



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20554

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

DA 26-33
Released: January 9, 2026

COMMENTS INVITED ON SECTION 214 APPLICATIONS TO DISCONTINUE DOMESTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES AS PART OF A TECHNOLOGY TRANSITION

WC Docket Nos. 26-5, 26-6 & 26-7

Comments Due: January 26, 2026

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 requests 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 **February 9, 2026**, the 31st 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 service ("Authorized Date"). Any applicant whose application has been deemed granted may discontinue their Affected Service(s) in their Service Area(s) on or after the authorized discontinuance date(s) specified in the Appendix, in accordance with their filed

¹ 47 CFR § 63.71.

² 47 U.S.C. § 214.

³ 47 CFR § 63.71.

⁴ See 47 CFR § 63.71(f)(1) (stating, in relevant part, that an application filed by "any carrier meeting the requirements of paragraph (f)(2)(ii) of this section shall be automatically granted on the 31st day... unless the Commission has notified the applicant that the grant will not be automatically effective."); see also 47 CFR § 63.71(f)(2)(ii) (stating that "[a]n application to discontinue, reduce, or impair an existing retail service as part of a technology transition, as defined in § 63.60(i), may be automatically granted only if: ...The applicant (A) Offers a stand-alone interconnected VoIP service, as defined in § 9.3 of this chapter, throughout the affected service area, and (B) At least one other alternative stand-alone facilities-based wireline or wireless voice service is available from another unaffiliated provider throughout the affected service area."); *Accelerating Wireline Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment*, WC Docket No. 17-84, Order, DA 25-248, para. 6 (WCB Mar. 20, 2025) (waiving the "stand-alone" requirement for a period of two years when a carrier seeks to discontinue a legacy voice service pursuant to section 214(a), thereby allowing carriers to satisfy both prongs of the Alternative Options Test with a bundled service) (*Standalone Waiver Order*)).

representations. Accordingly, pursuant to section 63.71(f), and the terms outlined in each application, absent further Commission action, each applicant may discontinue 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 that application. 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 later of 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. 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 the application listed in the Appendix must be filed with the Commission on or before **January 26, 2026**. Comments should refer to the specific WC Docket No. and Comp. Pol. File No. listed in the Appendix for the Section 214 Discontinuance Application. 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). *Electronic Filers:* Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <https://www.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.

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.

This proceeding shall be treated as a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding in accordance with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.⁵ 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). In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written *ex parte* presentations and memoranda summarizing oral *ex parte* presentations,

⁵ 47 CFR § 1.1200 *et seq.*

and all attachments thereto, must be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (e.g., .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.

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.

For further information, please see the contact(s) for the specific discontinuance proceeding you are interested in as listed in the Appendix. For further information on procedures regarding section 214 please visit <https://www.fcc.gov/general/domestic-section-214-discontinuance-service>.

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Appendix

- 1) **Applicant(s): Consolidated Communications of Illinois Company, LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications and Fidium**
WC Docket No. 26-5, Comp. Pol. File No. 2088
Link – [https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings/results?q=\(proceedings.name:\(%2226-5%22\)\)](https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings/results?q=(proceedings.name:(%2226-5%22)))
Affected Service(s) – Legacy voice service
Service Area(s) – at locations in one exchange in Illinois that are passed by fiber, as specified in the application
Authorized Date(s) – on or after March 24, 2026
Contact(s) – Rodney McDonald, (202) 418-7513 (voice), Rodney.McDonald@fcc.gov, of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau

- 2) **Applicant(s): Consolidated Communications of Northern New England Company, LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications and Fidium**
WC Docket No. 26-6, Comp. Pol. File No. 2089
Link – [https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings/results?q=\(proceedings.name:\(%2226-6%22\)\)](https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings/results?q=(proceedings.name:(%2226-6%22)))
Affected Service(s) – Legacy voice service
Service Area(s) – at locations in twelve exchanges in Maine and seven exchanges in New Hampshire that are passed by fiber, as specified in the application
Authorized Date(s) – on or after March 24, 2026
Contact(s) – Rodney McDonald, (202) 418-7513 (voice), Rodney.McDonald@fcc.gov, of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau

- 3) **Applicant(s): Consolidated Communications of Vermont Company, LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications and Fidium**
WC Docket No. 26-7, Comp. Pol. File No. 2090
Link – [https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings/results?q=\(proceedings.name:\(%2226-7%22\)\)](https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings/results?q=(proceedings.name:(%2226-7%22)))
Affected Service(s) – Legacy voice service
Service Area(s) – at locations in five exchanges in Vermont that are passed by fiber, as specified in the application
Authorized Date(s) – on or after March 24, 2026
Contact(s) – Rodney McDonald, (202) 418-7513 (voice), Rodney.McDonald@fcc.gov, of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau