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Via Priority Delivery

April 22, 2014

Ms. Carlotta Stauffer Director, Office of the Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399

# RE: Notification Regarding the Acquisition by Central Telecom Long Distance, Inc. of the Customers of U.S. Telecom Long Distance, Inc.

Dear Ms. Vance:

Central Telecom Long Distance, Inc. ("CTLD") and U.S. Telecom Long Distance, Inc. ("USTLD") (jointly "the Companies"), hereby notify the Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission") that CTLD is acquiring selected Florida customers of USTLD, through a mutually negotiated customer base acquisition ("Transaction"). As a result of the Transaction, certain USTLD Florida customers will be transferred to CTLD, which will become the interexchange service provider for those customers.

As described below, the Transaction will be virtually transparent to transferred customers of USTLD in terms of the services that those customers receive and the rates and terms of those services currently provided by USTLD. USTLD will maintain its current operating authority in order to redirect its telecommunications market focus in Florida and elsewhere, and continue to assume attendant regulatory obligations.

It is the Companies understanding that prior Commission authorization is not required for the Companies to complete the Transaction. This notification is provided for informational purposes only. In support of this notification, the Companies provide the following information:

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#### Introduction.

On March 21, 2014, CTLD and USTLD entered into a Customer Base Purchase and Sale Agreement ("Agreement") whereby USTLD agreed to sell, and CTLD agreed to acquire, a portion of USTLD's commercial and residential intraLATA and interLATA interexchange customers located in Florida and certain other jurisdictions served by the Companies. Under the terms of the Transaction, CTLD is to provide transferred USTLD customers the same services at the same rates, terms and conditions provided by CTLD. The Transaction becomes effective on or about May 1, 2014, following regulatory approvals where required.

USTLD has made an affirmative business decision to redirect its market focus and to sell a portion of its existing customer base in order to concentrate its efforts on a different segment of the telecommunications market in Florida and elsewhere. To that end, USTLD will continue to operate in the State of Florida and comply with attendant regulatory obligations following the transfer of its customers to CTLD.

#### **Description of the Parties.**

**Central Telecom Long Distance, Inc.** CTLD is a privately-held corporation organized under the laws of the State of Colorado on December 21, 2007 with business address at 102 South Tejon Street, 11th Floor, Colorado Springs, CO 80903. CTLD is a provider of non-facilitiesbased resold of interLATA and intraLATA interexchange telecommunications services to commercial and residential customers in Florida and throughout the U.S. CTLD has operated in the State of Florida since November 2008.<sup>1</sup>

**U.S. Telecom Long Distance, Inc.** USTLD is a privately-held corporation organized under the laws of the State of Nevada on August 13, 1997 with principal offices located at 3960 Howard Hughes Parkway, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, #5001F, Las Vegas, NV 89109. USTLD is also a provider of non-facilities-based resold of interLATA and intraLATA interexchange telecommunications services to commercial and residential customers in Florida and throughout the U.S. USTLD has operated in the State of Florida since April 1999.<sup>2</sup>

#### Description of the Transaction.

Pursuant the Agreement, CTLD will acquire certain, but not all, USTLD customer accounts, to the extent permitted under applicable law and regulations, certificates, licenses, registrations or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pursuant to registration granted in Docket No. 080647-TI (October 24, 2008).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Pursuant to registration granted to Business Calling Plan, Inc. in Docket No. 971540-TI (1997). Notice of name change to Corporate Calling Services approved in Docket No. 981185-TI (October 26, 1998), and to U.S. Telecom Long Distance, Inc. in Docket No. 011178-TI (October 8, 2001).

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other authorizations to provide intrastate, interstate, and international telecommunications services.

The Agreement and transfer become effective May 1, 2014, or upon approval by regulatory agencies in those jurisdictions where the Company's operate and where such authority was required. USTLD is assigning to CTLD those customers whom the Companies have agreed upon and applicable governmental approvals have been obtained. In the interest of assuring seamless and uninterrupted service, all assigned customers will continue to receive service from CTLD under the same rates, terms and conditions of services as were previously provided by USTLD. CTLD will initially concur in USTLD's existing tariffs or service guides and will subsequently provide service to former USTLD subscribers under CTLD's amended tariffs or service guides.

Notification of the Transaction was provided to Customers via direct mail, and to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") pursuant to Section 64.1120(e) of the FCC's Rules,<sup>3</sup> on March 26, 2014.<sup>4</sup> A copy of the Customer notice sent to CTLD customers is appended at **Exhibit A**.

