



Your business  
is our business.

7852 Walker Drive, Suite 200  
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770  
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internet: www.jsitel.com, e-mail: jsi@jsitel.com

**VIA ECFS**

October 19, 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 of Big Bend Telephone Company for Authority to  
Discontinue Certain Services

JSI respectfully files the enclosed Application of Big Bend Telephone Company 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

Rusty Moore  
General Manager  
Big Bend Telephone Company

Enclosures

cc: Lauren Sanders, Big Bend Telephone Company

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

Engendale 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, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Section 63.71 Application of	)	Comp. Pol. File No. _____
Big Bend Telephone Company	)	
For Authority to Discontinue	)	
Certain Services	)	

**SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION**

Pursuant to Sections 63.71 of the Commission's Rules<sup>1</sup> and Section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended,<sup>2</sup> Big Bend Telephone Company ("Big Bend" or the "Company") hereby files this application to discontinue the provision of certain access services to customers that the Company serves in the state of Texas ("Application").<sup>3</sup> In support of this Application, Big Bend submits the following:

**I. Information Required by Section 63.71(a)(1) - (4)**

**A. Name and Address of Carrier**

Big Bend Telephone Company  
808 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Alpine, TX 79830

For purposes of this Application, the Commission may contact:

Rusty Moore, General Manager  
Big Bend Telephone Company  
808 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Alpine, TX 79830  
432-364-1000  
[rustymoore@bbtco.com](mailto:rustymoore@bbtco.com)

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<sup>1</sup> See 47 C.F.R. § 63.71.

<sup>2</sup> See 47 U.S.C. § 214(a).

<sup>3</sup> As required by Section 63.71(a) of the Commission's Rules, Big Bend has notified and submitted a copy of this Application concurrent with this filing to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, the Governor of Texas, and the Secretary of the Department of Defense.

**B. Date of Planned Service Discontinuance**

Big Bend will discontinue Voice Grade 4-Wire Analog service, to its customers in the state of Texas on or after January 1, 2019, upon completion of all necessary federal and state regulatory approvals.

**C. Points of Geographic Areas of Service Affected**

The Company provides the affected services throughout its service areas within the state of Texas in the exchanges of Alamito, Big Bend Park, Calamity Creek, Big Canyon, Comstock, Heath Canyon, Lajitas, Langtry, Presidio, Redford, Sanderson, Sheffield, Six Shooter, and Terlingua covering portions of Brewster, Crockett, Jeff Davis, Pecos, Presidio, Reeves, Terrell and Val Verde counties. Big Bend Telephone Company's authority to serve this area is granted in its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity No. 40004, as determined by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (the Commission).

**D. Brief Description of the Types of Service Affected**

Big Bend proposes to discontinue Voice Grade 4-wire analog, switched and special access circuits.

**II. Brief Description of the Dates and Methods of Notice to All Affected Customers**

Written notices regarding the discontinuance of certain access services were sent to the Company's affected customers by method of U.S. Postal Service Mail on October 19, 2018. Please reference Exhibit A which contains a sample of the Notice sent to the affected customers of this service.

**III. Status of Carrier**

Big Bend is an incumbent local exchange carrier and considered a dominant carrier with respect to the services that it proposes to discontinue in the state of Texas.

**IV. Circumstances of Discontinuance**

Due to the update of its network with the introduction of fiber, Big Bend can no longer support Voice Grade 4-wire analog service. The discontinuance of the Affected Services will not adversely affect the Company's customers.

**V. Certification**

On behalf of Big Bend Telephone Company, I, the undersigned Vice President Commercial, Lauren Sanders, hereby certify that the statements contained herein are true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and made in good faith.

VI. **Conclusion**

For the reasons stated herein, the Company respectfully requests grant of this Application.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lauren Sanders, Vice President Commercial  
Big Bend Telephone Company  
808 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Alpine, TX 79830  
432-364-1000  
[lauren.sanders@bigbend.com](mailto:lauren.sanders@bigbend.com)

10-19-18

Date

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Section 63.71 Application was served this 19th day of October 2019, by mailing true and correct copies thereof, postage prepaid, to the following persons at the addresses listed below.

Public Utility Commission of Texas  
Central Records  
1701 N Congress  
P.O. Box 13326  
Austin, Texas 78711-3326

Office of Governor Greg Abbott  
State of Texas  
State Insurance Building/1100 San Jacinto  
P.O. Box 12428  
Austin, Texas 78711-2428

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

/s/ Lisa McLaughlin  
Lisa McLaughlin

## EXHIBIT A

### CUSTOMER NOTICE



808 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Alpine, TX 79830  
800-592-4781  
[www.bigbend.com](http://www.bigbend.com)

October 19, 2018

RE: Important Notice Regarding the Planned Discontinuance of Certain Access Services  
Provided by Big Bend Telephone Company ("Big Bend")

Dear Valued Customer:

This letter is to inform you that on or after January 1, 2019, Big Bend Telephone Company, Inc. ("BBTC") will no longer be providing certain access services. Specifically, the following service will be discontinued for customers within the state of Texas in the affected exchanges which include Alamito, Big Bend Park, Calamity Creek, Big Canyon, Comstock, Heath Canyon, Lajitas, Langtry, Presidio, Redford, Sanderson, Sheffield, Six Shooter, and Terlingua. Due to the update of its network with the introduction of fiber, Big Bend can no longer support the following service:

- Voice Grade 4-Wire Analog service, switched and special access circuits

To maintain continuous service at your location following the proposed discontinuance, BBTC would like to work with you to migrate your existing service to our next-generation, state-of-the-art platform that will provide your business with greater flexibility, simplicity and efficiency.

If you have not made arrangements with Big Bend or another telecommunications service provider to replace your service listed above prior to January 1, 2019, please be advised that your service will be disconnected on or after January 1, 2019, provided that the FCC approves the planned discontinuance. We understand that this is an inconvenience, and we are confident that our team can seamlessly manage the entire process to provide your business with a better communications solution. We would like to work with you immediately to update your service and continue our valued relationship, so please contact us as soon as possible to discuss a migration plan.

The FCC will normally authorize a 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 30 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



808 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Alpine, TX 79830  
800-592-4781  
[www.bigbend.com](http://www.bigbend.com)

include a reference to the §63.71 Application of Big Bend Telephone Company in your comments. 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 about this notice or Big Bend's discontinuance of the aforementioned service, please contact us at 808 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Alpine, Texas 79830 or call our Business office at (800) 592.4781, opt 2.

We thank you for your business and look forward to continuing to serve your communications needs.

Sincerely,

Lauren Sanders  
Vice President Commercial  
Big Bend Telephone Company, Inc.