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November 28, 2018

Via Overnight Courier

Gwen R. Pinson Executive Director Kentucky Public Service Commission 211 Sower Boulevard Frankfort, KY 40602-8294 <u>PSC.Reports@ky.gov</u>

Re: Notice of a Proposed *Pro Forma* Consolidation Affecting Crown Castle Fiber LLC, Crown Castle NG Central LLC, Access Fiber Group, Inc., and Fiber Technologies Networks, L.L.C.

Dear Director Pinson:

By this letter, Crown Castle Fiber LLC ("Crown Castle Fiber"), Crown Castle NG Central LLC ("CCNG-Central"), Access Fiber Group, Inc. ("AFG") and Fiber Technologies Networks, L.L.C. ("FiberTech") (collectively, the "Parties") notify the Commission of a proposed *Pro Forma* Consolidation (as defined below) that will result in (1) the *pro forma* consolidation of CCNG-Central, AFG, and FiberTech (collectively, the "Consolidating Entities") into Crown Castle Fiber and (2) *pro forma* changes in the ownership chain of Crown Castle Fiber. The *Pro Forma* Consolidation is part of a series of intra-company transactions that will simplify the corporate structure of the Parties' ultimate parent company, Crown Castle International Corp. ("CCIC"). Subject to receipt of applicable regulatory approvals, the *Pro Forma* Consolidation will be completed no later than December 31, 2018.

Pursuant to the Order issued in Admin. Case No. 359 on June 21, 1996 and Admin. Case No. 370 on January 8, 1998 and 807 KAR 5:011, Section 11, prior action by the Commission is not required to complete the *Pro Forma* Transaction described herein. Accordingly, the Parties submit this letter for informational purposes.

Description of the Parties

Crown Castle Fiber and FiberTech are New York limited liability companies. CCNG-Central is a Delaware limited liability company. AFG is a Delaware corporation. The Parties are indirect wholly owned subsidiaries of CCIC, a publicly traded (NYSE: CCI) Delaware corporation. The

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20004 United States

1 +1.202.739.3000 **b** +1.202.739.3001 Gwen R. Pinson, Executive Director November 28, 2018 Page 2

Parties' corporate headquarters is located at 1220 Augusta Drive, Suite 600, Houston, TX 77057.

Collectively, the Parties and their affiliates are authorized to provide telecommunications services in the District of Columbia and all states except Alaska and Wyoming. In Kentucky, Crown Castle Fiber is registered as a Competitive Local Exchange Carrier under Utility ID 5057830 and a Long Distance Carrier under Utility ID 5179930; CCNG-Central is registered as a Competitive Local Exchange Carrier under Utility ID 5057090; AFG is registered as a Competitive Local Exchange Carrier under Utility ID 5056250; and FiberTech is registered as a Competitive Local Exchange Carrier under Utility ID 5056890 and as a Long Distance Carrier under Utility ID 5056890 and as a Long Distance Carrier under Utility ID 5195970.

In addition to Kentucky, Crown Castle Fiber also is currently authorized to provide intrastate telecommunications service in Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah, Vermont, and Virginia, as well as by the Federal Communications Commission to provide interstate and international telecommunications service. Upon completion of the *Pro Forma* Consolidation, Crown Castle Fiber will be authorized to provide telecommunications services in the same jurisdictions as its affiliates.

Contacts

Inquiries or copies of any correspondence, orders, or other materials pertaining to this filing should be directed to:

Tamar E. Finn Brett P. Ferenchak Patricia Cave Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP 1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20004 Phone: (202) 739-3000 Fax: (202) 739-3001 tamar.finn@morganlewis.com brett.ferenchak@morganlewis.com patricia.cave@morganlewis.com

With copies to:

Fernanda Biehl Manager, Regulatory Affairs – Fiber Crown Castle Fiber 2000 Corporate Drive Canonsburg, PA 15317 Tel: 703-434-8533 Fax: 703-434-8510 PUC.Correspondence@crowncastle.com

Description of the Pro Forma Consolidation

The "*Pro Forma* Consolidation" will involve a series of planned intra-company transactions whereby certain of Crown Castle Fiber's operating company affiliates, including the Consolidating Entities, will be consolidated into Crown Castle Fiber and certain of Crown Castle Fiber's parent companies also will be consolidated. The *Pro Forma* Consolidation is being undertaken, in part, to streamline the corporate structure and operations of over 20 operating

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entities of CCIC that provide fiber-based services into a single unified and rebranded operating entity:¹ Crown Castle Fiber LLC.

