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August 15, 2014

Via Electronic Filing

Ann Cole, Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Re: Notification of the Transfer of Indirect Control of Enventis Telecom, Inc. to Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc.

Dear Ms. Cole:

Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc. ("CCHI") and Enventis Telecom, Inc. ("Enventis Telecom") (together, the "Parties"), by undersigned counsel, notify the Commission that CCHI plans to acquire indirect control of the Enventis Telecom, through a merger of Enventis Telecom's parent company, Enventis Corporation ("Enventis Corp.") with CCHI's direct subsidiary, Sky Merger Sub Inc. ("Merger Sub") (the "Transaction").¹

The Parties understand that prior action by the Commission is not required for the Transaction, but are submitting this letter for informational purposes.

Description of the Parties

A. <u>Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc.</u>

CCHI is a publicly traded (NASDAQ: CNSL) Delaware corporation, and headquartered in Mattoon, Illinois. Through its operating subsidiaries, CCHI provides a wide range of telecommunications services to residential and business customers in California, Illinois, Kansas, Missouri, Pennsylvania, and Texas, including: local and long-distance telephone service, high-speed broadband Internet access, standard and high-definition digital television, and digital telephone service, custom calling features, private line services, carrier access services, network capacity services over regional fiber optic networks, directory publishing. CCHI's operating subsidiaries include both incumbent and competitive local exchange carriers. CCHI does not itself provide telecommunications services. In Florida, CCHI's subsidiary, Consolidated Communications Enterprises Services, Inc. ("CCES"), was registered to provide interexchange telecommunications services--now deregulated--in Docket No.080691-TI (IXC Registration Code TK233).

¹ Sky Merger Sub Inc., a Minnesota corporation, is a newly formed, wholly owned subsidiary of CCHI that was created in order to effectuate the proposed Transaction.

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CCHI was founded in 1894 and has a long history of operating both incumbent local exchange and competitive local exchange companies. Beginning as a small ILEC in Illinois, CCHI has expanded its service territories through the acquisitions of TXU Communications, a company with ILEC and CLEC subsidiaries in Texas, in 2004; North Pittsburgh Systems, Inc., a company with ILEC and CLEC subsidiaries in Pennsylvania, in 2007; and most recently SureWest, a company with ILEC and CLEC subsidiaries in California, Kansas and Missouri, in 2012. CCHI has successfully integrated these acquisitions into a family of companies providing advanced communications services to both residential and business customers in California, Illinois, Kansas, Missouri, Pennsylvania, and Texas. CCHI will bring this expertise to its acquisition of Enventis Corp. and its subsidiaries, including Enventis Telecom. In support of its financial qualifications to acquire control of Enventis Telecom, CCHI's most recent SEC Forms 10-Q and 10-K are available at http://ir.consolidated.com under "Financial Information."

B. <u>Enventis Corp. and Enventis Telecom, Inc.</u>

Enventis Corp. is a publicly traded (NASDAQ: ENVE) Minnesota corporation previously known as HickoryTech (HickoryTech's shareholders approved a corporate name change to Enventis Corporation on May 6, 2014).² Through its various operating incumbent and competitive local exchange carrier subsidiaries, Enventis Corp. is a leading provider of advanced communication solutions including data, cloud and IT services to businesses throughout the upper Midwest.

Enventis Telecom, a Minnesota corporation, is a wholly owned direct subsidiary of Enventis Corp. Enventis Telecom is an integrated communications services provider that offers private line and advanced data service to businesses and communities primarily in Minnesota (and also certain communities in Iowa, North Dakota South Dakota and Wisconsin). In addition to the states above, Enventis Telecom is also authorized to provide interexchange services in Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Montana, New York, Ohio, and Washington and local exchange and interexchange services in South Dakota and Wisconsin. In Florida, Enventis Telecom was registered to provide interexchange telecommunications services--now deregulated-in Docket No. 090399-TI (IXC Registration Code TK265). Enventis Telecom is also authorized by the FCC to provide interstate and international telecommunications services.

See Enventis, Press Release, *HickoryTech is Now Enventis Corporation* (May 6, 2014), available at: <u>http://www.enventis.com/One-Name.aspx</u>.

