

Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington D.C. 20554

In the Matter Of )  
 )  
Section 63.71 Application of )  
 )  
Windstream of the Midwest, Inc. )  
 )  
For Authority Pursuant to Section 214 of )  
the Communications Act of 1934 to )  
Discontinue the Provision of Service )  
 )  
 )

WC Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION OF WINDSTREAM OF THE MIDWEST, INC.**

Windstream of the Midwest, Inc. (“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 Centrex and BRI-ISDN services in Omaha, Nebraska. 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 of the Midwest, Inc.  
4001 North Rodney Parham Rd.  
Little Rock, AR 72212

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

Windstream plans to discontinue Centrex and BRI-ISDN services on March 31, 2017.

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

Centrex and BRI-ISDN services will be discontinued in Omaha, Nebraska.

**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 Centrex and BRI-ISDN services.

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

On February 2, 2017, Windstream sent by First Class U.S. Mail notice to all 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 services that it proposes to discontinue.

**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 First Class U.S. Mail to the Nebraska Public Service Commission and the Office of Governor Pete Ricketts 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.**

Windstream provides the Centrex and BRI-ISDN services to be discontinued to 162 small business customers and 125 enterprise business customers in Omaha, Nebraska. Centrex and BRI-IDN are provided on an end-of-life platform that is scheduled to be decommissioned on Friday, March 31, 2017. Windstream will assist affected customers in migrating their services to Windstream's supported platform or upgrade to one of our more robust unified communications products.

These customers 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 at comparable rates from other providers serving Omaha.

## **7. Conclusion**

Windstream believes that the proposed discontinuance is reasonable and necessary. As outlined herein, Windstream will take reasonable steps, to the extent that is able, to assure that the discontinuance of this service 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 Centrex and BRI-ISDN services to customers in Omaha, Nebraska pursuant to Section 63.71.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Cesar Caballero  
Senior Regulatory Counsel  
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February 15, 2017

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Section 63.71 Application was served this 6 day of February 2017, 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

Nebraska Public Service Commission  
1200 N. Street, Suite 300  
Lincoln, NE 68508

Office of Governor Pete Ricketts  
P.O. Box 94848  
Lincoln, NE 68509-4848



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Cesar Caballero

**Attachment 1**

**Customer Notice**



January 31, 2017

Windstream of the Midwest, Inc.  
4001 N Rodney Parham Rd.  
Little Rock, AR, 72212

**IMPORTANT: Your Services for Account # Ending in XXXX Will Be Impacted Unless You Take Action**

Dear <<Customer Name>>:

As a valued Windstream customer, we want to let you know that changes are occurring at the location from which your service is provisioned, and we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. These changes require action on your part and we want to work with you to make you aware of your options and assist you in any way possible to ensure a smooth transition.

Your service is currently provided on a platform that has reached the end of its useful life, and will be decommissioned as of March 31, 2017. This decommissioning affects customers of Windstream of the Midwest, Inc. located in Omaha, NE.

The current Windstream services you receive will no longer be available, and you will need to contact us to discuss options so that your business will not experience a service interruption.

Please call 800.347.1991 as soon as possible and no later than **February 28, 2017** to discuss a smooth, cost-effective migration. Windstream offers several options including multiple next-generation business voice solutions to replace your current service such as Virtual PBX, IP Simple or Dynamic IP.

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 of the Midwest, Inc. 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.

Again, we apologize for any inconvenience, and look forward to working with you on a solution that will meet your business needs today and into the future.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter to ensure enough time is allotted to select and migrate to a new solution prior to March 31, 2017.

Sincerely,

The Windstream Team