FILED
OCT 04 2022
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
G.P.S.C.

DOCKET# 44614
DOCUMENT# 191703

COMMISSIONERS:

TRICIA PRIDEMORE, Chairman
TIM G. ECHOLS, Vice-Chairman
FITZ JOHNSON
LAUREN "BUBBA" McDONALD
JASON SHAW

REECE McALISTER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SALLIE TANNER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Georgia Public Service Commission

(404) 656-4501
(800) 282-5813

244 WASHINGTON STREET, SW
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334-5701

FAX: (404) 656-2341
psc.ga.gov

INTERIM CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES

IN RE: DOCKET NO 44614: Application of Coastal Telecommunications, LLC for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Facilities-Based Competitive Local Exchange Services.

Certificate No. L-7900

Approved: 10/04/2022

Effective: 10/04/2022

BY THE COMMISSION:

I. BACKGROUND

On August 24, 2022, Coastal Telecommunications, LLC (hereinafter referred to as "the Applicant") filed with the Georgia Public Service Commission (hereinafter referred to as "the Commission") an application for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Competitive Local Exchange Services, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 46-5-163(b). In Administrative Session on October 4, 2022, the Commission voted to waive a public hearing on this matter.

The statutory authority governing certificates of authority of the type the Applicant is seeking is found at O.C.G.A. § 46-5-163. This code section provides that a telecommunications company, including a telecommunications services reseller, shall not provide telecommunications services without a certificate of authority issued by the Commission. A certificate may not be issued without adequate proof that the applicant possesses satisfactory financial and technical capability. A showing of public convenience and necessity is not a condition for issuing a competing certificate of authority.

In support of its application, the Applicant presented evidence through exhibits and additional materials routinely requested by the Commission Staff. After carefully analyzing all evidence of the record in this case, the Commission makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

II.
FINDINGS OF FACT

1. TECHNICAL CAPABILITY.

The Applicant intends to offer local exchange telecommunications services to Business customers in Georgia. Applicant has demonstrated adequate technical capabilities to implement its business plan through evidence regarding its management team, technical understanding and customer service plans.

2. FINANCIAL CAPABILITY.

The Applicant has demonstrated that it possesses sufficient and adequate financial capability to provide the local exchange telecommunications services for which it is seeking a Certificate of Authority.

III.
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Commission Staff certifies the record in this docket to the Commission and issues this recommendation pursuant to O.C.G.A. §§ 46-2-58(d) and 50-13-17(a). Based upon the evidence, the Commission Staff finds that the Applicant has shown that it possesses satisfactory financial and technical capability pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 46-5-163(h) in order to be granted an interim certificate, consistent with the Commission's guidelines in Docket No. 5778-U for the issuance of interim certificates of authority for the provision of local exchange telecommunication service.

Having reviewed the record and considered this case, the Commission finds and concludes that it should adopt the Commission Staff's recommendation as its decision in this docket.

WHEREFORE, it is

ORDERED, that the above numbered certificate is granted to Coastal Telecommunications, LLC, whose principal business address is 1020 Bryan Woods Loop Suite #5, Savannah, GA 31410, to provide facilities-based competitive local exchange telecommunication services.

ORDERED FURTHER, that the Applicant is hereby granted authority to provide local exchange telecommunications services in the BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Georgia exchanges set forth below:

