



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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Washington, D.C. 20554

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DA 17-1021
October 17, 2017

**DOMESTIC SECTION 214 APPLICATION FILED FOR THE TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF
GRIDLEY TELEPHONE COMPANY AND GRIDLEY COMMUNICATIONS, INC. TO
EGYPTIAN COMMUNICATION SERVICES, INC.**

STREAMLINED PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

WC Docket No. 17-257

Comments Due: October 31, 2017
Reply Comments Due: November 7, 2017

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment from interested parties on an application filed by Gridley Telephone Company (GTC), Gridley Communications, Inc. (GCI), and Egyptian Communication Services, Inc. (ECSI) (collectively, Applicants), pursuant to section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and sections 63.03-04 of the Commission's rules, requesting approval to transfer control of GTC and GCI to ECSI.¹

GTC, an Illinois corporation, is a rural incumbent local exchange carrier (LEC) providing service to approximately 765 residential and 310 business access lines in north central Illinois. GCI, an Illinois corporation, resells long distance services to approximately 824 customers in and around the service area of GTC.

ECSI, an Illinois corporation, resells long distance services to approximately 2,240 customers in the service area of its parent company, Egyptian Telephone Cooperative Association (ETCA), an Illinois corporation.² ETCA is a rural incumbent LEC serving approximately 1,950 residential and 390 business access lines in the southwest corner of Illinois. Applicants state that ETCA is a telephone cooperative and that no individual or entity owns 10 percent or more of ETCA.³

¹ See 47 U.S.C. § 214; 47 CFR §§ 63.03-04. Applicants also filed an application for the transfer of authorizations associated with international services. On October 10, 2017 and October 16, 2017, Applicants filed supplements to their domestic section 214 application. Any action on this domestic section 214 application is without prejudice to Commission action on other related, pending applications.

² Applicants also filed a description of ECSI's affiliates. See Letter from Thomas J. Moorman to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 17-257 at 1 (filed Oct. 10, 2017).

³ Applicants state that operational control of ETCA, and thus also ECSI, rests with the ETCA Board of Directors, President, and CEO, each of which are U.S. citizens: Phil Carson, Curtis Wolfe, David Goetting, Jonathan Krause, Kenny Hollmann, David Ibendahl, Kevin Nurnberger, Susan B. Wennemann, Rudy Eggemeyer (President), and Kevin J. Jacobsen (CEO).

Pursuant to the terms of the proposed transaction, ECSI will purchase all the outstanding stock and ownership interest in GTC and GCI from Mail Holdings, Inc., a Delaware corporation and direct parent to both GTC and GCI.⁴ Applicants assert that the proposed transaction is entitled to presumptive streamlined treatment under section 63.03(b)(2)(iii) of the Commission's rules and that a grant of the application will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity.⁵

Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for the Transfer of Control of
Gridley Telephone Company and Gridley Communications, Inc. to
Egyptian Communication Services, Inc., WC Docket No. 17-257 (filed Sept. 28, 2017).

GENERAL INFORMATION

The transfer of control identified herein has been found, upon initial review, to be acceptable for filing as a streamlined application. The Commission reserves the right to return any transfer application if, upon further examination, it is determined to be defective and not in conformance with the Commission's rules and policies. Pursuant to section 63.03(a) of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 63.03(a), interested parties may file comments **on or before October 31, 2017**, and reply comments **on or before November 7, 2017**. Pursuant to section 63.52 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 63.52, commenters must serve a copy of comments on the Applicants no later than the above comment filing date. Unless otherwise notified by the Commission, the Applicants may transfer control on the 31st day after the date of this notice.

Pursuant to section 63.03 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 63.03, parties to this proceeding should file any documents using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS): <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/>.

In addition, e-mail one copy of each pleading to each of the following:

- 1) Myrva Charles, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, myrva.charles@fcc.gov;
- 2) Gregory Kwan, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, gregory.kwan@fcc.gov;
- 3) David Krech, International Bureau, david.krech@fcc.gov;
- 4) Sumita Mukhoty, International Bureau, sumita.mukhoty@fcc.gov, and

⁴ Applicants state that ECSI will also purchase from Mail Holdings, Inc., all of the stock of Gridley Cable, Inc., an Illinois corporation and sister company to GTC and GCI, and that it will notify the Commission when it consummates that transfer of control. Applicants further state that there are no service overlaps between the companies being transferred (GTC, GCI, and Gridley Cable, Inc.) and the transferee, its parent company, or any of its affiliates.

⁵ 47 CFR § 63.03(b)(2)(iii).

5) Jim Bird, Office of General Counsel, jim.bird@fcc.gov.

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The proceeding in this Notice shall be treated as a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding in accordance with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules. Persons making *ex parte* presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the *ex parte* presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter’s written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during *ex parte* meetings are deemed to be written *ex parte* presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b), 47 CFR § 1.1206(b). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.

For further information, please contact Myrva Charles at (202) 418-1506 or Gregory Kwan at (202) 418-1191.

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