BEFORE THE
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20554

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Sodtown Telephone Company	)	
	)	
and	)	
	)	**WC Docket No. 20-____**
Sodtown Communications, Inc.	)	
	)	
Application for Authorization Pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as Amended, for Assignment of Assets	)	

APPLICATION FOR ASSIGNMENT OF ASSETS

Sodtown Communications, Inc. ("SCI") and Sodtown Telephone Company ("STC"), hereby submit this Application for Authority to assign the rural incumbent local exchange carrier ("RLEC") assets currently operated by STC to SCI as contemplated by these entities asset purchase agreement (the "Application"). When fully consummated, SCI will provide those services currently provided by STC.[1] For the reasons stated herein, Applicants respectfully submit that this Application is subject to the Commission's "streamlined" processing rules found in Section 63.03(b)(2)(iii) and thus prompt approval can be accomplished in a manner that raises no competitive concerns that could delay Commission approval of the transaction.

I. Background and Proposed Transfer

STC is a rural incumbent local exchange carrier ("RLEC") operating in a small and discrete portion of Buffalo and Hall Counties within the State of Nebraska. STC provides local exchange, exchange access service to approximately fifty six (56) access lines in this rural area.

[1] STC is an RLEC offering local exchange and exchange access within its discrete area certificated area of Nebraska. As part of the process of consummation of the transaction, SCI will provide these services to the STC end users.

This application proposes the assignment of STC's RLEC operating assets to SCI. Post consummation, SCI will provide service pursuant to STC's then-existing rates, terms and conditions. Accordingly, except for the name of the provider, the proposed transactions will be transparent to consumers.

II. Section 63.04(a) Information

Pursuant to Section 63.04(a) of the Commission's rules, the Applicants provide the following information in support of this requested transfer of control:

(1) Applicants' Name, Address and Telephone Number

Sodtown Communications, Inc.
Wendy Thompson Fast
President
6900 Van Dorn Street, Suite 21
P.O. Box 6147
Lincoln, Nebraska 68506

Telephone: (402) 489-2728
Facsimile: (402) 489-9034

Sodtown Telephone Company
Mike Plautz
Secretary and Director
28770 Sheldon Rd.
Ravenna, Nebraska 68869

Telephone: (308) 467-2310
Facsimile: (308) 467-2316

(2) State of Organization

SCI is a Nebraska corporation.

STC is a Nebraska cooperative corporation.

(3) Contact Information

All correspondence, notices and inquiries regarding this Application should be addressed to:

Assignees:

Charles L. Fast
Vice-President
Consolidated Companies, Inc.
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P.O. Box 6147
Lincoln, Nebraska 68506

Telephone: (402) 489-2728
Facsimile: (402) 489-9034

with a copy to:

Thomas J. Moorman
Woods Aitken LLP
5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 950
Washington, DC 20015
Telephone: (202) 944-9502
Facsimile: (202) 944-9501

Assignors:

Mike Plautz
Secretary and Director
Sodtown Telephone Company
28770 Sheldon Rd.
Ravenna, Nebraska 68869

Telephone: (308) 467-2310
Facsimile: (308) 467-2316

With a copy to:

Hannah Fischer Frey
Baird Holm LLP
1700 Farnam Street, Suite 1500
Omaha, NE 68102
Telephone: (402) 636-8345
Facsimile: (402) 344-0588

(4) Ten percent (10%) Equity Shareholders:

A. ASSIGNORS –

Sodtown Telephone Company

STC is a Nebraska cooperative corporation. No member of STC owns Ten Percent (10%) or more of the issued and outstanding stock of STCs. All stockholders of STC are citizens of the United States. Operational control of STC rests with its Board of Directors and its Secretary. The individuals comprising the Board of Directors are as follows:

Name	Title	Occupation	Citizenship
Rick Pope	President and Director	Farmer	U.S. Citizen
Dennis Basnett	Treasurer and Director	Farmer	U.S. Citizen
Ron Turek	Director	Farmer	U.S. Citizen
Gary Urwiller	Director and Vice President	Farmer	U.S. Citizen
Larry Musil	Director	H&R Block Business Owner	U.S. Citizen
Abby Carmen	Director	Bank Loan Officer	U.S. Citizen
Mike Plautz	Secretary and Director	Farmer	U.S. Citizen

The address for each of these individuals is: 28770 Sheldon Rd., Ravenna, Nebraska 68869.

B. ASSIGNEES – Sodtown Communications, Inc.

Sodtown Communications, Inc. ("SCI") is a wholly owned subsidiary of Consolidated Companies, Inc. (CCI), a Nebraska corporation. CCI owns various telecommunications companies operating in the State of Nebraska.[2] The owners of Ten Percent (10%) or more of the equity of CCI are as follows:[3]

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[2] All stockholders of CCI are citizens of the United States.

