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For Immediate Release**FCC INITIATES PROCEEDING REGARDING REVOCATION AND
TERMINATION OF PACIFIC NETWORKS' AND
COMNET'S AUTHORIZATIONS**

WASHINGTON, March 17, 2021—The Federal Communications Commission today launched a proceeding to determine whether to end Pacific Networks' and its wholly owned subsidiary ComNet's authority to provide domestic interstate and international telecommunications services within the United States under section 214 of the Communications Act. Promotion of national security is an integral part of the Commission's public interest responsibility, and today's action seeks to protect the nation's telecommunications infrastructure from potential security threats.

Pacific Networks and ComNet are indirectly and ultimately owned and controlled by the government of the People's Republic of China. The Commission has raised concerns regarding the vulnerability of subsidiaries of Chinese state-owned entities to the exploitation, influence, and control of the Chinese government. As part of this effort, the FCC [ordered](#) Pacific Networks and ComNet last year to show cause why the Commission should not start a process for revoking and terminating their domestic and international section 214 authorizations. FCC staff reviewed the companies' response as well as comments from Executive Branch agencies that identified a number of significant national security and law enforcement concerns.

Today, the Commission determined that Pacific Networks and ComNet have failed at this stage to dispel serious concerns regarding their retention of section 214 authority in the United States. Accordingly, today's action starts the process to determine whether the present and future public interest, convenience, and necessity warrant revocation of Pacific Networks' and ComNet's domestic 214 authority and revocation and/or termination of Pacific Networks' and ComNet's international section 214 authorizations.

The procedures adopted today are consistent with the procedures the Commission previously adopted in its December 2020 [China Telecom Americas Order](#) and will allow the companies, interested Executive Branch agencies, and the public to present further arguments or evidence in this matter. Today's action also directs the companies to answer specific additional questions related to the proceeding.

Action by the Commission March 17, 2021 by Order Instituting Proceeding on Revocation and Termination (FCC 20-38). Acting Chairwoman Rosenworcel, Commissioners Carr, Starks, and Simington approving. Acting Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Commissioner Starks issuing separate statements.

GN Docket No. 20-111, ITC-214-20090105-00006, ITC-214-20090424-00199.

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).