

WINDSTREAM SERVICES, LLC

4001 Rodney Parham Road
Little Rock, Arkansas 72212

Nicole Winters
Counsel II

501.748.6313
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RECEIVED

APR 30 2021

PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

April 21, 2021

Kentucky Public Service Commission
Attn: Commission Records Office
211 Sower Boulevard
Frankfort, KY 40601

**Re: INFORMATIONAL COPY
Windstream Services, LLC and Windstream Norlight, LLC For Authority to
Discontinue Certain Services Pursuant to Section 63.71(i) and Section 214 of
the Communications Act of 1934**

Dear Sir or Madam:

Windstream Services, LLC and Windstream Norlight, LLC, respectfully provides this informational copy of the attached Application as filed with the FCC regarding the discontinuance of certain services. This informational copy is provided in compliance with Section 63.71(i) of the FCC's Rules – 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(i).

Any questions regarding this matter should be directed to my attention at 501-748-6313 or via email to Nicole.Winters@windstream.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Nicole Winters'.

Nicole Winters
Counsel II

Enclosure

**Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington D.C. 20554**

In the Matter Of)
)
Section 63.71 Application of) WC Docket No. _____
)
Windstream Services, LLC and)
Windstream Norlight, LLC)
)
For Authority Pursuant to Section 214)
of the Communications Act of 1934 to)
Discontinue the Provision of Certain)
Services)

**SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION OF WINDSTREAM SERVICES, LLC
AND WINDSTREAM NORLIGHT, LLC**

Windstream Norlight, LLC, subsidiary of Windstream Services, LLC (collectively “Windstream”), through its undersigned counsel and pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §214, and Section 63.71 of the Federal Communications Commission’s (“Commission”) rules, 47 C.F.R. §63.71, hereby files this Application to discontinue the provision of certain services in the market specified below.

In support of this Application, Windstream submits the following information:

1. Information listed in 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(1)-(4) (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(b)(2)):

a. Name and Address of Carrier (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(1)-(4), (b)(2)):

Windstream Norlight, LLC¹

4001 North Rodney Parham Rd.
Little Rock, AR 72212

¹ FRN 0007345754

b. Date of Planned Discontinuance (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(2), (b)(2)):

Windstream plans to discontinue the Affected Services (see sub-paragraph d, below) on or about June 15, 2021.

c. Point of Geographic Areas of Service Affected (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(3), (b)(2)):

The Affected Service will be discontinued in Evansville, Floyds Knobs, Jeffersonville, New Albany and Princeton, Indiana; Bowling Green, Franklin, Henderson, Hopkinsville, Madisonville, Owensboro and Paducah, Kentucky; and Clarksville, TN.

d. Brief Description of the Type of Service to be Affected (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(4), (b)(2)):

The services to be affected are TDM based DSO/POTS, DS0/DSL,² DS1/1.5Mb T-1 Voice, Data and Integrated services (“the Affected Services”) which are currently being offered via collocations that are subject to network consolidation.

2. Brief Description of the Dates and Methods of Notice to All Affected Customers (47 C.F.R. § 63.71 (b)(3)):

On March 16, 2021, Windstream sent by First Class U.S. Mail notice to the affected customers of the planned discontinuance. A copy of such notice is attached hereto as Attachment 1, which is compliant with, among other things, Section 63.71(a)(5) of the Commission’s rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(5).

3. Regulatory Classification of Carrier (47 C.F.R. § 63.71 (a)(4)):

Windstream is nondominant with respect to the service that it proposes to discontinue.

² Windstream intends to discontinue both the transmission component and the information service component of the DSL service.

4. Service:

In accordance with Section 63.71(a)(1) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(1), Windstream is submitting a copy of this Application by electronic mail and First Class U.S. Mail to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, Office of Governor Eric Holcomb, Kentucky Public Service Commission, Office of Governor Andy Beshear, Tennessee Public Utility Commission, Office of Governor Bill Lee and also to the Secretary of Defense (at the address given in 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)).