[3] Since its submissions in WC Docket No. 06-230, CCI has undertaken two stock redemptions (in March of 2008 and December of 2018), neither of which resulted in any shareholder owning more than fifty percent (50%) or reducing any 50% ownership below 50%, and otherwise

Name	Equity Voting	Address	Citizenship	Principal Business
L. Rodney Thompson	36.7%	10800 W 118th Terrace Overland Park, KS 66210	USA	Retired
Sally M. Thompson	11.8%	10800 W 118th Terrace Overland Park, KS 66210	USA	Retired
Wendy T. Fast	35.6%	6600 Pheasant Run Pl Lincoln, NE 68516	USA	Telecom Executive
Charles L. Fast 2012	12.2%	6600 Pheasant Run Pl Lincoln, NE 68516	USA	Telecom Executive

CCI also owns 100% of the issued and outstanding stock of the following telecommunications companies:

Name	Type of Carrier	State
Consolidated Telephone Company	Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier	North central Nebraska
Consolidated Telco, Inc.	Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier	Southwestern Nebraska
Consolidated Telecom, Inc.	Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier	Southwestern Nebraska
Curtis Telephone Company	Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier	Southwestern Nebraska
Consolidated Long Distance	Resale Interexchange Carrier	North central and Southwestern Nebraska

(5) Certification Pursuant to Rules 1.2001-1.2003

Applicants hereby certify, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.2001-1.2003, that to the best of their knowledge, information, and belief, no party to the Application is subject to denial of federal benefits pursuant to section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. § 862.

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resulted in no change the control of CCI which remain vested in the CCI Board of Directors and day-to-day operational control was and remained with Ms. Wendy Fast.

(6) Description of the Transaction

STC and SCI have entered in an asset purchase agreement ("APA"). Under the APA, and upon receipt of all necessary approvals, including the receipt of all necessary regulatory approvals, SCI will purchase all of the RLEC telecommunications operating assets of STC and, post consummation, will operate those assets as SCT is doing today.[4] Moreover, upon consummation of the transaction, STC intends to wind up its affairs, liquidate its non-telecommunications assets, and dissolve, and SCI will provide the same services that STC provides pre-consummation.

Thus, upon consummation of the transaction and compliance with the requirements of Section 64.1120(e), the former local exchange customers of the original STC will become customers of SCI, receiving service under the same rates, terms and conditions as are currently in force for the original STC. There will be no lapse of service arising from the transaction as described herein. Following consummation, STC will wind up its respective affairs.

(7) Geographic Description

STC is a rural incumbent local exchange carrier providing local exchange service, exchange access service to subscribers in central Nebraska in small and discrete portion of Buffalo and Hall Counties.

(8) Streamlined Treatment

Because the existing STC service area is not adjacent to any subsidiaries of CCI (see attached map)(*see* Attachment A), streamlined treatment is available pursuant to the Commission's rules. *See* 47 C.F.R. §63.03(b)(2)(iii). Likewise, other aspects of Section

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[4] As a result of the post-consummation operations by SCI of all previously RLEC operating assets of STC, SCI does not believe any study area waiver application is required because, effectively, other than a new operator, no change in the RLEC telecommunications operating assets within the STC Study Area in place today will occur.

63.03(b)(2)(iii) are met since, post consummation, the independent local exchange carrier subsidiaries of CCI – Consolidated Telephone Company (approximately 2,020 access lines), Consolidated Telco, Inc. (approximately 890 access lines), Consolidated Telecom, Inc. (approximately 610 access lines) and Curtis Telephone Company (approximately 388 access lines) – along with STC's approximate 56 access lines, will collectively serve less than 2% of the nation's subscriber lines estimated recently to be 43,512,000 retail switched access lines.[5]

(9) Other Related Applications Before the Commission

No additional FCC-related applications are associated with this proposed transaction. SCI notes that, prior to consummation, SCI will undertake the necessary submissions required by 47 C.F.R. § 64.1120(e).

(10) Statement of Imminent Business Failure

Not applicable.

(11) Separately Filed Waiver Requests

None

(12) Public Interest Statement

Prompt grant of this Application will allow the Applicants to take advantage of increased efficiencies attendant from broader-based rural operations currently provided by SCI's rural incumbent local exchange carrier affiliates noted in Section II.4.B, above, and, upon consummation, the local exchange carrier operations of SCI. Approval of this Application will also advance CCI's commitment through the SCI operations to high quality, reasonably priced rural telecommunications services in Nebraska, and would do so without raising any competitive

[5] As of December 31, 2018, the Commission reported that the retail switched access lines were approximately 43,512,000 nationwide. *See Voice Telephone Services: Status as of December 31, 2018* (Industry Analysis and Technology Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, March, 2020), Figure 1 (page 2).

concerns that would delay Commission approval of the transaction. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the public interest would be served by a prompt grant of this Application.[6]

III. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the Commission promptly grant this Application.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sodtown Telephone Company (Assignor)

By: Hannah Fischer Frey

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Its Attorney

Sodtown Communications, Inc. (Assignee)

