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January 29, 2002

RECEIVED

JAN 29 2002

William Caton, Acting Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

RE: CC Docket No. 00-257 ✓  
Section 64.1120(e) Notification of Farmer's Mutual  
Cooperative Telephone Company

Dear Mr. Caton:

Pursuant to Section 64.1120(e) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 64.1120(e), Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Company, Harlan, Iowa, hereby provides notice that it is acquiring all of the outstanding capital stock of Defiance Telephone Company, Inc. on February 1, 2002. By virtue of that transaction, Farmers will also acquire Manilla Telephone Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Defiance. On March 1, 2002, Defiance and Manilla will be merged into Farmers and will cease to exist and to operate as separate entities. Thus, Farmers will become the provider of local exchange service to the customers of Defiance and Manilla on March 1, 2002.

There will be no change in long distance carriers for Defiance and Manilla customers. Some of these customers currently receive service from Iowa Network Services ("INS"), which does business as Defiance Long Distance and as Manilla Hawks Long Distance, in the respective service areas of Defiance and Manilla. INS will continue to provide service to these customers under these doing-business-as names following the above-described transaction between Farmers and Defiance, including its subsidiary Manilla.

Notice meeting the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1120(e)(3) was sent to all customers of Defiance and Manilla on January 28, 2002. Copies are attached. Also attached is the certification required by 47 C.F.R. § 64.1120(e)(1). In preparing this notice filing in respect to the forthcoming acquisition of Defiance and Manilla, Farmers recognized that it may not have been clear to all INS customers that INS is their long distance carrier, because of the DBA branding used by INS. Therefore Farmers has also used this notice process to clarify INS' status to ensure that those customers are fully informed of the nature and scope of the transaction and how that transaction will affect their telecommunications services.

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Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Company  
Section 64.1120(e) Notification  
January 29, 2002

Even though Farmers' acquisition of Defiance and Manilla changes only the subscriber's local exchange services, Farmers has included a discussion of the long distance service in this filing out of an abundance of caution. Please direct any inquiries or correspondence to the undersigned counsel.

Sincerely,



David Cosson  
John B. Adams

Counsel for Farmers Mutual Cooperative  
Telephone Company

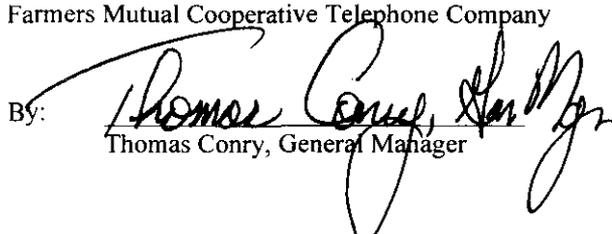
CERTIFICATION OF FARMERS MUTUAL COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANY  
{tc \12 "CERTIFICATION OF FARMERS MUTUAL COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANY}

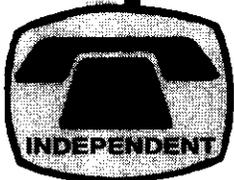
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Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Company certifies that it has complied with all requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 64.1120(e), including providing the advance subscriber notice in accordance with 47 C.F.R. § 64.1120(e)(3), with the obligations specified in that notice, and with other statutory and Commission requirements that apply to the streamlined process for acquisition of the subscriber base of another telecommunications carrier.

Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Company

By:

  
Thomas Conry, General Manager



# Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Company

801 19TH STREET • P.O. BOX 311 • HARLAN, IOWA 51537 • 712-744-3131

January 28, 2002

Dear Defiance Telephone Company Customer:

As Defiance Telephone Company, Inc. has previously informed you, Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Company ("Farmers") is acquiring Defiance. Thus, on March 1, 2002, Farmers will become your new local telephone company. You will incur no carrier change charges as a result of this transaction, and service will continue without interruption.

Farmers will provide local telephone service to you in accordance with the rates and other terms of service contained in its tariffs on file with the Iowa Utilities Board. Your rates will not change when Farmers becomes your local telephone company. Farmers will be responsible for addressing any complaints you may have regarding services provided by Farmers after March 1, 2002 as well as complaints that arose prior to that date with respect to services provided by Defiance.

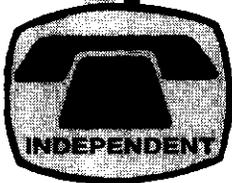
There will be no change in your long distance company. If you currently subscribe to long distance services provided by Iowa Network Services ("INS") doing business as Defiance Long Distance, you will continue to receive services from INS under that name. Farmers takes this opportunity to clarify, however, that neither Defiance Telephone Company, Inc. nor Farmers provides long distance service. All preferred interexchange carrier freezes will continue in effect. There are currently no preferred local exchange carrier freezes in effect.

We at Farmers look forward to meeting all of your local telecommunications service needs and to providing the high-quality service that you have come to expect. Please feel free to contact us at 1-800-469-3511 regarding this notice or your local telecommunications service needs.

Sincerely,

Thomas. Conry  
General Manager

Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Company



# Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Company

801 19TH STREET • P.O. BOX 311 • HARLAN, IOWA 51537 • 712-744-3131

January 28, 2002

Dear Manilla Telephone Company Customer:

As Manilla Telephone Company has previously informed you, Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Company ("Farmers") is acquiring Manilla. Thus, on March 1, 2002, Farmers will become your new local telephone company. You will incur no carrier change charges as a result of this transaction, and service will continue without interruption.

Farmers will provide local telephone service to you in accordance with the rates and other terms of service contained in its tariffs on file with the Iowa Utilities Board. Your rates will not change when Farmers becomes your local telephone company. Farmers will be responsible for addressing any complaints you may have regarding services provided by Farmers after March 1, 2002 as well as complaints that arose prior to that date with respect to services provided by Manilla.

There will be no change in your long distance company. If you currently subscribe to long distance services provided by Iowa Network Services ("INS") doing business as Manilla Hawks Long Distance, you will continue to receive services from INS under that name. Farmers takes this opportunity to clarify, however, that neither Manilla Telephone Company, Inc. nor Farmers provides long distance service. All preferred interexchange carrier freezes will continue in effect. There are currently no preferred local exchange carrier freezes in effect.

We at Farmers look forward to meeting all of your local telecommunications service needs and to providing the high-quality service that you have come to expect. Please feel free to contact us at 1-800-469-3511 regarding this notice or your local telecommunications service needs.

Sincerely,

Thomas Conry  
General Manager

Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Company