

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Request for cancellation of Certificate of Authority No. 7830, effective May 14, 2019, and request for relinquishment of eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) designation in Florida, by Global Connection Inc. of America (of Georgia).

DOCKET NO. 20190059-TX
ORDER NO. PSC-2019-0210-PAA-TX
ISSUED: June 3, 2019

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

ART GRAHAM, Chairman
JULIE I. BROWN
DONALD J. POLMANN
GARY F. CLARK
ANDREW GILES FAY

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION
ORDER APPROVING GLOBAL CONNECTION INC. OF AMERICA (OF GEORGIA)'S
RELINQUISHMENT OF ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER DESIGNATION
AND ACKNOWLEDGING CANCELLATION OF
CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY NO. 7830

BY THE COMMISSION:

NOTICE is hereby given by the Florida Public Service Commission (Commission) that the action discussed herein is preliminary in nature and will become final unless a person whose interests are substantially affected files a petition for a formal proceeding, pursuant to Rule 25-22.029, Florida Administrative Code.

Background

On March 11, 2019, Global Connection Inc. of America (of Georgia) (Global) filed a petition with this Commission for cancellation of its Certificate of Authority No. 7830 and relinquishment of its Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) designation in Florida effective May 14, 2019. Global has been a competitive local exchange carrier (CLEC) in Florida since June 28, 2001. On September 15, 2011, this Commission designated Global as an ETC in parts of AT&T Florida's service territory.¹ ETC designation is a requirement for telecommunications carriers to receive federal Universal Service Funds for the Lifeline program. The Lifeline program enables low-income households to obtain and maintain telephone service by providing households with discounts on their monthly telephone bills.

¹ Order No. PSC-11-0389-PAA-TX

As of March 2019, Global only had three Lifeline customers in Florida.² Global stated in its petition that Global is exiting the wireline telecommunications market in Florida. As a result, Global is requesting relinquishment of its ETC designation in Florida.

We are vested with jurisdiction in this matter, pursuant to Section 364.10, Florida Statutes (F.S.), 47 U.S.C. §214(e)(4), and 47 C.F.R. §54.205.

Decision

An ETC may relinquish its ETC designation pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.205(a), which provides that:

A state commission shall permit an eligible telecommunications carrier to relinquish its designation as such a carrier in any area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier. An eligible telecommunications carrier that seeks to relinquish its eligible telecommunications carrier designation for an area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier shall give advance notice to the state commission of such relinquishment.

In approving a relinquishment, state commissions must require the remaining ETCs to ensure that existing customers will continue to be served. 47 C.F.R. §54.205(b), provides that:

Prior to permitting a telecommunications carrier designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier to cease providing universal service in an area served by more than one eligible telecommunications carrier, the state commission shall require the remaining eligible telecommunications carrier or carriers to ensure that all customers served by the relinquishing carrier will continue to be served, and shall require sufficient notice to permit the purchase or construction of adequate facilities by any remaining eligible telecommunications carrier. The state commission shall establish a time, not to exceed one year after the state commission approves such relinquishment under this section, within which such purchase or construction shall be completed.

In its petition, Global identified its service area by wire centers (Attachment A). Our staff sent data requests to each ETC in Global's service area asking each provider to verify that they were currently providing Lifeline service to customers or capable of providing service to customers in Global's service area. We reviewed the responses to verify that customers in Global's service area would continue to be served. Based on our review and analysis, we find that customers in Global's service area will continue to have Lifeline service available from one or more ETCs.³

² Based on the Universal Service Administrative Company's disbursements to Global in Florida as of March 2019.

³ Specifically, we understand that the following ETCs will continue to offer Lifeline in Global's territory in whole or in part: AT&T Florida, WOW, Phone Club, Tele Circuit Network, SafeLink wireless, Assurance wireless, and T-Mobile wireless.

Global asserts a notice will be sent to all affected customers via first class mail 45 days prior to discontinuance of service. The notice will explain that Global will no longer provide wireline local exchange service in Florida. If customers do not choose another provider before the last service date their service will be terminated. Global also states it will provide customers a list of providers operating in Global's service area.

