

**BEFORE THE
GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Joint Notice of)
)
Fusion Connect, Inc.,)
)
Fusion Connect LLC and)
Fusion Cloud Services, LLC)
)
and the North Haven Entities)
)
For Consent to a Change in Control of)
Fusion LLC and Fusion Cloud Services, LLC)

JOINT NOTICE

Fusion Connect, Inc. (“Fusion Connect”), Fusion Connect LLC (“Fusion”), Fusion Cloud Services, LLC (“Fusion Cloud”),¹ and the North Haven Entities² (collectively, the “Parties”) respectfully notify the Georgia Public Service Commission (“the Commission”) of a transaction which will transfer ultimate control of the Fusion GA Licensees to the North Haven Entities (the “Transaction”). As explained below, MS Capital Partners Adviser, Inc. (“MS Capital Partners Adviser”), an indirect subsidiary of Morgan Stanley, a multinational investment bank and financial

¹ Fusion Connect, Fusion, and Fusion Cloud, together with other Fusion operating companies described herein, are referred to collectively as the “Fusion Companies.” Fusion and Fusion Cloud, together, are referred to as the “Fusion GA Licensees.” Another Fusion Connect subsidiary, Fusion Communications LLC (“Fusion Communications”) currently holds telecommunications authority in Georgia. In late 2021, the Commission approved the assignment of the operations and assets of Fusion Communications to its commonly-owned affiliate, Fusion Cloud. At this time, Fusion Communications has no operations in Georgia and will shortly be filing a request to surrender its Georgia authorizations. The Fusion Companies anticipate that this surrender will be completed prior to consummation of the proposed Transaction.; however, should the Commission deem it appropriate, the Parties request that Fusion Communications also be considered a Party in this matter.

² The “North Haven Entities” consist of: North Haven Credit Partners II L.P. (“NH II”), North Haven Senior Loan Fund L.P. (“NH Senior Loan Fund”), and North Haven Credit Partners III Holdings L.P. (“NH III”).

services company, is the investment manager of the North Haven Entities that will hold the securities of Fusion Connect.

The Parties believe that Commission approval for this proposed Transaction is not required pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 46-5-41 as the proposed Transaction will occur at the parent level and will result only in the transfer of indirect ownership of the Fusion GA Licensees. In the event the Commission determines that approval of the proposed Transaction is required, the Parties respectfully request that the Commission treat this filing as an Application and approve the proposed Transaction.

No assignment of licenses, assets, or customers to a new provider will occur as a result of the proposed Transaction. Following the consummation of the proposed Transaction, the Fusion GA Licensees will continue to provide services to their existing customers in Georgia and elsewhere pursuant to the same rates, terms, and conditions. Accordingly, the proposed Transaction will be, for all practical purposes, imperceptible to the customers of the Fusion GA Licensees. The proposed Transaction will not adversely affect competition in the State of Georgia because it will not result in a reduction of competitors, and customers will continue to have access to the same competitive alternatives they have today. For these reasons, the Parties submit that the Transaction requested by this Joint Notice is in the public interest.

In support of this Joint Notice, the Parties provide the following information:

I. THE PARTIES

A. The Fusion Companies

Fusion Connect is a privately-held Delaware corporation, with headquarters located at 210 Interstate North Parkway, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30339. Fusion Connect is authorized by the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) to provide interstate and international

telecommunications services.³ Fusion Connect, through its operating subsidiaries, provides a wide range of communications services, including unified communications, digital voice and data communications services, including hosted Voice over Internet Protocol 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 States. Fusion Connect does not directly hold intrastate telecommunications authorizations.

The Fusion GA Licensees each hold domestic Section 214 authority to provide interstate telecommunications services and operate pursuant to Fusion Connect's international Section 214 authority. The Fusion GA Licensees also hold intrastate telecommunications authorizations issued by the Commission and other state public utility commissions.

Fusion is a New Jersey limited liability company with headquarters located at 210 Interstate North Parkway, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30339. In Georgia, the Commission has authorized Fusion (formerly known as Network Billing Systems, L.L.C.)⁴ to provide local exchange, interexchange, and alternative operator services in Docket No. 9658-U (IXC/AOS) on October 7, 2000, and Docket No. 33616-U (CLEC) on April 19, 2011. In total, Fusion holds intrastate telecommunications service authority in 47 states and Puerto Rico.

Fusion Cloud is a Georgia limited liability company, also with headquarters located at 210 Interstate North Parkway, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30339. In Georgia, the Commission has

³ File No. ITC-214-19971001-00592; FCC Filer ID 825160.

