STATE OF MICHIGAN

BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the matter, on the Commission's own motion, to re-promulgate rules required by MCL 484.2202(1)(c)(iv).

Case No. U-20732

At the August 20, 2020 meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission in Lansing, Michigan.

> PRESENT: Hon. Daniel C. Scripps, Chair Hon. Sally A. Talberg, Commissioner Hon. Tremaine L. Phillips, Commissioner

<u>ORDER</u>

On October 23, 2019, the Commission sought permission from the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (MOAHR) to re-promulgate rules governing the obligations of providers of basic local exchange service that cease to provide the service, pursuant to the mandates of MCL 484.2202(1)(c)(iv) and MCL 484.2213. These rules already exist as Mich Admin Code, R 484.1001-484.1009, but, pursuant to MCL 484.2202(2), they will automatically cease to have effect on March 21, 2021. The Commission seeks to re-promulgate the same rules with minor changes, as provided for under MCL 484.2202(2). MOAHR approved the request on November 20, 2019, ORR# 2019-124 LR. The Commission submitted the draft rules to MOAHR and the Legislative Service Bureau (LSB) for informal approvals, which were granted on December 17, 2019, and December 26, 2019, respectively. The Regulatory Impact Statement was approved by MOAHR on February 20, 2020, and the Notice of Public Hearing was approved on April 21, 2020.

On May 19, 2020, the Commission issued an order providing the public with an opportunity to comment on the proposed rules. A public hearing was held on July 14, 2020. No comments were provided at the hearing. Written comments were due on July 28, 2020. No comments were filed. The Commission formally adopts the rules and approves them for submission to MOAHR and LSB for their formal approvals.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

A. The rules governing Responsibilities of Providers of Basic Local Exchange Service That Cease to Provide the Service, attached as Exhibit A, are approved and shall be submitted to the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules and the Legislative Service Bureau for their formal approvals.

B. Upon formal approval of the attached Responsibilities of Providers of Basic Local
Exchange Service That Cease to Provide the Service rules by the Michigan Office of
Administrative Hearings and Rules and the Legislative Service Bureau, they shall be transmitted to
the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.

The Commission reserves jurisdiction and may issue further orders as necessary.

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Daniel C. Scripps, Chair

Sally A. Talberg, Commissioner

Tremaine L. Phillips, Commissioner

By its action of August 20, 2020.

Lisa Felice, Executive Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROVIDERS OF BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE THAT CEASE TO PROVIDE THE SERVICE

Filed with the secretary of state on

These rules become effective on March 21, 2021

(By authority conferred on the public service commission by sections 202 and 213 of the Michigan telecommunications act, 1991 PA 179, MCL 484.2202 and 484.2213)

R 484.1001, R 484.1002, R 484.1003, R 484.1004, R 484.1005, R 484.1006, R 484.1007, R 484.1008, and R 484.1009 of the Michigan Administrative Code are amended, as follows:

PART 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

R 484.1001 Applicability.

Rule 1. These rules apply to providers of basic local exchange service that cease to provide service to any segment of end users or geographic area, go out of business, or withdraw from the state, including the transfer of customers to other providers and the reclaiming of unused telephone numbers.

R 484.1002 Definitions.

Rule 2. (1) As used in these rules:

(a) "Act" means the Michigan telecommunications act, 1991 PA 179, MCL 484.2101 to 484.2603.

(b) "Commission" means the Michigan public service commission.

(c) "Customer" means the person that is the end subscriber of the retail telecommunications service.

(d) "License" means a license to provide basic local exchange service issued pursuant to the act.

(e) "Provider" means a person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity that provides retail basic local exchange service as defined by section 102(b) of the act.

(f) "Reclamation" means the process of removing active and non-active telephone numbers from the inventory of a provider that ceases to provide basic local exchange service.

(g) "Wholesale provider" means a person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity that provides a resale or local wholesale basic local exchange service product to a provider. (2) A term defined in the act that is not defined in this rule has the same meaning when used in these rules.

R 484.1003 Expiration.

Rule 3. These rules expire 3 years from the effective date of the rules. The commission may, before the expiration of the rules, promulgate new rules.

PART 2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROVIDERS AND WHOLESALE PROVIDERS INVOLVED IN A DISCONNECTION DISPUTE

R 484.1004 Attempt at resolution.

Rule 4. In the case of a billing dispute between a provider and a wholesale provider, the parties shall make a good faith effort to work with each other to determine what portion, if any, of the bill for resale or the purchase of a local wholesale product provided by the wholesale provider to the provider is disputed and which portion is undisputed. The wholesale provider and the provider shall work together to resolve the billing dispute and arrange for payment of the undisputed charges, pursuant to the agreement between the wholesale provider and the provider.

R 484.1005 Notification of discontinuance.

Rule 5. (1) When the wholesale provider plans to disconnect a service that will make the provider unable to furnish basic local exchange service to its customers due to a dispute concerning resale or the purchase of a local wholesale product, the wholesale provider shall notify the commission and the provider of this disconnection in writing not less than 45 days from the date of the impending disconnect.

(2) Notice required under subrule (1) of this rule must include, to the extent known by the wholesale provider, but not be limited to, all of the following:

(a) The name, address, and account number or numbers of the provider.

(b) The number and type of customers to be disconnected.

