

March 22, 2019

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: WC Docket No. 18-240; Renewal of Section 63.63 Application of Puerto Rico Telephone Company, Inc.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On August 3, 2018, Puerto Rico Telephone Company, Inc. d/b/a Claro ("PRTC") filed an application in the above referenced proceeding for authorization under Section 214(a) of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 214(a), for emergency discontinuance of PRTC's wireline interstate telecommunications services, on a temporary basis, in certain areas of Puerto Rico where Hurricanes Irma and Maria damaged PRTC's copper facilities. The attachment to the application identified the specific network nodes where PRTC determined that the copper infrastructure suffered irreparable or significant damage as a direct result of the hurricanes. On September 21, 2018, PRTC requested that the Federal Communications Commission ("Commission") extend the authorization for emergency discontinuance of services for six months until April 1, 2019.

As the Commission is aware, PRTC has faced unique challenges as the incumbent local exchange carrier in restoring telecommunications services in Puerto Rico. PRTC is in the final stages of putting together a plan to restore services in the affected areas. As part of that process PRTC will meet with Commission staff on March 27, 2019, and would benefit from additional time after that meeting to incorporate any feedback and finalize the restoration plan, which will implement permanent solutions to restore interstate telecommunications services in the affected areas.

PRTC thus requests that the Commission accept this filing and renew the temporary authorization for emergency discontinuation of service until May 15, 2019. During the requested period, PRTC will finalize its restoration plan and identify for the Commission when comparable service will be deployed, and which permanent solution will be deployed, in each of the affected areas to achieve restoration.

Sincerely,

/s/ Eduardo R. Guzmán

Eduardo R. Guzmán
Counsel for Puerto Rico Telephone Company, Inc.