



PUBLIC NOTICE

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

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

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU COPPER RETIREMENT NETWORK CHANGE NOTIFICATION FILED BY CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS OF TEXAS COMPANY

WC Docket No. 24-128
Report No. NCD-3911

April 26, 2024

Re: COPPER RETIREMENT NETWORK CHANGE NOTICE RECEIVED

Consolidated Communications of Texas Company (Consolidated Communications), an incumbent local exchange carrier (LEC), has filed public notice of network change(s) involving the retirement of copper with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission), as permitted by section 51.329(a) of the Commission's rules,¹ together with certification of service on identified interconnecting telephone exchange service providers, as required by section 51.333(a).² Upon initial review the filing appears to be complete.³ Attached is a copy of the notice of network change(s) (total of 24 pages).

The incumbent LEC's notice refers to the change(s) identified below:

Type of Change(s)	Location of Change(s)	Planned Implementation Date(s)
Consolidated Communications plans to retire certain copper facilities in response to a Texas Department of Transportation (TX DOT) road construction project that requires the removal or disabling of copper facilities in the affected area. Consolidated Communications intends to replace the copper facilities with its fiber-to-the-premises facilities to provide services to all affected locations.	In Conroe & Cut and Shoot, TX; at the copper facility locations impacted by the TX DOT road construction project along a seven-mile section of Hwy 105, between 10th St. in Conroe, TX to the west and Hwy 1484 in Cut and Shoot, TX to the east, and associated with the locations listed in the attachment to Consolidated Communications' notice.	June 1, 2024

¹ See 47 CFR § 51.329(a)(1).

² See 47 CFR § 51.333(a).

³ See 47 CFR §§ 51.325 through 51.335.

Incumbent LEC contact:
Richard R. Cameron
Counsel to Consolidated Communications
Womble Bond Dickinson
2001 K Street, NW
Suite 400 South
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 857-4527

An objection to an incumbent LEC's copper retirement notice may be filed by an information service provider or telecommunications service provider that directly interconnects with the incumbent LEC's network. Such objections must be filed with the Commission, and served on the incumbent LEC, no later than the ninth business day following the release of this Public Notice.⁴ The effective implementation date(s) of network changes referenced in standard copper retirement notices are subject to the FCC public notice periods described under section 51.333(b)(2).⁵ Notwithstanding the general requirements of section 51.333(b), incumbent LECs also may be entitled to a reduced public notice waiting period where necessary to allow the incumbent LEC to respond to circumstances outside of its control.⁶ Accordingly, given the circumstances in this proceeding, the effective implementation date for Consolidated Communications' planned change is June 1, 2024. 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, the date of "public notice" shall be the later of June 1, 2024, or the release date of any further public notice or order announcing final action, as applicable. Should no petitions for reconsideration, applications for review, or petitions for judicial review be timely filed, the proceeding listed in this Public Notice shall be terminated, and the docket will be closed.

Information service providers and telecommunications service providers that directly interconnect with the incumbent LEC's network may file objections, and other interested parties may file comments, regarding this network change notice using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <http://apps.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. Interested parties also may comment on this network change notice by sending an e-mail to NetworkChange@fcc.gov. The subject line of the e-mail must include the correct NCD Report Number or docket number in order for the comments to be considered in conjunction with this proceeding. All information submitted including names and addresses will be publicly available via the web.

Parties who choose to file paper copies must file an original and one copy of each filing. Such filings can be sent by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail.⁷ All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal

⁴ See 47 CFR § 51.333(c).

⁵ See 47 CFR § 51.333(b)(2). In the absence of filed objections, a notice of copper retirement usually will be deemed final on the 90th day after the release of the Commission's public notice of the filing pursuant to section 51.333(b)(2). However, notice of copper retirement involving facilities that are not being used to provision services to any customers, usually will be deemed final on the 15th day after the release of the Commission's public notice of the filing. *Id.*

⁶ See 47 CFR § 51.333(g)(2).

⁷ Effective March 19, 2020, and until further notice, the Commission no longer accepts any hand or messenger delivered filings. This is a temporary measure taken to help protect the health and safety of individuals, and to

Communications Commission. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701. U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 45 L Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20554.

This proceeding is considered a “permit but disclose” proceeding for purposes of the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.⁸ Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves 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).

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 e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530.

For further information, please contact Michaela Mastroianni at (202) 418-1521, email: Michaela.Mastroianni@fcc.gov, in the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau.

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mitigate the transmission of COVID-19. See *FCC Announces Closure of FCC Headquarters Open Window and Change in Hand-Delivery Filing*, Public Notice, 35 FCC Rcd 2788 (OMD 2020), <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-closes-headquarters-open-window-and-changes-hand-delivery-policy>.

⁸ 47 CFR § 1.1200 *et seq.*