⁴ The Commission was notified on May 15, 2019 by Network Billing Systems, L.L.C. of the company's name change to Fusion Connect, LLC, effective June 1, 2019.

authorized Fusion Cloud (formerly known as Birch Communications, LLC)⁵ to provide local exchange and interexchange services in Docket No. 7381-U (CLEC) on June 5, 1997, and Docket No. 7581-U (IXC) on October 19, 1999. In total, Fusion Cloud holds intrastate telecommunications service authority in 46 states and the District of Columbia.

B. The North Haven Entities

Each of the North Haven Entities – NH II, NH Senior Loan Fund, and NH III – is a Delaware limited partnership with headquarters located at 1585 Broadway, 39th Floor, New York, NY 10036. Each of the North Haven Entities has a principal business of investment activities and, as interest holders in Fusion Connect, will act as institutional investors. The securities held or controlled by the North Haven Entities are under the common investment management of MS Capital Partners Adviser, a Securities and Exchange Commission-registered investment adviser, in its capacity as investment manager to the North Haven Entities. The primary business of MS Capital Partners Adviser is to manage pooled investment vehicles, including the North Haven Entities. The North Haven Entities have delegated to MS Capital Partners Adviser, as their investment manager, the full authority to acquire, dispose of, and vote the securities held by the North Haven Entities, including their current and post-Transaction equity interests in Fusion Connect.

MS Capital Partners Adviser is a Delaware corporation with its headquarters located at 1585 Broadway, New York, NY 10036. MS Capital Partners Adviser is a wholly-owned direct subsidiary of MS Holdings Incorporated (“MS Holdings”), a Delaware corporation. MS Holdings

⁵ The Commission was notified on February 27, 2019 by Birch Communications, LLC of the company’s name change to Fusion Cloud Services, LLC, effective April 1, 2019.

is, itself, a wholly-owned direct subsidiary of Morgan Stanley, a Delaware corporation. In addition, MS Holdings wholly-owns and controls MS Credit Partners II GP Inc. and MS Credit Partners III GP Inc., which are the general partners of MS Credit Partners II GP L.P. and MS Credit Partners III GP L.P., respectively, which are themselves the general partners of NH II and NH III, two of the North Haven Entities which together, post-Transaction, will hold direct and indirect interests totaling approximately 77.7% in Fusion Connect. The headquarters of MS Holdings, MS Credit Partners II GP Inc., MS Credit Partners III GP Inc., MS Credit Partners II GP L.P., and MS Credit Partners III GP L.P., are located at 1585 Broadway, New York, NY 10036.

Morgan Stanley is also headquartered at 1585 Broadway, New York, NY 10036. Morgan Stanley has offices throughout the United States and in more than 42 countries and has more than 60,000 employees. Morgan Stanley, through its affiliates and subsidiaries, advises and originates, trades, manages, and distributes capital for institutions, governments, and individuals. Morgan Stanley operates in three business segments: institutional securities, wealth management, and investment management.

None of the Morgan Stanley Entities⁶ operates in the telecommunications industry. None of the Morgan Stanley Entities will have any active role in the day-to-day activities of the Fusion Companies.

II. DESIGNATED CONTACTS

Questions, correspondence or other communications concerning this Joint Notice should be directed to the following representatives of the Parties:

⁶ The “Morgan Stanley Entities” include the North Haven Entities, MS Credit Partners II GP Inc., MS Credit Partners III GP Inc., MS Credit Partners II GP L.P., MS Credit Partners III GP L.P., the other North Haven Funds (as defined below in note 8), MS Capital Partners Adviser, MS Holdings, and Morgan Stanley. See **Exhibit 1** which depicts the interrelationships of the various Morgan Stanley Entities.

For the Fusion Companies:

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James P. Prenetta, Jr.
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III. DESCRIPTION OF THE TRANSACTION

Currently, no entity or individual holds a majority or controlling interest in Fusion Connect. Three groups of investment funds under the control or management of (i) Vector Capital Management, L.P., and Mr. Alex Slusky (the “Vector Funds”), (ii) Invesco Limited, and (iii) CBAM CLO Management, LLC, or CBAM Partners, LLC (the “CBAM Entities”), respectively, as well as certain Morgan Stanley/North Haven Entities (consisting of NH II, NH Senior Loan Fund, and Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc.) hold, respectively, approximately 25.12%, 10.35%, 11.38%, and 12.81% of the shares of Fusion Connect's voting stock. The remaining interests in Fusion Connect are widely held by a number of investors in amounts below ten percent (10%).

