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A LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP

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October 1, 2019

Mr. Reece McAlister Executive Secretary Georgia Public Service Commission 244 Washington Street, Room 127 Atlanta, GA 30334

> Re: Fusion Communications, LLC, debtor-in-possession<sup>1</sup> Notice of Proposed Discontinuance of A Select Group of Wireline Telecommunications Services

Dear Mr. McAlister:

Fusion Communications, LLC, debtor-in-possession ("Fusion Communications" or the "Company") submits this filing to notify the Georgia Public Service Commission (the "Commission") of its intention to discontinue the provision of certain fiber-based Ethernet provisioned data and/or voice and ancillary services (collectively, the "Services") to a small number of customers (the "Customers") within the state of Georgia.<sup>2</sup> In compliance with federal and state requirements, the Company has provided the Customers with at least sixty (60) days' notice of service discontinuance to be effective on or shortly after December 5, 2019. An illustrative copy of the Company's notice is attached.

Fusion Communications provides a wide range of communications services, including unified communications, digital voice and data communications services, including hosted Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) and Session Initiated Protocol trunking, broadband Internet access service, data networks, cloud-based services, and other enhanced communications services and features, as well as traditional voice solutions, to business customers throughout the United

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> F/k/a Cbeyond Communications, LLC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As discussed herein, the Company will continue to provide a host of services in Georgia and therefore is <u>not</u> seeking to cancel its wireline telecommunications certificate and tariff.

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States. In Georgia, Fusion Communications is authorized to provide local exchange and interexchange telecommunications services.<sup>3</sup>

On June 3, 2019, the Company, along with its parent, Fusion Connect, Inc. ("Fusion Connect"), debtor-in-possession and the other U.S. operating subsidiaries of Fusion Connect, commenced voluntary cases under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code with the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York.<sup>4</sup> As part of its restructuring, Fusion Communications is terminating certain long-term fiber IRU (indefeasible right of use) agreements that are integral to the Company's provision of the Services, as well as the specific Customer contracts for the Services. Consequently, upon receipt of all required regulatory approvals, Fusion Communications will discontinue the provision of the Services.

This discontinuance will affect approximately fifty-two (52) Customers in Georgia. The Company will continue to offer other services at these end-user locations and will work with the Customers to transition them to these alternative services should they choose to do so. Moreover, the Customers and other consumers in Georgia will not be harmed generally by the discontinuance of the Services because they will have access to a number of alternative service providers, including the incumbent local exchange carrier and competitive carriers offering wireline, wireless, VoIP and other services.<sup>5</sup>

The Company understands that formal approval from the Commission is not required in connection with the proposed discontinuance of the Service(s). If the Commission nonetheless determines that further actions are necessary for the Company to implement the proposed discontinuance, Fusion Communications respectfully asks that the Commission advise the Company as to the required further actions and, to the extent necessary, deem this filing to be a request for approval of the requested discontinuance of the Services.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Docket No. 12331-U (Aug. 15, 2000); Docket No. 12333-U (Jun. 11, 2001).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> In re Fusion Connect, Inc., et al., Debtors, Case No. 19-11811 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Jun. 3, 2019). The Commission was notified of this development on June 11, 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Fusion Communications is discontinuing provision of interstate wireline services to these Georgia customers as well and has made the appropriate filing with the Federal Communications Commission. Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a), the Commission has been served with a copy of the Company's application for discontinuance of interstate wireline service.

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Please contact Winafred Brantl of Kelley Drye & Warren at (202) 945-6649 or via email at <u>wbrantl@kelleydrye.com</u> if you have any questions concerning this matter. Thank you for your assistance with this request.