After reviewing Global's petition and the responses to the ETC data request, we have verified there will be one or more ETCs remaining in Global's service area. Lifeline service will continue to be available to customers residing within the relinquishment area if Global's petition is granted. As such, it appears that Global has met the 47 C.F.R. §54.205 requirements to relinquish its ETC designation in its service area. In addition, Global is requesting cancellation of its CLEC Certificate No. 7830, effective May 14, 2019. Global has met the requirements of Section 364.335(3), F.S., by providing notice in writing of its request for voluntary cancellation of its certificate and has submitted all Regulatory Assessment Fees. Therefore, Global's request to relinquish its ETC designation in Florida is hereby approved and we hereby acknowledge its notice of cancellation of its CLEC Certificate No. 7830.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Global Connection Inc. of America (of Georgia)'s request to relinquish its Eligible Telecommunications Carrier designation in Florida is hereby approved. It is further

ORDERED that Global Connection Inc. of America (of Georgia)'s notice of cancellation of its Certificate of Authority No. 7830 is hereby acknowledged. It is further

ORDERED that the provisions of this Order, issued as proposed agency action, shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order unless an appropriate petition, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code, is received by the Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on the date set forth in the "Notice of Further Proceedings" attached hereto. It is further

ORDERED that if no person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed agency action files a protest within 21 days of the issuance of the order, this docket shall be closed upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 3rd day of June, 2019.



ADAM J. TEITZMAN
Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 413-6770
www.floridapsc.com

Copies furnished: A copy of this document is provided to the parties of record at the time of issuance and, if applicable, interested persons.

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing that is available under Section 120.57, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

The action proposed herein is preliminary in nature. Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed by this order may file a petition for a formal proceeding, in the form provided by Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code. This petition must be received by the Office of Commission Clerk, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, by the close of business on June 24, 2019.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become final and effective upon the issuance of a Consummating Order.

Any objection or protest filed in this/these docket(s) before the issuance date of this order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.

