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is our business.

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Greenbelt, Maryland 20770
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VIA ECFS

February 1, 2016

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Section 63.71 Application of Northern Arkansas Telephone Company, Inc. for
Authority to Discontinue Certain Services

JSI respectfully files the enclosed Application of Northern Arkansas Telephone
Company, Inc. 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

Steven L. Smith
Business Manager
Northern Arkansas Telephone Company, Inc.

Enclosures

cc: Steven L. Smith, Business Manager
Northern Arkansas Telephone Company, Inc.

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

Eagandale 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. _____
Northern Arkansas Telephone)
Company, Inc. For Authority)
to Discontinue Certain Services)

SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION

Pursuant to Sections 63.71 of the Commission's Rules¹ and Section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended,² Northern Arkansas Telephone Company, Inc. ("NATCO" or the "Company") hereby files this application to discontinue the provision of select operator services to customers that the Company serves in the state of Arkansas ("Application").³ In support of this Application, NATCO submits the following:

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

A. Name and Address of Carrier

Northern Arkansas Telephone Company
P.O. Box 209
301 East Main Street
Flippin, AR 72634

For purposes of this Application, the Commission may contact:

Steven L. Smith
Business Manager
Northern Arkansas Telephone Company
P.O. Box 209
301 East Main Street
Flippin, AR 72634
870-453-8800
ssmith@natconet.com

¹ See 47 C.F.R. § 63.71.

² See 47 U.S.C. § 214(a).

³ As required by Section 63.71(a) of the Commission's Rules, NATCO has notified and submitted a copy of this Application concurrent with this filing to the Arkansas Public Service Commission, the Governor of Arkansas, and the Secretary of the Department of Defense.

B. Date of Planned Service Discontinuance

NATCO will discontinue operator-assisted Collect Call, Billed to Third Number, Billed to Credit Card, Busy Line Verification, Busy Interrupt and Person-to-Person services to its customers in the state of Arkansas on or after May 2, 2016, upon completion of all necessary federal and state regulatory approvals.

C. Points of Geographic Areas of Service Affected

Affected NATCO local exchange customers are in the Company's service area of the Bull Shoals, Diamond City, Lead Hill, Omaha, Flippin and Pyatt Exchanges.

D. Brief Description of the Types of Service Affected

In the areas referenced above, NATCO provides the following services which will be discontinued (collectively, "Affected Services"):

- Collect Call - A billing arrangement by which the charge for a call may be reversed provided the charge is accepted at the called service point.
- Billed to a Third Number - A billing arrangement by which an operator-assisted call may be charged to an authorized service point other than the service point originating the call or the service point where the call is terminated.
- Billed to Credit Card - A billing arrangement by which an operator-assisted call may be charged to an authorized credit card.
- Busy Line Verification – An operator service allowing the operator to confirm when a line is idle or in use.
- Busy Interrupt – An operator service allowing the operator to break into a conversation when a line is in use.
- Person-To-Person – That service where the person originating the call specifies to NATCO operator a particular person to be reached, a particular mobile service point to be reached through a Mobile Telephone Service attendant, or particular PBX service point, department, or office to be reached.

This discontinuance is limited to the Affected Services. Customers will continue to have access to all other current services without interruption.

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

Notices were sent to all NATCO local exchange customers as a bill insert by method of U.S. Mail on January 27, 2016. Please reference Exhibit A which is a sample copy of the

Notice sent to the affected customers. NATCO deemed the bill insert the most economic method of reaching its rural customers and printed the insert on distinctly colored paper to distinguish it from the billing statement and bring sufficient attention to the Notice.

III. Status of Carrier

NATCO 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 Arkansas.

IV. Circumstances of Discontinuance

The Company's discontinuance of the Affected Services was a business decision based on a lack of customer demand for the services. In the preceding 12 months, the Company has identified only eight instances of Collect Calls and 14 instances of Person-to-Person calls. There was no additional usage of the remaining Affected Services. Therefore, the discontinuance of these services will not adversely affect the Company's customers.

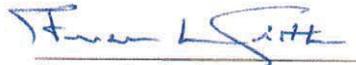
V. Certification

On behalf of Northern Arkansas Telephone Company, Inc., I, the undersigned Business Manager, Steve Smith, 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,



Steven L. Smith
Business Manager
NATCO Communications
P.O. Box 209
301 East Main Street
Flippin, AR 72634
870-453-8800
ssmith@natconet.com

02/01/2016

Date

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing Section 63.71 Application was served this 1st day of February, 2016, by mailing true and correct copies thereof, postage prepaid, to the following persons at the addresses listed below.

Arkansas Public Service Commission
1000 Center St.
Little Rock, AR 72201

Office of Governor Asa Hutchinson
State of Arkansas
State Capitol Room 250
500 Woodlane St.
Little Rock, AR 72201

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



Marty Kluj

EXHIBIT A

CUSTOMER NOTICE

January 27, 2016

RE: FCC-Required Notice of Discontinuance of Certain Operator Services

Dear Valued Customer:

This letter is to inform you that on or after May 2, 2016, Northern Arkansas Telephone Company, Inc. ("NATCO") will no longer be providing certain operator services within the state of Arkansas. Customers who attempt to utilize the discontinued services will be informed by the operator that the service is not available. Specifically, the following operator services will be discontinued.

- Collect Call - A billing arrangement by which the charge for a call may be reversed provided the charge is accepted at the called service point.
- Billed to a Third Number - A billing arrangement by which an operator-assisted call may be charged to an authorized service point other than the service point originating the call or the service point where the call is terminated.
- Billed to Credit Card – A billing arrangement by which an operator-assisted call may be charged to an authorized credit card.
- Busy Line Verification – An operator service allowing the operator to confirm when a line is idle or in use.
- Busy Interrupt – An operator service allowing the operator to break into a conversation when a line is in use.
- Person-to-Person – That service where the person originating the call specifies to NATCO operators a particular person to be reached, a particular mobile service point to be reached through a Mobile Telephone Service attendant, or particular PBX Service point, department, or office to be reached.

This discontinuance is limited to the above operator services and will not affect your NATCO service in any other way. Customers will continue to access general operator services, including operator assisted dialing, handling sent-paid calls, handling emergency calls and providing rate quotes where available.

The FCC will normally authorize this 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 include in your comments a reference to the §63.71 Application of Northern Arkansas Telephone Company, Inc. 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 NATCO's discontinuance of the aforementioned operator services, please contact us at 301 East Main Street, Flippin, Arkansas 72634 or by phone at (870) 453-8800.

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

Sincerely,

Northern Arkansas Telephone Company, Inc.