

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for certificate to provide
local telecommunications service by Branch
Communications, LLC.

DOCKET NO. 20200225-TX
ORDER NO. PSC-2020-0480-PAA-TX
ISSUED: December 7, 2020

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

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

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION
ORDER GRANTING CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

BY THE COMMISSION:

Branch Communications, LLC (Branch Communications) applied for a Certificate of Authority to provide telecommunications service, pursuant to Section 364.335, Florida Statutes (F.S.). Upon review of the application, it appears that Branch Communications has sufficient technical, financial, and managerial capability to provide such service. Accordingly, we hereby grant to Branch Communications Certificate of Authority No. 8956, which shall authorize Branch Communications to provide telecommunications service throughout the State of Florida.

Telecommunications service providers are required to comply with all applicable provisions of Chapter 364, F.S., and Chapter 25-4, F.A.C.

In addition, under Section 364.336, F.S., certificate holders must pay a minimum annual Regulatory Assessment Fee (RAF) if the certificate was active during any portion of the calendar year. A RAF Return notice will be mailed each December to Branch Communications for payment by January 30th. Neither the cancellation of its certificate nor the failure to receive a RAF Return notice shall relieve Branch Communications from its obligation to pay its RAF.

If this Order becomes final and effective, it will serve as Branch Communications' certificate. Branch Communications shall retain this Order as proof of its certification. We are vested with jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 364.335 and 364.336, F.S.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Branch Communications, LLC's application for a Certificate of Authority is hereby granted. It is further


ORDERED that Branch Communications, LLC is awarded Certificate of Authority No. 8956, which authorizes Branch Communications, LLC, to provide telecommunications service throughout the State of Florida, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the body of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that this Order shall serve as Branch Communications, LLC's certificate and shall be retained by Branch Communications, LLC, as proof of certification. 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 in the event this Order becomes final, this docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 7th day of December, 2020.



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 December 28, 2020.

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.