Global Connection Inc. of America
Florida ETC Wire Center List

FMTRIALMTRSO	FLBHFLMARSO	JCVLFLCLOST	MIAMFLNSD50	PAHFLMARSO	WPBHFLAND50
ARCHFLMARSO	FRBHFLFPD50	JCVLFLCLD50	MIAMFLOLD50	PCBHFLMTD50	WPBHFLGAD50
BORTFLBTD50	FTGRFLMAR50	JCVLFLCDD50	MIAMFLPBD50	PLCSFLMAD50	WPBHFLGR02T
BORTFLMAD51	FTLDFLCRD50	JCVLFLIAR50	MIAMFLPLD50	PLTKFLMAD50	WPBHFLGRD50
BCRTFLSAD50	FTLDFLCYD50	JCVLFLJTR5A	MIAMFLPLR50	PMBHFLCSD50	WPBHFLHND50
BGPIFLMAR50	FTLDFLIAD50	JCVLFLJFD50	MIAMFLRRD50	PMBHFLFED50	WPBHFLHNR50
BKVLFLJFD50	FTLDFLMRD50	JCVLFLMDD50	MIAMFLSHD50	PMBHFLMAD50	WPBHFLLED50
BLDWFLMAR50	FTLDFLOAD50	JCVLFLOWD50	MIAMFLSOD50	PMBHFLNPR50	WPBHFLRBB4E
BUGFLMAD50	FTLDFLPLD50	JCVLFLRV38E	MIAMFLWDD50	PMBHFLTAD50	WPBHFLRPD50
BNNLFLMAR50	FTLDFLSGD50	JCVLFLSJ73E	MIAMFLWMD50	PMPKFLMAR50	WWSPFLHID50
BRSNFLMAR50	FTLDFLSU74E	JCVLFLSMDD50	MICCFLBBS50	PNCYFLCAR50	WWSPFLSHD50
BYBHFLMAD50	FTLDFLWMD50	JCVLFLWCD50	MLBRFLMAD50	PNCYFLMAD0T	YNFNFLMAR50
CCBHFLAFR50	FTPFLMAD50	JPTFLMAD50	MLTNFLRAD50	PNCYFLMAD50	YNTWFLMAR50
CCBHFLMAD50	GCSPFLCND50	KYHGFLMAR50	MNDRFLAYD50	PNSCFBLD50	YULEFLMAR50
CDXYFLMAR50	GCVLFLMAR50	KYLRFLLSR50	MNDRFLDOD50	PNSCFLFPD50	
CFDLFLMAR50	GENVFLMAR50	KYLRFLMAR50	MNDRFLWRD50	PNSCFLHCR50	
CHPLFLIAD50	GLBRFLMCD50	KYWSFLMAD50	MNSNFLMAR50	PNSCFLPBD50	
CNTMFLLED51	GSVLFLMA01T	LKCYFLMAD50	MRTHFLVER50	PNSCFLWA01T	
COCOFMAD50	GSVLFLMAD50	LKMRFLHED50	MXVLFLMAR50	PNSCFLWAD50	
COCOFMED50	GSVLFLMAD51	LYHNFLOND50	NDADFLACD50	PNVDFLMAD50	
COCYFL13AMD	GSVLFLNW33E	MCONFLMAR50	NDADFLBRD50	PRRNFLMAD50	
CSCYFLBAR50	HAVNFLMAD50	MDBGFLPMD50	NDADFLGG03T	PRSNFLFDR50	
DBRYFLDLDD50	HBSDFLMAD50	MIAMFLAED50	NDADFLGGD50	FTSLFLMAD50	
DBRYFLMAR51	HLNVFLMAD51	MIAMFLAERS0	NDADFLOLD50	FTSLFLS0CG0	
DELDFLMAD50	HLWDFLHA45E	MIAMFLALD50	NKLRFLMAR50	S0STFLFRS0	
DLBHFLKPD50	HLWDFLMAD50	MIAMFLAPD50	NSBHFLMAD50	S0STFLMAD50	
DLBHFLMA27E	HLWDFLPED50	MIAMFLB85E	NWBYFLMAR50	SGKYFLMAR50	
DLBHFLMAR50	HLWDFLWHD50	MIAMFLBCD50	OKHLFLMAR50	SNFRFLMAD50	
DESPFLMAR50	HMSTFLERS0	MIAMFLBRD50	OLTWFLNRS0	STAGFLBSRS0	
DMLNFLWMRS0	HMSTFLHMD50	MIAMFLCAD50	ORLDFLAPD50	STAGFLMAD50	
DRBHFLMAD50	HMSTFLNARS0	MIAMFLDBRS1	ORLDFLCLD50	STAGFLSHRS0	
DYBNFLFNR50	HTISFLAAD50	MIAMFLDSD50	ORLDFLMAD0T	STAGFLWGR50	
DYBNFLMAD50	HWTHFLMAR50	MIAMFLGRD50	ORLDFLMAD51	STRTFLMAD50	
DYBNFLDSD50	ESLMFLMAR50	MIAMFLGRD51	ORLDFLPCD50	SYNSFLCCR50	
DYBNFLD5RS0	JAYFLMAR50	MIAMFLHLD50	ORLDFLPHD50	TRENFLMAR50	
DYBNFLPOD1T	JCBHFLABRS0	MIAMFLICD50	ORLDFLSAD50	TTVLFLMAD50	
DYBNFLPOD50	JCBHFLMA24E	MIAMFLKED50	ORPKFLMAD50	VERNFLMAR50	
EGLLFLBGD50	JCBHFLSPRS0	MIAMFLME32E	ORPKFLRW50	VRBHFLBERS0	
EGLLFLMD50	JCVLFLARD50	MIAMFLMERS0	OVIDFLCAD50	VRBHFLMAD50	
EORNFUMAR50	JCVLFLBWD50	MIAMFLNMD50	PACFLPVR50	WELKFLMAR50	