5. Additional Questions Regarding This Application May be Addressed to the Undersigned.

6. Circumstances of Discontinuance.

Over the years, a number of CLECs have become Windstream affiliates and operate as part of the Windstream family of companies. Some of these Windstream CLECs operate in overlapping markets with duplicative collocation facilities.³ To improve operational efficiencies, Windstream is in the process of consolidating various collocation facilities across its network. Windstream will continue to serve its customers in each of these markets and geographic coverage will not be affected; however, the menu of services available to customers served through the consolidated collocations will change. The Affected Services are provided on end-of-life platforms that will be decommissioned in the collocations that are being consolidated. A total of thirty-eight (38) business customers (no residential customers) will be affected. Windstream will assist the affected customer, by providing options for migrating to alternative Windstream Services or to move services to another carrier.

³ In some situations, including those customers covered by this Application, the duplicative collocations are separate collocation cages located within the same incumbent LEC central office.

The customer will not be unduly harmed because they are being provided ample notice of the discontinuance and are being offered alternative services to the ones being discontinued. Furthermore, customers have comparable options from the other providers serving these locations.

7. Technology Transition

This discontinuance should not be considered a technology transition,⁴ in the service territory there is at least one provider such as AT&T and GTT that will continue to offer a TDM service to this service territory. In addition, Windstream does have a stand-alone interconnected VoIP service available throughout the affected service areas.⁵

8. Conclusion

Windstream believes that the proposed discontinuance is reasonable and necessary. As outlined herein, Windstream will take reasonable steps to assure that the discontinuance of the Affected Services is not unduly disruptive to the present or future public convenience and necessity. Accordingly, Windstream respectfully requests that the Commission permit it to discontinue the provision of the Affected Services to customers in the affected locations pursuant to Section 63.71.

/s/ Nicole Winters

Nicole Winters
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April 21, 2021

⁴ 47 C.F.R. §63.60(i).

⁵ 47 C.F.R. §63.71(f)(2)(ii)(A) and (B).

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Section 63.71 Application was served this 21st day of April 2021, by mailing true and correct copies thereof, postage prepaid, to the following persons to the addresses listed below.

Secretary of Defense
Attn: Special Assistance for Telecommunications
Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
Attn: Commission Secretary
101 West Washington Street, Suite 1500E
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Office of Governor Eric Holcomb
200 W. Washington St., Rm. 206
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Kentucky Public Service Commission
Attn: Commission Records Office
211 Sower Boulevard
Frankfort, KY 40601

Office of Governor Andy Beshear
700 Capitol Ave., Suite 100
Frankfort, KY 40601

Tennessee Public Utility Commission
Attn: David Foster, Director, Utilities Division
502 Deaderick Street, 4th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243

Office of Governor Bill Lee
State Capitol, 1st Floor
600 Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37243

/s/ Nicole Winters
Nicole Winters

Attachment 1 - Customer Notice

Windstream Services, LLC
4001 N. Rodney Parham Rd.
Little Rock, AR 72212

March 16, 2021

«CONTACT_FIRST_NAME» «CONTACT_LAST_NAME» «Contact_2»
«BILL_ACCOUNT_NAME»
«BILLING_ADDR_1» «BILLING_ADDR_2»
«BILLING_CITY», «BILLING_STATE» «BILLING_ZIP»

**If you are not the site contact
or administrator, please pass
this important notification on to
the appropriate party.**

IMPORTANT: Service Discontinuance Notification for Account #: «BILLABLE_ACCOUNT_ID»
Service Location: «LOC_ADDR», «LOC_CITY», «LOC_STATE» «LOC_ZIP»
This Change in Service Requires Action on Your Part

Dear Valued Customer,

We wish to inform you of an important change we are making for services in your area.

The platform that currently supports DS0/POTS, DS0/DSL and/or DS1/1.5Mb T-1 Voice, Data and Integrated services has reached the end of its useful life and will soon be decommissioned. As a result, customers in the following areas will have these services retired on or about June 15, 2021: Evansville, Floyds Knobs, Jeffersonville, New Albany and Princeton, IN; Bowling Green, Franklin, Henderson, Hopkinsville, Madisonville, Owensboro and Paducah, KY; and Clarksville, TN. Please note, this notification does not affect other services you may have with Windstream Enterprise. If you have recently renewed the services covered by this letter, this service discontinuance notice supersedes (or prevails) for those renewed services.

The change requires action on your part. An Account Representative will be contacting you shortly to make you aware of your options and assist you in any way possible to ensure a smooth transition prior to the service retirement.

The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service (or reduction or impairment) 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 Windstream Services, LLC. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance (or reduction or impairment) upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. If you have any questions, please contact us at 800.600.5050.

Best regards,

Customer Care