The *Pro Forma* Consolidation also will result in a change in the intermediate corporate holding company structure between CCIC and Crown Castle Fiber. Upon completion of the *Pro Forma* Consolidation, Crown Castle Fiber will be a direct, wholly owned subsidiary of Crown Castle Fiber Holdings Corp., a Delaware corporation, which is currently a Delaware limited liability company named LTS Group Holdings, LLC² and a direct, wholly owned subsidiary of Crown Castle Operating Company ("CCOC"). CCOC is a Delaware corporation and a direct, wholly owned subsidiary of CCIC. Charts depicting the current and post-*Pro Forma* Consolidation ownership structure of the Parties are attached as <u>Exhibit</u> A.

Upon completion of the *Pro Forma* Consolidation, the Consolidating Entities will cease to exist and Crown Castle Fiber will continue providing fiber-based services to the Consolidating Entities' existing wholesale and enterprise customers pursuant to the same contracts and other service arrangements as those customers currently have with the Consolidating Entities. The *Pro Forma* Consolidation will be seamless to customers and will not result in any change to their services, including to the rates, terms and conditions of those services. All customers have been notified of the *Pro Forma* Consolidation pursuant to their contracts with the Consolidating Entities consistent with the sample notice provided in <u>Exhibit B</u>.

As noted above, upon completion of the proposed *Pro Forma* Consolidation, the Consolidating Entities will no longer individually provide any telecommunications services in Kentucky since the Consolidating Entities will be consolidated into Crown Castle Fiber and Crown Castle Fiber will be the service provider of record for their customers. Following completion of the *Pro Forma* Consolidation, Crown Castle Fiber also will surrender the authorizations of the Consolidating Entities.

Public Interest Considerations

The *Pro Forma* Consolidation is entirely internal. The *Pro Forma* Consolidation will simplify CCIC's existing corporate structure and reduce its reporting and accounting burdens and provide other operational efficiencies. The *Pro Forma* Consolidation will also allow CCIC's business units to take advantage of their core focus and strengths to the benefit of their customers. As a result of the efficiencies and focus, CCIC and its subsidiaries will become stronger competitors to the ultimate benefit of consumers.

Following completion of the *Pro Forma* Consolidation, Crown Castle Fiber will continue to provide high-quality communications services to the customers of the Parties without interruption. The *Pro Forma* Consolidation will be seamless to customers and will not result in any change to their services. The rates, terms and conditions of their services will not change as a result of these purely intra-company changes. The only change for customers will be that

¹ Certain other operating entities that do not operate in Kentucky may be retained for other reasons.

² As part of the *Pro Forma* Consolidation, LTS Group Holdings, LLC will convert from a Delaware limited liability company into a Delaware corporation and be renamed Crown Castle Fiber Holdings Corp. Upon completion of the *Pro Forma* Consolidation, Crown Castle Fiber Holdings Corp. will be a direct, wholly owned subsidiary of CCOC.

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invoices following consummation of the *Pro Forma* Consolidation will be sent using Crown Castle Fiber LLC.

The proposed simplification of CCIC's corporate structure will provide the company with greater flexibility for future equity and debt transactions, which will increase its access to capital and benefit the Parties' customers. In sum, these corporate structure changes will increase the overall company's efficiency and make it more attractive to potential investors, which should improve its access to debt and equity capital. This, in turn, will enable both the holding company and its operating subsidiaries to keep their cost of capital low.