As proposed in this Joint Notice, following receipt of all required regulatory approvals and the implementation of certain steps, the North Haven Entities will directly own approximately 67.77% of Fusion Connect's voting stock and will indirectly own approximately 13.09% of Fusion Connect's voting stock, for a total control of approximately 80.86% of the voting equity of Fusion

Connect.⁷ The voting shares of Fusion Connect owned or controlled by the North Haven Entities will be under the common investment management of MS Capital Partners Adviser. Post-Transaction, MS Capital Partners Adviser will have under its investment management a total of approximately 82.65% of the voting equity of Fusion Connect, which will be held directly by the North Haven Entities and certain affiliated entities.⁸

Specifically, the North Haven Entities propose to obtain indirect control of the Fusion GA Licensees through the following simultaneous events: (1) certain of the North Haven Funds will exercise options that they secured from several current stockholders of Fusion Connect to purchase those stockholders' shares of Fusion Connect common stock (the "Common Stock");⁹ (2)

⁷ As detailed below, post-Transaction, NH III will directly and indirectly own approximately 33.43% and 13.09%, respectively, of Fusion Connect's voting equity, and NH II will directly own approximately 31.20% of Fusion Connect's voting equity. The NH Senior Loan Fund will directly own approximately 3.14% of Fusion Connect's voting equity. NH III is the sole member of the following seven limited liability companies (collectively, the "NHCP III LLCs") each of which will hold, after the Transaction, approximately 1.87% direct interest in the voting equity of Fusion Connect (for a total of approximately 13.09%): NHCP III Holdings 1 LLC, NHCP III Holdings 2 LLC, NHCP III Holdings 3 LLC, NHCP III Holdings 4 LLC, NHCP III Holdings 5 LLC, NHCP III Holdings 6 LLC, and NHCP III Holdings 7 LLC. The projected post-Transaction interests in the Fusion Companies may vary slightly (in non-material amounts) based upon the extent to which certain of the transactional steps are fully executed. See, *e.g.*, note 10.

⁸ The complete group of affiliated entities – together, the "North Haven Funds" – whose shares in Fusion Connect will be under MS Capital Partners Adviser's common management are as follows:

- The North Haven Entities
- The NHCP III LLCs
- North Haven Senior Loan Fund (Alma) Designated Activity Company
- North Haven Senior Loan Fund Offshore L.P.
- North Haven Senior Loan Fund Unleveraged Offshore L.P.
- North Haven Unleveraged Senior Loan Fund (Yen) L.P.

The North Haven Funds, which operate as institutional investors, each have delegated the authority to acquire, dispose of, and vote the securities held by the North Haven Funds to MS Capital Partners Adviser as investment manager.

⁹ The North Haven Funds with the options to buy the Common Stock held by the Vector Funds are NH II and NH III, two of the North Haven Entities. The North Haven Funds with the options to buy the Common Stock held by the CBAM Entities include each of the North Haven Entities and North Haven Senior Loan Fund (Alma) Designated Activities Company;

additional voting rights associated with Fusion Connect's Series A preferred stock will activate; (3) Fusion Connect's non-voting Series B preferred stock will convert into newly issued shares of Common Stock; and (4) the holders of three tranches of warrants (the "Warrants") issued by Fusion Connect in January 2022 will have the right to exercise those Warrants and purchase additional, newly issued, shares of Common Stock.¹⁰

For the Commission's convenience, pre- and post-Transaction corporate organizational structure charts for the Fusion Companies are provided as **Exhibit 1**.

IV. PUBLIC INTEREST CONSIDERATIONS

The Parties submit that the proposed Transaction will promote the public interest, convenience, and necessity. Indeed, a competitive telecommunications market depends upon the commercial flexibility for providers to engage in just such changes to their corporate ownership and resources. Similarly, it is well-established telecommunications regulatory policy that the public interest is best served by assuring the sustained presence of numerous successful telecommunications competitors in the market. Accordingly, it is important to allow a company to organize its corporate structure in the manner that best supports the company's business operations provided that such actions are consistent with law and have no adverse impact on the public.

North Haven Senior Loan Fund Offshore L.P.; North Haven Unleveraged Senior Loan Fund (Yen) L.P.; and North Haven Senior Loan Fund Unleveraged Offshore L.P.

