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**VIA ECFS**

January 12, 2018

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Section 63.71 Application  
Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. d/b/a Horry Telephone Long Distance  
for Authority to Discontinue Certain Services

JSI respectfully files the enclosed Application of Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. d/b/a Horry Telephone Long Distance for Authority to Discontinue Certain Services. This filing is made in compliance with Section 63.71 of the Commission's rules (47 C.F.R. § 63.71).

Sincerely,

Valerie Wimer  
Vice President

on behalf of

Jamie Ponder  
Manager Industry Affairs  
Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
d/b/a Horry Telephone Long Distance

Enclosures

cc: Jamie Ponder, Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Echelon Building II, Suite 200  
9430 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78759  
phone: 512-338-0473, fax: 512-346-0822

Eagandale Corporate Center, Suite 310  
1380 Corporate Center Curve, Eagan, MN 55121  
phone: 651-452-2660, fax: 651-452-1909

6849 Peachtree Dunwoody Road  
Bldg. B-3, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30328  
phone: 770-569-2105, fax: 770-410-1608

547 South Oakview Lane  
Bountiful, UT 84010  
phone: 801-294-4576, fax: 801-294-5124

Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of	)
	)
Section 63.71 Application of	)
Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. d/b/a Horry	)
Telephone Long Distance (HTLD)	)
For Authority to Discontinue Line-Based	)
Domestic Calling Card Services	)

**SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION**

Pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act, as amended, and Section 63.71 of the Commission's rules,<sup>1</sup> Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. d/b/a Horry Telephone Long Distance (HTLD), applies for authority to discontinue the use of Post-Paid and Pre-Paid Local Exchange Carrier Line Based Calling Cards to complete domestic Calling Card Calls from lines presubscribed to Horry Telephone Long Distance, Inc. which are offered through HTLD's Long Distance Services Rates, Terms, and Conditions. HTLD requests authority to discontinue these services as of March 13, 2018.

HTLD submits the following information in support of its application:

**1. Name and address of carrier**

Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. d/b/a Horry Telephone Long Distance (HTLD)  
3480 Hwy 701 North  
Conway, SC 29526

For purposes of this Application, the Commission may contact:

Jamie Ponder  
Manager Industry Affairs  
Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc.  
3480 Hwy 701 North  
PO Box 1820  
Conway SC 29528  
843-369-8640

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<sup>1</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 214; 47 C.F.R. § 63.71.

**2. Date of Planned service discontinuance**

The anticipated date for discontinuing service is on or about March 13, 2018 or upon completion of all necessary federal and state regulatory approvals.

**3. Points of geographic areas of service affected**

HTLD seeks authority to discontinue the use of Local Exchange Carrier Line Based Calling Cards to complete domestic post-paid and pre-paid Calling Card Calls from lines presubscribed to Horry Telephone Long Distance, Inc. in the state of South Carolina.

**4. Brief description of the type of services affected**

Post-paid and pre-paid Calling Card Service is a Long Distance Service provided by the Company through use of a Company-issued calling card, the HTLD Calling Card, to make Interstate Long Distance Service and International Long Distance Service calling card calls through the use of a specific "1-800" toll free telephone number provided by the Company for access to the Calling Card Service.<sup>2</sup>

**5. Brief description of the dates and methods of notice to all affected customers**

HTLD sent affected customers official notice by U.S Mail on January 12, 2018. (See Attachment A.)

**6. Dominance of carrier with respect to the service to be discontinued**

HTLD is a non-dominant carrier with regard to the Calling Card services.

**7. Circumstances of Discontinuance**

The Company's discontinuance of post-paid and pre-paid calling card service was a business decision based on a lack of customer demand for the service. The Company's customers are choosing widely available alternatives to complete domestic long distance calls and will not be adversely affected by discontinuance of HTLD Calling card services. Over the last two years calling card usage has declined dramatically because of the ubiquitous use of

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<sup>2</sup> HTLD is separately filing with the International Bureau notice of international calling card service discontinuance pursuant to Section 63.19 of the Commission's rules.

cellular phone plans including nationwide dialing. Additionally, there are no active Pre-Paid Calling Cards.

#### **8. Certification**

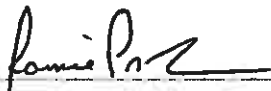
On behalf of HTLD, I, the undersigned Manager of Industry Affairs, Jamie Ponder, hereby certify that the statements contained herein are true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and made in good faith.

#### **9. Service**

In accordance with 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a), HTLD has mailed a copy of this application to the Governor and public utility commission of each affected state identified in Paragraph 3 above, as well as to the Special Assistant for Telecommunications under the Secretary of Defense.

Respectfully submitted,

**Horry Telephone Long Distance**

By:   
Jamie Ponder  
Horry Telephone Long Distance, Inc.  
3480 Hwy 701 North  
Conway, SC 29526  
Phone 843-369-8640  
[Jamie.ponder@htcinc.net](mailto:Jamie.ponder@htcinc.net)

Date: January 12, 2018

## ATTACHMENT A

January 12, 2018

TO:

At Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. d/b/a Horry Telephone Long Distance (HTLD), our goal is to provide you with competitive products of high quality and value. Changing market conditions require that we continually evaluate our prices, product offerings and network.

Occasionally our evaluation directs us to make changes to some products; therefore, we are writing to inform you of the HTLD plan to discontinue use of HTLD-issued Post-Paid and Pre-Paid calling cards used to make Interstate Long Distance Service and International Long Distance Service calls. These features are currently available in HTLD Rates, Terms & Conditions, for the state of South Carolina. The effective date for discontinuance is March 13, 2018, or as soon after that date as the FCC authorizes the discontinuance. Once discontinued, customers will not be able to use HTLD calling cards.

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

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this notice please contact Customer Relations Associate at 843-365-2154 or 1-800-824-6779. HTLD appreciates your business and we look forward to our continued relationship.

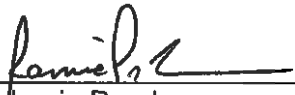
Sincerely,

Horry Telephone Long Distance  
3480 Hwy 701 North, Conway SC 29526

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Jamie Ponder, do hereby certify that I have caused the foregoing SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION to be:

- 1) Filed with the Secretary of the FCC via ECFS (Inbox 63.71 – Section 214 Domestic Discontinuance Application);
- 2) Served via first-class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, on the Governors of the States listed on the attached service list;
- 3) Served via first-class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, on the Public Utility Commissions listed on the attached service list; and
- 4) Served via first-class U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, on the Special Assistant for Telecommunications under the Secretary of Defense.

  
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Jamie Ponder

January 12, 2018

Henry McMaster  
Office of the Governor  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

South Carolina Public Service Commission  
Suite 100  
101 Executive Center Drive  
Columbia, SC 29210

Secretary of Defense  
Attn. Special Assistant for Telecommunications  
Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301