* * * *

An original and four (4) copies of this notification letter are enclosed. Please date-stamp and return the extra copy in the envelope provided. This letter has also been filed via e-mail. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully submitted,

Tamar E. Finn Brett P. Ferenchak Patricia Cave

Counsel for the Parties

Enclosure

<u>EXHIBIT A</u>

Current and Post-Pro Forma Consolidation Ownership Structure Charts

Current Corporate Ownership Structure of the Parties*



Post-Pro Forma Consolidation Corporate Ownership Structure of Crown Castle Fiber*



All ownership percentages are 100%.

<u>EXHIBIT B</u>

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Sample Customer Notice

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October 24, 2018

Dear Valued Customer:

Effective January 1, 2019, as a result of an internal consolidation of our legal entities, Crown Castle Fiber LLC will provide you with the solutions currently provided to you by our affiliates listed below. This consolidation makes it easier for you to do business with us by reducing the number of affiliates.

Your existing service contract(s) remain unchanged, the consolidation will have no impact on your services or your rates, and all rights and obligations under the agreements between you and your current provider will continue unaffected. If necessary, we will notify you of any changes to your billing or payment address.

If you have any questions, please contact Legal-CustomerTeam1@crowncastle.com.

Sincerely,

Crown Castle Fiber LLC On behalf of its affiliates below: 24/7 Mid-Atlantic Network of Virginia, LLC 24/7 Mid-Atlantic Network, LLC Access Fiber Group Holdings, LLC Access Fiber Group, Inc. CA - CLEC LLC dba Crown Castle CA-CLEC LLC Chesapeake Fiber, LLC Cross Connect Solutions, Inc. Crown Castle NG Atlantic LLC Crown Castle NG Central LLC Crown Castle NG East LLC¹ Crown Castle NG West LLC Crown Castle Solutions LLC¹ Fiber Technologies Networks, L.L.C. Fiber Technologies New York Networks, Inc. Fibernet Direct Florida LLC Fibernet Direct TEL LLC **Fibernet Direct Texas LLC** Fibertech Networks, LLC Freedom Telecommunications, LLC InSITE Fiber of Virginia, LLC

InSITE Solutions LLC IX2 Center, L.L.C. IX2 Wilshire, LLC Light Tower Fiber New York, Inc. Light Tower Metro Fiber LLC Lightower Fiber Infrastructure Corp. Lightower Fiber Networks I, LLC NEON Transcom, Inc. NewPath Networks, LLC NY-CLEC LLC PA-CLEC LLC d/b/a Pennsylvania CLEC LLC Sidera Networks, Inc. Sunesys of Massachusetts, LLC Sunesys of Virginia, Inc. Sunesys, LLC WA-CLEC LLC Wilcon Operations LLC Wilcon Services, LLC Wilshire Connection, LLC

¹ This entity expected to consolidate after January 1, 2019. Additional information will be provided in subsequent correspondence.

VERIFICATION

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COUNTY OF WASHINGTON

VERIFICATION

So so so

I, Neil Dickson, state that I am the Vice President – Corporate and Commercial

Transactions of Crown Castle Fiber LLC, Crown Castle NG Central LLC, Access Fiber Group,

Inc. and Fiber Technologies Networks, L.L.C. (collectively, the "Company"); that I am

authorized to make this Verification on behalf of the Company; that the facts set forth in the

attached filing are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

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Neil Dickson Vice President - Corporate and Commercial Transactions Crown Castle Fiber LLC Crown Castle NG Central LLC Access Fiber Group, Inc. Fiber Technologies Networks, L.L.C.

Sworn and subscribed before me this $\frac{26}{26}$ day of November, 2018.

Sally Dioguardi Notary Public

My commission expires April 1, 2020

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal Sally Dioguardi, Notary Public Washington County My commission expires April 1, 2020 Commission number 1240888 Member, Pennsylvania Association of Notaries