¹⁰ One tranche of the Warrants (the "Equityholder Warrants") may not be exercised unless and until Fusion Connect achieves specified enterprise valuations, if ever. These Equityholder Warrants are not expected to be exercised as part of the proposed Transaction, unlike the other two tranches of Warrants. Consequently, the final post-close percentages of interests held in the Fusion Companies may differ slightly from those stated herein. Nevertheless, even if the Equityholder Warrants are excluded from the calculations, the North Haven Entities will acquire through the proposed Transaction indirect control of the Fusion GA Licensees, collectively having, under common management, approximately 80.88% of Fusion Connect's issued voting equity.

The proposed Transaction is entirely consistent with federal and state telecommunications laws, including those of Georgia. The proposed Transaction will have no adverse effects upon the operations of the Fusion GA Licensees, their customers, or the markets they serve.

Following consummation of the proposed Transaction, the Fusion GA Licensees will continue to provide their comprehensive suite of advanced and quality services to existing and future customers, without any interruption or diminishment of service quality. Existing customers in Georgia will continue to receive the same services as they did previously, pursuant to the same rates, terms, and conditions. Consequently, the proposed Transaction will not reduce the range or quality of service options available to Georgia business customers.

Similarly, the proposed Transaction presents no anti-competitive concerns and will have no adverse effects upon the Georgia or interstate telecommunications market. The Fusion GA Licensees have a small share of the intrastate Georgia telecommunications market and, together, the Fusion Companies have a small share of the interstate telecommunications market. The proposed Transaction will not increase the Fusion GA Licensees' share of these markets or otherwise adversely impact competition therein. Significantly, the proposed Transaction will not eliminate any market participants, nor will it, in any respect, reduce the service choices available to consumers.

V. CONCLUSION

THEREFORE, for the reasons set forth above, the Parties respectfully submit that the public interest, convenience, and necessity will be furthered by the proposed Transaction and therefore request that the Commission acknowledge this Joint Notice as sufficient or grant such additional relief as it may deem appropriate.

Respectfully Submitted,



Debra Abramovitz
Executive Director
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For the North Haven Entities

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*Counsel for Fusion Connect and the Fusion
GA Licensees*

Date: June 27, 2022

EXHIBIT 1

Pre- and Post-Transaction Organizational Charts for the Fusion Companies

VERIFICATION

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

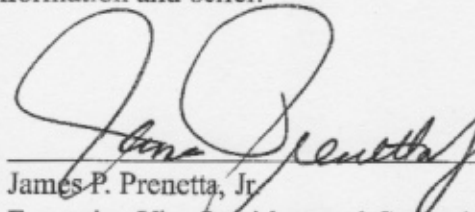
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COUNTY OF NORFOLK

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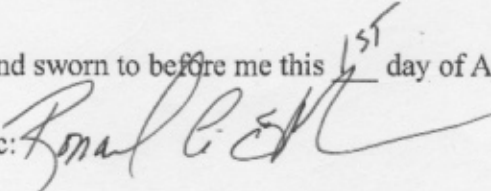
I, James P. Prenetta, Jr., state that I am the Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Fusion Connect, Inc. ("Fusion Connect"); that I am authorized to make this Verification on behalf of Fusion Connect and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Fusion LLC, Fusion Communications, LLC and Fusion Cloud Services, LLC, (collectively, the "Fusion Companies"); that I have read the foregoing document; and that the statements in the foregoing document with respect to the Fusion Companies, except as otherwise specifically attributed, are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.



James P. Prenetta, Jr.
Executive Vice President and General Counsel
Fusion Connect, Inc.
210 Interstate North Parkway, Suite 200
Atlanta, GA 30339

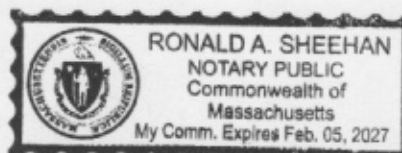
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of April, 2022.

Notary Public:



My Commission expires:

Feb 5 2027




VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF NEW YORK

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I, Debra Abramovitz, state that I am the Executive Director of MS Capital Partners Adviser Inc. and am authorized to issue this verification and make the foregoing filing on behalf of North Haven Credit Partners II L.P., North Haven Senior Loan Fund L.P., and NH Credit Partners III Holdings L.P. (the "North Haven Entities"); that I have read the foregoing document; and that the statements in the foregoing document with respect to the North Haven Entities are true, accurate and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.