Respectfully submitted

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Winafred Brantl Kelley Drye & Warren, LLP 3050 K St., NW Suite 400 Washington, DC 20007

Counsel for Fusion Communications, LLC, debtor-in-possession

Sample Customer Notice

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210 Interstate North Parkway, Suite 300 Atlanta, Georgia 30339 www.fusionconnect.com

[DATE], 2019

[NAME] [STREET] [CITY, ST ZIP] Acct No. [ACCT NO]; Tel No. [TEL NO 1]<sup>1</sup>

## Notice of Discontinuance of Voice and Other Services Provided by Cbeyond Communications, LLC (n/k/a Fusion Communications, LLC)<sup>2</sup>

Dear Customer:

Cbeyond Communications, LLC n/k/a Fusion Communications, LLC ("<u>we</u>" or "<u>us</u>" or "<u>our</u>") regret to inform you that we will be discontinuing the provision of your fiber-based, Ethernet provisioned data and/or voice, and associated services at [SERVICE LOCATION] (the "<u>Affected Location</u>") on or shortly after December 5, 2019 (the "<u>Service Termination Date</u>").<sup>3</sup>

In order to avoid a disruption in your services at the Affected Location, you must make arrangements to transition all of your services with us to an alternative product or transition all of your services at the Affected Location to a new service provider before the Service Termination Date.

If you do not arrange to transition to one of our other products and services, or should you fail to move to a new service provider prior to the Service Termination Date, you will experience a loss of service. <u>Specifically, if you currently receive voice service from us</u> <u>at the Affected Location, you will be unable to make local calls, including 911 emergency</u> <u>calls and any long distance service that you currently enjoy.</u> You will also lose your data service at the Affected Location. Further, should you fail to make arrangements prior to the Service Termination Date, you may not be able to keep your current telephone number(s) and move them to a new service provider. We urge you not to delay in arranging for new service, either with us or with a new service provider, particularly as some carriers may

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Additional telephone numbers served under this account include: [\_\_\_\_\_].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Cbeyond Communications, LLC has changed its name to Fusion Communications, LLC and is currently going through the necessary steps to implement this name change with all require regulatory agencies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This discontinuance involves a limited number of locations in the states of Colorado, Georgia, Illinois and Texas.

require several weeks or months to install new services. To help avoid any lapse in your service, please check carefully that all services you currently receive from us are moved to your new service provider.

We continue to offer other services at the Affected Location and, should you so choose, we will be happy to assist you in transitioning to a different service offering. One of our Account Managers will be reaching out to you to assist with the transition. In the meantime, if you are interested in receiving alternative services from us, please do not hesitate to call your Account Manager at **(866) 300-0749**. If, instead, you prefer to move to a new service provider, there are a number of other choices available at the Affected Location.<sup>4</sup>

# Important Note: If you arrange for new service before your service with us is terminated and wish to keep your current telephone number(s), please be sure to address this with your new service provider.

We thank you for your past patronage and we remain committed to ensuring that your service transition is as smooth as possible.<sup>5</sup> If you have any further questions regarding the discontinuance of your services at the Affected Location, please contact Customer Service at (**866**) 424-5100.

Sincerely,

## **Fusion Communications, LLC**

The Federal Communications Commission requires us to provide you with the following notice: The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than 15 days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. You may file your comments electronically through the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System using the docket number established in the Commission's public notice for this proceeding, or you may address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the § 63.71 Application of Fusion Communications, LLC, debtor-in-possession. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Extensive information regarding alternative providers is available online. Information also may be available from the [State Commission], at [website].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> We will pay the switching fees, if any, associated with the transfer of your regulated services to another service provider. As the Service Termination Date is not the last day of a billing cycle, if you migrate your services to an alternative service provider we will issue you a refund check (within thirty days of the discontinuance) equal to the pro rata portion of the month for which prepayment was received but services were not provided.

## Verification

## STATE OF NEW YORK § COUNTY OF NEW YORK §

I, James P. Prenetta, Jr., state that I am the Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Fusion Communications, LLC, debtor-in-possession ("Fusion Communications"); that I am authorized to make this Verification on behalf of Fusion Communications; that I have read the foregoing document; and that the statements in the foregoing document with respect to Fusion Communications are true, accurate and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: September 27, 2019

Quitto into

James P. Prenetta, Jr. Executive Vice President and General Counsel Fusion Communications, LLC, debtor-in-possession 210 Interstate North Parkway, Suite 300 Atlanta, GA 30339