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August 24, 2020

Its Attorney

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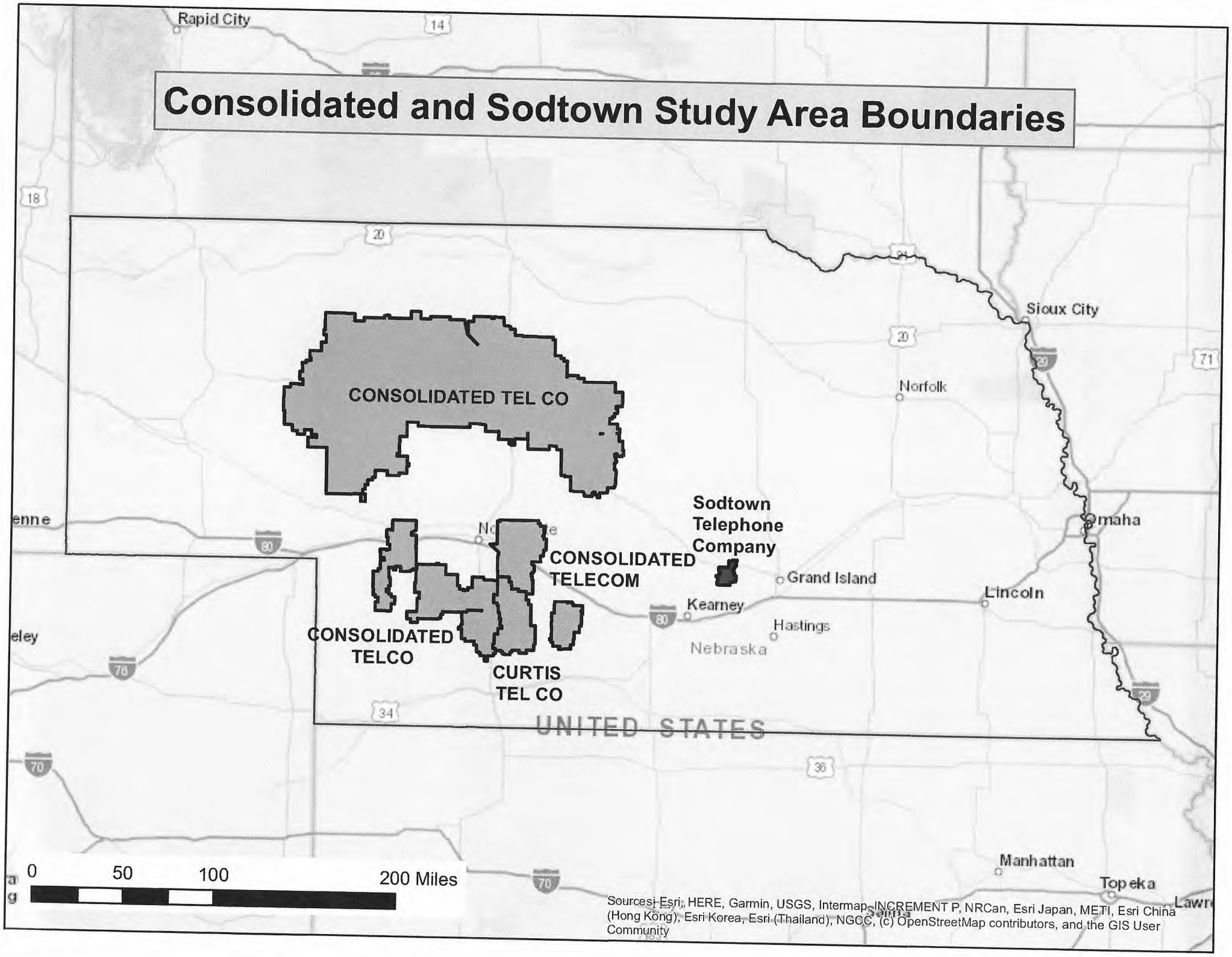
[6] As the Commission's records will reflect, STC and each of the CCI RLEC affiliates have chosen to use the Alternative-Connect America Cost Model ("ACAM") for their respective federal universal service fund disbursements. SCI understands that, post consummation, it will be responsible for meeting the public interest buildout requirements associated with STC's use of ACAM.

Attachment A

Consolidated and Sodtown Study Area Boundaries



DECLARATION

I, Mike Plautz, Secretary and Director of Sodtown Telephone Company (the "Company"), do hereby declare under penalties of perjury that I have read the foregoing "Application for Assignment of Assets," and the information contained therein regarding the Company is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Mike Plautz
Secretary and Director
Sodtown Telephone Company

Date: Aug 24, 2020

DECLARATION

I, Wendy Thompson Fast, President of Sodtown Communications, Inc. (the "Company"), do hereby declare under penalties of perjury that I have read the foregoing "Application for Assignment of Assets," and the information contained therein regarding the Company and its affiliates and holding company is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Wendy Thompson Fast

Date: 8/24/20

Wendy Thompson Fast
President
Sodtown Communications, Inc.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Thomas J. Moorman, of Woods Aitken LLP, 5335 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Suite 950, Washington, DC 20015, do hereby certify that on this 24th of August, 2020, a copy of the foregoing "Application for Assignment of Assets," was mailed, first class postage prepaid, to the following:

Thomas J. Moorman

The Honorable Pete Ricketts
Governor of Nebraska
P.O. Box 94848
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* via email