Debra Abramovitz
Executive Director
MS Capital Partners Adviser Inc.
1585 Broadway, 39th Floor
New York, NY 10036

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th day of April, 2022.

Notary Public: 

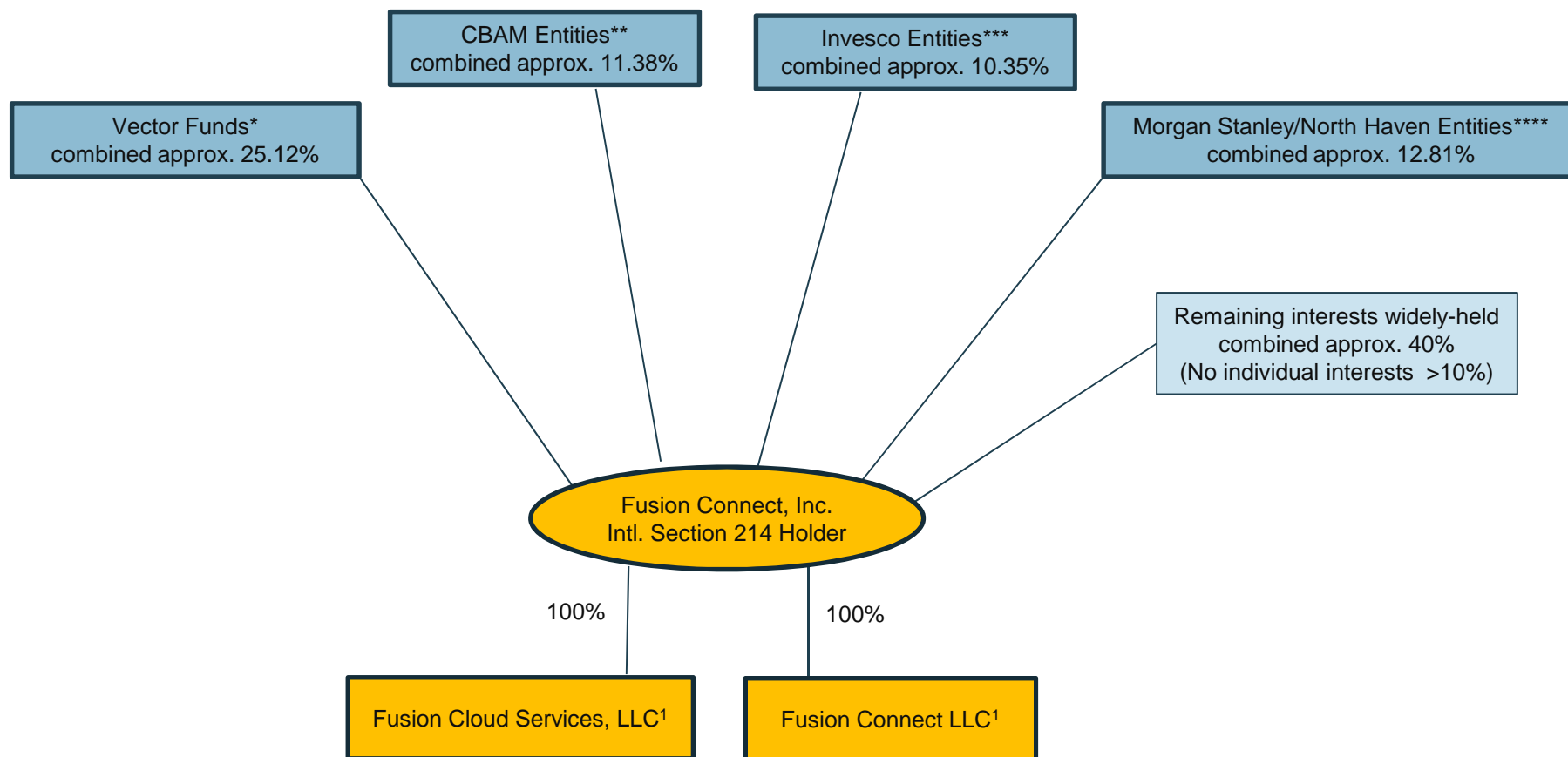
My Commission expires: 07/17/2022



EXHIBIT 1

Pre- and Post-Transaction Organizational Charts for the Fusion Companies

THE FUSION COMPANIES (Pre-Close)



¹ The chart only includes Fusion Connect, Inc. subsidiaries that are actively providing telecommunications services in Georgia.

* Under the control or management of Vector Capital Management, L.P. and Mr. Alex Slusky.