#### **Company Contacts.**

Questions or ongoing correspondence, orders, or other Commission communications should continue to be directed to the following individuals:

#### For Central Telecom Long Distance, Inc.:

Deborah Baker, President Central Telecom Long Distance, Inc. 102 South Tejon Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Colorado Springs, CO 80903 Telephone: 719.471.2263

### For U.S. Telecom Long Distance, Inc.:

Robert Young, President U.S. Telecom Long Distance, Inc. 3960 Howard Hughes Parkway 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, #5001F Las Vegas, NV 89109 Telephone: 888.299.6618

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 47 C.F.R. §64.1120(e)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See, Notification of Central Telecom Long Distance, Inc. Customer Base Acquisition Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §64.1120(e), In the Matter of 2000 Biennial Review - Review of Policies and Rules Concerning Unauthorized Changes of Consumers Long Distance Carriers., CC Docket No. 00-257 (March 27, 2014).

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#### **Public Interest Considerations.**

Petitioners respectfully submit that the proposed Transaction serves the public interest. The Transaction will result in the assignment of USTLD customers to an existing long-standing company with established operating history in the State that will continue to provide telecommunications services to transferred customers without interruption. Further the proposed Transaction is structured to assure an orderly transition of customers from USTLD to CTLD. The terms and conditions of the Transaction are equitable to both parties. Further, the Transaction will not affect the public in Florida.

In accordance with the terms of their service contracts and the rules and procedures of the FCC and applicable state(s), including this Commission, customers have been properly notified of the proposed transaction and the change in their telecommunications provider from USTLD to CTLD. CTLD and USTLD have provided customers with more than 30 days advanced notice of the transfer pursuant to Section 64.1120(e) of the FCC's rules, 47 C.F.R. §64.1120(e). Notification of the transaction has also been provided to the FCC pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §64.1120(e).

For the reasons set forth above, the Companies respectfully request that the Commission grant all authority necessary for Central Telecom Long Distance, Inc. to acquire certain customers of U.S. Telecom Long Distance, Inc.

Please acknowledge receipt of this filing by date-stamping and returning the additional copy of this transmittal letter in the self-addressed, postage-paid envelope provided for this purpose. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Questions may be directed to Andrew Isar at 253.851.6700.

Respectfully submitted,

MILLER ISAR, INC.

Andrew O. Isar /

Regulatory Consultants to Central Telecom Long Distance, Inc. U.S. Telecom Long Distance, Inc.

Enclosures

# EXHIBIT A

Customer Notice

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# **CENTRAL TELECOM LONG DISTANCE, INC.**

102 South Tejon Street Suite 1100 Colorado Springs. CO 80903 http://centraltelecomlongdistance.com/

## Notice of Carrier Change

March 26, 2014

Dear Valued U.S. Telecom Long Distance, Inc. Customer:

Great news for your long distance service! Following a reevaluation of its business focus, your current long distance company, U.S. Telecom Long Distance, Inc. ("UST") has entered into an agreement with Central Telecom Long Distance, Inc. ("CTLD") to acquire certain business holdings. As a result, Central Telecom Long Distance, Inc., will automatically become your new long distance telecommunication services provider after May1, 2014. (The specific date(s) of the transfer of your interstate and intrastate telephone services may differ depending upon when we receive the applicable federal and state regulatory approvals.)

**Please rest assured that the transaction will not affect the services you currently receive.** You will continue to receive services with the same rates, features, terms, and conditions as you currently enjoy, with the added convenience of receiving one bill through your local telephone company, where available. In the event that changes are made to your service you will be notified by separate mailing thirty (30) days prior to the changes becoming effective.

You will not be responsible for any charges associated with the transfer of your account. All charges associated with the transfer to CTLD will be borne by CTLD. Although you have the right to select the carrier of your choice, we value your business and hope that CTLD may continue to serve you. If you should choose another telephone provider you will need to contact that carrier directly to arrange for the change prior to the transfer of your services to CTLD and also provide CTLD with notice per existing service terms. It can take several weeks for a new carrier to make the switch and you may also incur service initiation fees from that provider such as service order, installation and other similar charges associated with establishing a new service account.

If you currently have a preferred carrier freeze on your account you will still be automatically transferred to CTLD on the effective date unless you have selected another carrier before the effective date. To arrange a new freeze or confirm an existing freeze, you must contact your local service provider.

CTLD will be responsible for responding any customer inquiries prior to and during the transfer of service from UST to CTLD. CTLD's toll free customer service number for CTLD is 888-988-9818, which will remain the same after your services are transferred.

You can trust that you will be provided with the same quality service to which you have grown accustomed with UST. We welcome you to CTLD and look forward to meeting all your long distance communication needs. Please visit the web site http://centraltelecomlongdistance.com/ for more information.

Sincerely,

The Product Management Team Central Telecom Long Distance, Inc.