Contacts

Questions or any correspondence, orders, or other materials pertaining to this filing should be directed to the following:

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For the CCHI:

Michael Shultz Vice President Regulatory and Public Policy Consolidated Communications 350 South Loop 336 West Conroe, TX 77304 Tel: 936-788-7414 Fax: 936-788-1229 michael.shultz@consolidated.com For Enventis Telecom:

Bill VanderSluis Director – Regulatory Enventis Corporation 221 East Hickory Street Mankato, MN 56002-3248 Tel: 507-387-1886 Fax: 507-387-6813 Bill.VanderSluis@enventis.com

Description of the Transaction

On June 29, 2014, CCHI, Enventis Corp. and Merger Sub entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger ("Agreement") whereby Merger Sub will be merged with Enventis Corp. As a result, Enventis Corp. and Enventis Telecom will become wholly owned indirect subsidiaries of CCHI. For the Commission's convenience, pre- and post-transaction organizational charts are provided as Exhibit A hereto.

The registration held by Enventis Telecom will not be cancelled as a result of the Transaction. And immediately following the Transaction, Enventis Telecom will continue to use its current name in the provision of service. Following consummation of the Transaction, Enventis Telecom also will continue to provide service to its customers at the same rates, terms, and conditions, ensuring a seamless transition of ownership without confusion or adverse impact to consumers. Any future rate change, name change, or other modification will be undertaken pursuant to applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

Public Interest Considerations

The Parties submit that the Transaction is consistent with the public interest. The Transaction will bring together two successful enterprises that have demonstrated a long-standing commitment to excellence in a highly competitive marketplace. The Parties expect that the Transaction will enable the companies to better meet the local, national and global needs of enterprises, wholesale buyers, and other customers. Customers of the combined company will benefit from the extensive telecommunications experience and expertise of the combined company and also from a combined product portfolio.

The Parties believe that the Transaction will result in a stronger combined company and allow the combined company to offer new products and services and consumer choice for telecommunications and broadband services. The Parties anticipate customers will benefit from the enhanced access of Enventis Telecom to capital and financial strengths of CCHI and the Consolidated Companies, but also the sharing and application of best practices along with the availability of additional management expertise following the acquisition by CCHI. The post-Transaction management of Enventis Telecom will be able to draw upon the decades of combined experience of the current management teams of each of the Parties to create an environment focused on operating excellence for employees and customers and a combination of the best practices of both existing organizations.

The Parties also expect to realize cost benefits from the scale efficiencies of providing Internet and telephone services across the enterprise, resulting in the ability to more effectively compete for customers on a price basis. Current and future customers will also enjoy the benefit of the Consolidated Companies' record of superior customer experience. These benefits will extend to installation and service appointment processes; consumer-friendly pricing and packaging choices; and the delivery of further advanced broadband services.

Moreover, the Transaction will be conducted in a manner that will be transparent to customers and any future name change or service changes will be preceded by appropriate notices to customers as well as any required regulatory filings. The Transaction will not result in any immediate change of carrier for customers or any assignment of authorizations, and in no event will it result in the discontinuance, reduction, loss, or impairment of service to customers. Following consummation of the Transaction, Enventis Telecom will continue to provide high-quality communications services to its customers without interruption and without immediate change in rates, terms or conditions.

* * * *

Please acknowledge receipt and acceptance of this filing. Should you have any questions regarding this filing, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Brett P. Ferenchak

Jean L. Kiddoo Brett P. Ferenchak

Bingham McCutchen LLP

Counsel for the Parties

EXHIBIT A

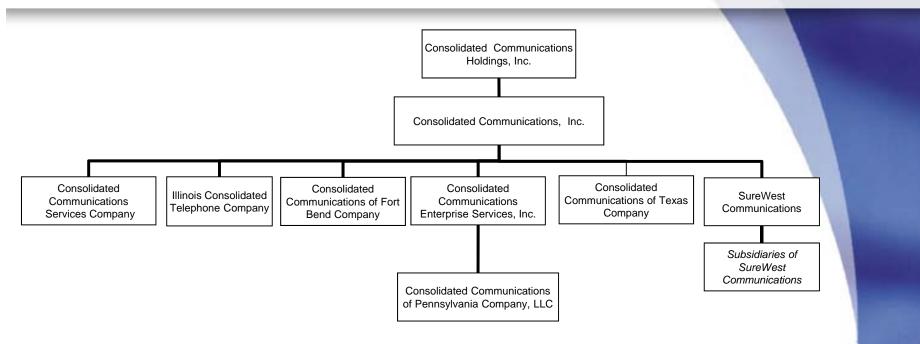
Diagrams of the Pre- and Post-Transaction Corporate Organization Structures

Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc & Subsidiaries



Organizational Chart (Page 1 of 3)