(c) An indication of whether the wholesale provider is furnishing resale service or a local wholesale product.

(d) The reason for the disconnection.

(e) A statement or citation describing where the right to disconnect or deny service is found, such as in an interconnection agreement or other contract.

(f) If the dispute is related to billing and charges, an estimate of the charges owed and amounts of those charges that are disputed and undisputed and the amount required to be repaid to avoid disruption of services.

(g) The date and time, or range of dates and times, when the wholesale provider intends to discontinue the service.

(3) The wholesale provider shall notify the commission as soon as reasonably practicable but no less than 1 business day before the date of the notice required by the provider under subrule (4) of this rule if the notice to discontinue service to the provider has been modified or withdrawn.

(4) Within 10 business days of receiving notice from the wholesale provider, the provider shall notify all of its affected customers, the governor of the state of Michigan, and the commission of the discontinuance of service pursuant to 47 CFR 63.71 (2018)

and any other federal rules applicable to discontinuance of basic local exchange service. Notice to the commission must include both of the following:

(a) A statement of the company's prospective intent for the disposition of its license and any tariffs on file with the commission.

(b) A list of customers being served by the provider that may be affected by the discontinuance of service, which must include billing name, billing address, and service telephone number. For non-published numbers, only the NPA-NXX must be provided. The list must also identify end users of the provider that are public utilities, governmental agencies, schools, or medical facilities.

(5) If the provider fails to provide the notice under subrule (4) of this rule by the 11th business day, the commission may post a notice of the discontinuance on its website.

(6) These rules do not relieve a provider from any obligations it has under section 313 of the act, MCL 484.2313.

(7) The provider shall contact the commission to provide periodic updates of the status of the disconnection and transition of its customers as requested by commission staff.

(8) The provider shall return all deposits to customers and shall apply all appropriate credits to customer accounts associated with the discontinued service within 30 days of the discontinuance.

R 484.1006 Notification of transfer of customer base.

Rule 6. (1) A provider that is acquiring all or part of a customer base from another provider shall comply with the transfer of customer base notice requirements as set forth in 47 CFR 64.1120(e) (2018) and any other state and federal rules applicable to the transfer of all or part of a customer base. The provider shall submit a copy of this notice to the commission at the same time as it files its application with the federal communications commission.

(2) Notice to the commission must include both of the following:

(a) A statement of the prospective intent for the disposition of the license and any tariff of the company that is transferring its customer base.

(b) The number and type of customers affected by the transfer.

(3) If the commission considers it necessary to protect the public interest, it may institute a longer period of time for the transition of a customer base to another provider, but not to exceed 60 days in length.

R 484.1007 Reclamation of telephone numbers.

Rule 7. (1) Inactive telephone numbers of a provider that ceases to provide service are considered abandoned.

(2) The provider ceasing to provide service shall contact the North American numbering plan administrator, the national number pool administrator, and the national portability administration center regarding the NPA-NXX-Xs affected by the discontinuation of service.

(3) The commission staff shall work with the North American numbering plan administrator, the national number pool administrator, and the national portability administration center to assist in the reclamation of numbering resources. R 484.1008 Resolution of disputes between providers.

Rule 8. If a provider disputes disconnection by another provider, the providers shall follow the appropriate procedures for resolution as set forth in their interconnection agreement and may apply to the commission for resolution as allowable under the act.

PART 3. REMEDIES

R 484.1009 Remedies.

Rule 9. Violation of these rules may result in penalties issued under section 601 of the act, MCL 484.2601, including, but not limited to, revocation of a license to provide basic local exchange service.

PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

Case No. U-20732

County of Ingham

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Brianna Brown being duly sworn, deposes and says that on August 20, 2020 A.D. she

electronically notified the attached list of this Commission Order via e-mail transmission,

to the persons as shown on the attached service list (Listserv Distribution List).

Brianna

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 20th day of August 2020.

Angela P. Sanderson Notary Public, Shiawassee County, Michigan As acting in Eaton County My Commission Expires: May 21, 2024

Name

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U-20732 - Special Distribution

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Technologies Management Access One, Inc. Onvoy, Inc. Access Point, Inc. ACN Comm Services, Inc. **Bright House Networks Information Services** Easton Telecom Services, L.L.C. Wholesale Carrier Services, Inc. **XO** Communications Services, Inc. Sigecom, LLC dba WOW! Interent, Cable and P Gloria Silas, Verizon Compliance Solutions, Inc. **Crexendo Business Solutions** Crexendo Bus Solutions. Spectrotel, Inc. **Crystal Automation Systems T2** Communications TC3 Telecom Inc. Advanced Intergrated Technologies, Inc. CMC Telecom, Inc. **IBC** Telecom Matrix Telecom, Inc. & Trinsic Communicatio TDS Telecom, Inc. Empire One Telecommunications, Inc. **Voxbeam Telecommunications Barry County Telephone** Chippewa County Telephone Quality Telephone, Inc. Buckeye Telesystem, Inc. **Buckeye Telesystem** Accutel of Texas, L.P.; Phone Co, L.P. tncii.com (No Name Available) MCIMetro Access Transmission **Communications Venture** Castle Wire, Inc., f/k/a Business Communica Nextlink Wireless, Inc. Telnet Worldwide, Inc., Superior Spectrum T No Name Available