partner of GTCR Partners XIII/B and GTCR Fund XIII/A&C, will hold 34.6 percent equity interest, and Tenth Berkshire, as general partner of BP Broadband, BP Fund Holdings, Berkshire Fund X, and Berkshire Fund X-A, will hold 24.6 percent

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<sup>5</sup> *Id.* at 2-3, Exh. B (Pre-Transaction Ownership of Clearwave); Supplement at 1. Applicants state that BlackRock, Inc., a publicly-traded Delaware corporation, holds 12.7 percent of the outstanding shares of common stock of Cable One and GTCR Strategic Growth Investment I LLC holds an 18.2 percent voting interest in Clearwave. Application at Exh. B (Pre-Transaction Ownership of Clearwave). Applicants provide a description of Clearwave's affiliates in the Application. Application at 13-14, Exh. B. Applicants also provide additional pre-transaction and post-transaction ownership information of the Applicants in the Application and Supplement. Application at Exhs. A-C, Supplement at 1-3.

<sup>6</sup> Application at 2. Applicants provide a description of PB Holdings' affiliates in the Application. *Id.* at 13.

<sup>7</sup> *Id.* at 2.

<sup>8</sup> *Id.* at 6-8.

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

<sup>10</sup> *Id.* at 12.

<sup>11</sup> *Id.* at 6-8.

<sup>12</sup> *Id.* at 2, Exh. A (Pre-Transaction Ownership of Point Broadband); Supplement at 2, Supplemental Exh. C (Post-Transaction Ownership Structure Chart). Applicants state that control of GTCR Investment and Tenth Berkshire are held by their respective Managing Directors, who are all U.S. citizens. Supplement at 2-3.

<sup>13</sup> *Id.* at 3-4. Certain Applicants, or their affiliates, would subsequently consummate a series of pro forma transfers. *Id.* at 4.

<sup>14</sup> Application at 4.

equity interest).<sup>15</sup>

Applicants assert that a grant of the Application would serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity.<sup>16</sup> Because the proposed transaction is more complex than those accepted for streamlined treatment, and in order to analyze whether the proposed transaction would serve the public interest, we accept the Application for non-streamlined processing.<sup>17</sup>

Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for the Transfer of Control of  
Clearwave Fiber LLC to Point Broadband Holdings, LLC,  
WC Docket No. 26-14 (filed Jan. 16, 2026).

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The application identified herein has been found, upon initial review, to be acceptable for filing. The Commission reserves the right to return any 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. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/>.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing.
  - Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial courier, or by the U.S. Postal Service. **All filings must be addressed to the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.**
  - Hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary are accepted between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by the FCC's mailing contractor at 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of before entering the building.
  - Commercial courier deliveries (any deliveries not by the U.S. Postal Service) must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701.
  - Filings sent by U.S. Postal Service First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, and Priority Mail Express must be sent to 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554.

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](mailto: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) Dennis Johnson, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, [dennis.johnson@fcc.gov](mailto:dennis.johnson@fcc.gov); and

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<sup>15</sup> Supplement at 2-3, Exh. C. Applicants describe that GTCR Investment XIII and Tenth Berkshire would each hold a 100 percent attributed voting interest in PB Holdings post-transaction, based on their joint control, including their rights to appoint Board Members and each holding "consent rights over certain material Board actions that confer negative control." *Id.* at 2. Applicants maintain that, post-transaction, Cable One would hold approximately a 3.3 percent direct and 9.3 percent indirect equity and voting interest in PB Holdings.

<sup>16</sup> Application at 8-10.

<sup>17</sup> 47 CFR § 63.03(c)(1)(v).

- 2) Jim Bird, Office of General Counsel, [jim.bird@fcc.gov](mailto: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.<sup>18</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 Dennis Johnson, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at (202) 418-0809 or [dennis.johnson@fcc.gov](mailto:dennis.johnson@fcc.gov).

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<sup>18</sup> See 47 CFR § 1.45(c).