FILED
SEP 04 2025
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
GPSC

COMMISSIONERS:

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

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

DOCKET #6943,7074,7678,9366,12436,13678,14803,16295,16443,17916,19072,25311,29167,31367,34441,36485,36571,36736,37909,40333,41699,41813
DOCUMENT #223861

Multiple Docket Numbers

RE: Certificates of Authority to Provide Competitive Local Exchange Service

Order Amending Certificates of Authority to Remove Interim Status and to Grant Statewide Authority

I. Background

For many years, the Georgia Public Service Commission had different processes for the issuance of the various certificates of authority to provide telecommunications services granted by the Commission. Certain certificates, such as those granting authority to provide resold long distance services ("Resale"), alternate operator services ("AOS"), and institutional telecommunication services ("ITS") were initially granted as "interim" certificates. One year after granting an interim Resale, AOS, or ITS certificate, the interim certificate was placed on the agenda for conversion to a regular certificate (sometimes referred to as "permanent"). However, other certificate types underwent different processes. Certificates of authority to provide competitive local exchange service ("CLEC") were initially granted as interim but were not in practice ever converted to regular certificates, whereas certificates of authority to provide interexchange services were initially granted as regular certificates and therefore did not go through the interim certificate process.

That different certificates were issued with different designations was unnecessarily confusing and administratively cumbersome. Moreover, the designation of "interim" versus regular was a distinction without a difference, as the authority granted under both types was the same. No certificate is truly "permanent" because the Commission always has the authority to revoke a certificate through the Rule Nisi process. As part of Staff's efforts to unify the Commission's processes for the issuance of certificates of authority, Staff recommended that the Commission convert all interim CLEC certificates to regular certificates of authority.

Staff also recommended that the Commission amend all CLEC certificates to grant statewide authority. CLEC certificates were the only telecommunications certificates of authority

issued by the Commission that were not statewide by default. There was no significant policy rationale to support treating holders of CLEC certificates different than other certificate holders with regard to statewide authority. Further, the granting of statewide authority does not require the holder of a CLEC certificate to provide service statewide.

The Commission approved Staff's recommendation to amend 221 CLEC certificates as described above in Administrative Session on February 21, 2023. Two additional CLEC certificates that were inadvertently omitted from the first group were subsequently amended in the same way on April 4, 2023. Eight additional certificates that were inadvertently omitted from the previous two groups were subsequently amended in the same way on April 4, 2024.

II. Staff Recommendation

Staff discovered a number of additional CLEC certificates that have not been amended to properly reflect the policy changes described above. Staff recommends that the Commission convert the certificates listed below from interim to regular certificates and grant the authority to provide competitive local exchange service statewide.

- Docket No. 6943: Network Multi-Family Security Corporation (L-025)
- Docket No. 7074: City of Thomasville (L-031)
- Docket No. 7678: Teleport Communications America, LLC (L-057)
- Docket No. 9366: City of Sandersville (L-0128)
- Docket No. 12436: City of Elberton (L-0220)
- Docket No. 13678: Digital Agent, LLC (L-0263)
- Docket No. 14803: City of Camila (L-0288)
- Docket No. 14804: City of Cairo (L-0289)
- Docket No. 16295: IDT America, Corp. (L-0337)
- Docket No. 16443: Southern Digital Network, Inc. (L-0324)
- Docket No. 17916: Saturn Telecommunication Services, Inc. (L-0368)
- Docket No. 19272: ANPI Business, LLC (L-0374)
- Docket No. 25311: Micro Technology Consultants, Inc. (L-0425)
- Docket No. 29167: BetterWorld Telecom, LLC (L-0477)
- Docket No. 31367: Teleconnect, LLC (L-0501)
- Docket No. 34441: Turn-Key Fiber Networks, Inc. (L-0506)
- Docket No. 36483: NMG Telecom, LLC (L-0520)
- Docket No. 36571: Citizens Communications, Inc. (L-0521)
- Docket No. 36736: Terra Nova Telecom of Georgia, LLC (L-0524)
- Docket No. 37909: Georgia FiberNet, LLC (L-0532)
- Docket No. 40353: Carter Regal Enterprises, LLC (L-0554)
- Docket No. 41699: Paradym, LLC (L-0573)
- Docket No. 41813: Quikr, LLC (L-0578)

III. Commission Decision

The Commission adopts the Staff's recommendation for the reasons stated therein.

* * * * *

WHEREFORE, it is

ORDERED, that the certificates listed above are converted from interim to regular certificates of authority.

ORDERED FURTHER, that the certificates listed above are amended to grant the authority to provide competitive local exchange service statewide.

ORDERED FURTHER, that a motion for reconsideration, rehearing, oral argument, or any other motion shall not stay the effective date of this Order, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

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

The above by action of the Commission in Administrative Session on the 4th day of September 2025.

Sallie Tanner
Executive Secretary

9-4-25
DATE

Jason Shaw
Chairman

9-4-25
DATE