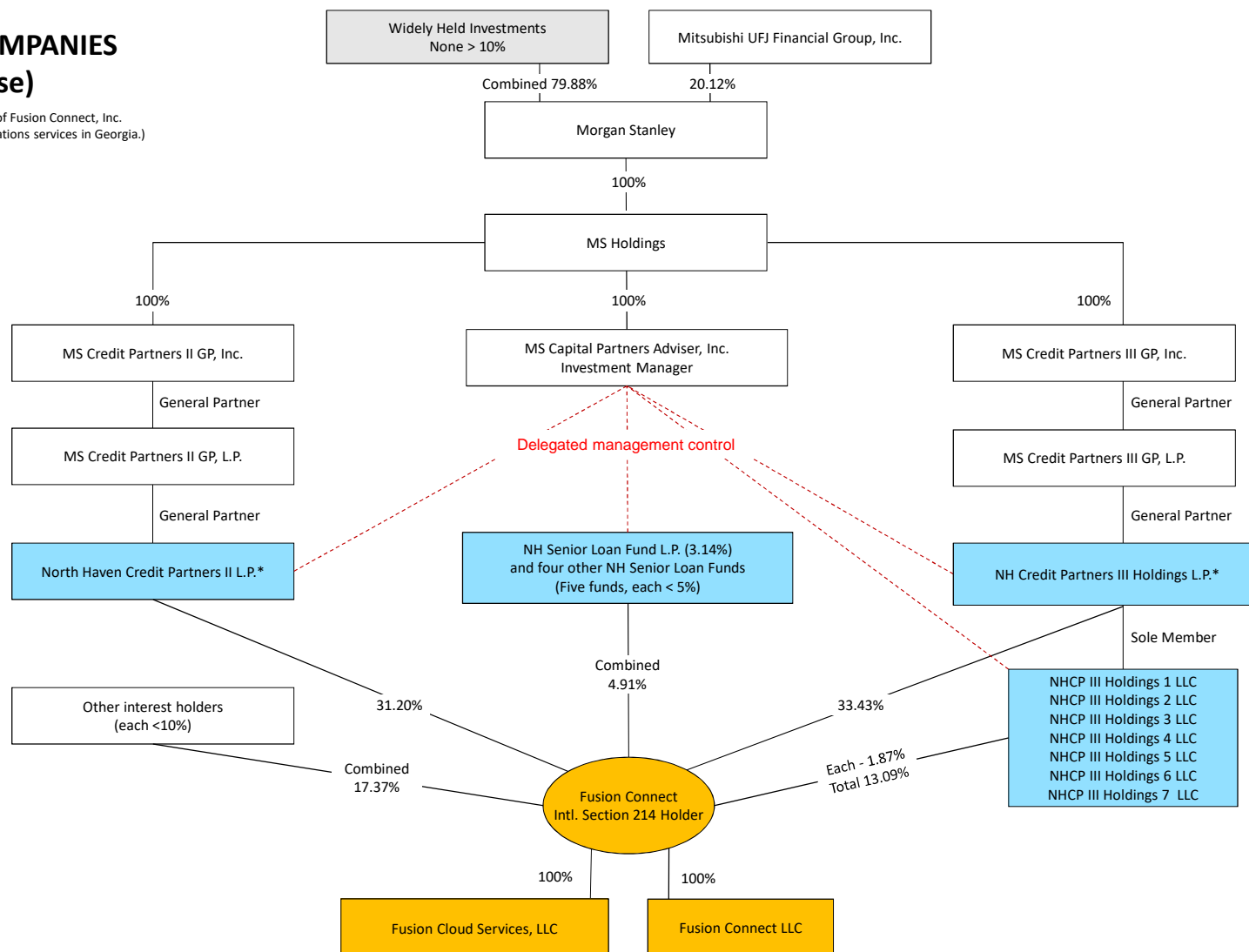
** Under the control or management of CBAM CLO Management, LLC or CBAM Partners, LLC.

*** Under the control or management of Invesco Limited.

**** Consisting of North Haven Credit Partners II L.P., NH Senior Loan Fund L.P., and Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc.

THE FUSION COMPANIES (Post-Close)

(The chart only includes subsidiaries of Fusion Connect, Inc. that are actively providing telecommunications services in Georgia.)



* No person or entity has a large enough interest in the limited partnership, alone or in combination with interests in other North Haven Funds, that constitutes a 10% or greater indirect interest in the Fusion Licensees.