Acworth
Adairsville
Albany
Alpharetta
Americus
Appling
Arlington
Athens
Atlanta
Augusta
Austell
Baconton
Bainbridge
Barnesville
Baxley
Blackshear
Bogart-Statham
Bowdon
Bremen
Brunswick
Buchanan
Buford
Calhoun
Camilla
Carrollton
Cartersville
Cave Spring
Cedartown
Chamblee
Claxton
Clermont
Cochran
Colquitt
Columbus
Concord
Conyers
Cordele
Covington
Cumming
Cusseta
Dallas
Douglasville
Dublin
Duluth
Eastman
Eatonton
Elberton
Fairburn
Fayetteville
Flowery Branch
Forsyth
Fort Valley
Franklin
Gainesville
Gay
Gibson
Grantville
Greensboro
Greenville
Griffin
Hamilton
Hampton
Harlem
Hazelhurst
Hephzibah
Hogansville
Jackson
Jekyll Island
Jesup
Johnson Corner
Jonesboro
Kingston
LaGrange
Lake Park
Lawrenceville
Leary
Leesburg
Lithonia
Loganville
Louisville
Lula
Lumber City
Lumpkin
Luthersville
Lyons
Macon
Madison
Marietta
McCaysville
McDonough
Millen
Monticello
Newnan
Newton
Norcross
Palmetto
Panola
Pelham
Pine Mountain
Pooler
Powder Springs
Richland
Rockmart
Rome
Roopville
Rossville
Roswell
Royston
Rutledge
St. Simons Island
Sandersville-Tennille
Sardis
Savannah
Senoia
Smithville
Smyrna
Social Circle
Sparks
Sparta
Stockbridge
Stone Mountain
Swainsboro
Sylvester
Tallapoosa
Temple
Tennga
Thomasville
Thomson
Tifton
Tucker
Tybee Island
Valdosta
Vidalia
Villa Rica
Wadley
Warner Robins
Warrenton
Watkinsville
Waycross
Waynesboro
Woodbury
Woodstock
Wrens
Wrightsville
Zebulon

ORDERED FURTHER, that as a condition precedent to the Applicant offering local service that requires interconnection in any of the requested exchanges, the Applicant must enter into an interconnection agreement with each affected incumbent local exchange company and obtain the formal approval of the Georgia Public Service Commission after said agreement is filed with the agency.

ORDERED FURTHER, that the Applicant chose not to file a tariff pursuant to O.C.G.A. §46-5-251.

ORDERED FURTHER, that the Applicant must comply with O.C.G.A. § 25-9-1 et seq. regarding the practices and procedures that shall be employed when a telecommunications provider or its designee is excavating in the state of Georgia.

ORDERED FURTHER, that the Applicant shall be responsible for ensuring its employees, agents or designees comply fully with all applicable laws, rules and orders of the Commission relating to safe excavation procedures, including, but not limited to O.C.G.A § 25-9-1 et seq., the Georgia Utility Facility Protection Act. Violations of such laws, rules, or orders of the Commission by the Applicant's employees, agents or designees may result in revocation, suspension or other limitation on the Applicant's certificate of authority and may result in fines assessed on Applicant pursuant to O.C.G.A § 46-2-91.

ORDERED FURTHER, that the Applicant must comply with the Commission's Order or Orders issued in Docket No. 11400-U, Prevention of Damage To Underground Facilities, and applicable law pertaining to Common Ground best practices for excavation damage prevention when excavating in an area in which underground facilities may be located

ORDERED FURTHER, that the Applicant shall contribute to the Universal Access Fund as prescribed in Docket No. 5825-U.

ORDERED FURTHER, that pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 46-5-168(b)(2) the certificate granted herein shall be subject to revocation if the Applicant fails to notify the Commission of any change in its contact address on file with the Commission, fails to comply with Commission requirements or Orders, or violates any applicable law or Commission Rule.

ORDERED FURTHER, that if the Applicant desires to do business in Georgia under any name which does not appear on this certificate, Applicant shall submit an application for amendment to its certification stating the name under which it plans to conduct business.

ORDERED FURTHER, that all statements of fact, law and regulatory policy contained within the preceding sections of this Order be adopted as findings and conclusions of law and conclusions of regulatory policy of the Commission.

ORDERED FURTHER, that jurisdiction over this matter is expressly retained for the purpose of entering such further Order or Orders as this Commission may deem just and proper.

ORDERED FURTHER, that any motion for reconsideration or rehearing in this case shall not have the effect of staying this Order of Commission, except insofar as the Commission may otherwise provide.

BY ORDER OF THE GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, this 4th day of October 2022.

Sallie Tanner
Executive Secretary

DATE: 10-4-22

Tricia Pridemore
Chairman

DATE: 10-4-22