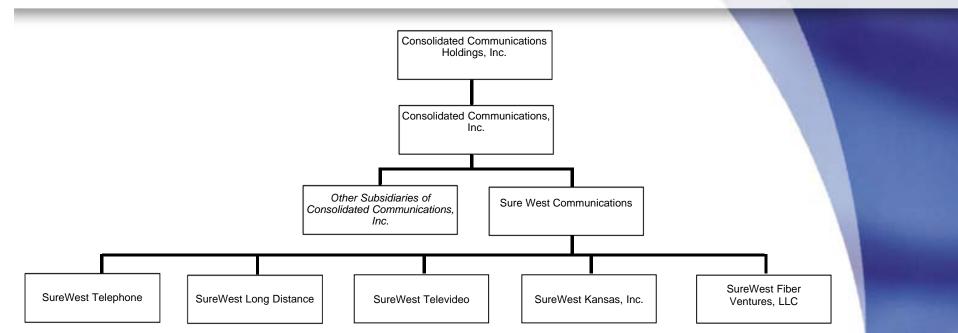
As of 6/30/14



Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc & Subsidiaries Organizational Chart (Page 2 of 3)



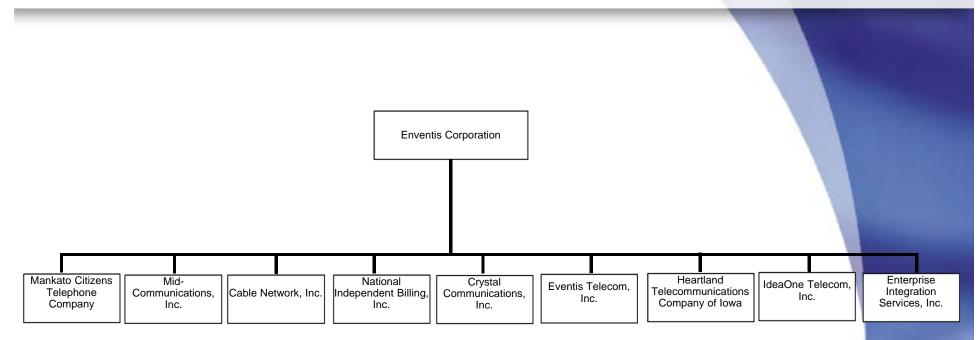
As of 6/30/14



Enventis Corporation & Subsidiaries Organizational Chart (Page 3 of 4)



As of 6/30/14

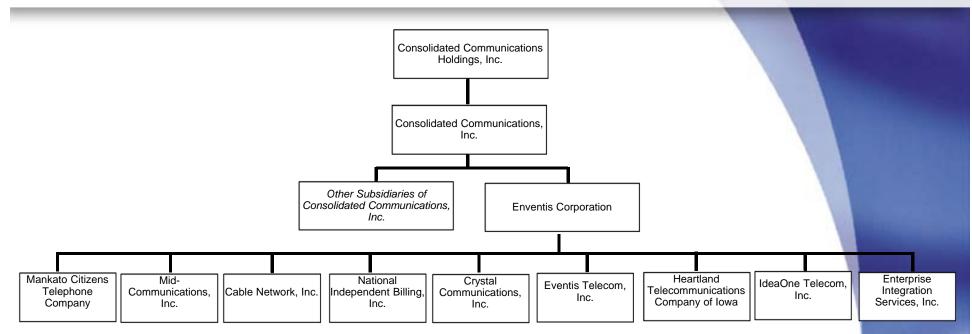


Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc & Subsidiaries



Organizational Chart (Page 4 of 4)

Effective Post Close



Verifications

VERIFICATION

I, Michael J Shultz, am Vice President, Regulatory & Public Policy of Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc. ("CCHI"); that I am authorized to make this Verification on behalf of CCHI and its subsidiaries; that the foregoing filing was prepared under my direction and supervision; and that the contents are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

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Michael J. Shultz Vice President, Regulatory & Public Policy Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 28 day of July, 2014.

GLORIA EAKER Notary Public, State of Texas My Commission Expires March 27, 2017

Alona Eaker Notary Public

My commission expires March 27, 2017

VERIFICATION

I, Bill VanderSluis, am Director - Regulatory of Enventis Corporation; that I am authorized to make this Verification on behalf of Enventis Corporation and its subsidiaries; that the foregoing filing was prepared under my direction and supervision; and that the contents are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

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Bill VanderSluis Director – Regulatory **Enventis** Corporation

Sworn and subscribed before me this 3 0 day of July, 2014.

Ann I P. Smenter Notary Public

My commission expires <u>1-31-15</u>

NNE L. KNEWTSON Notary Public-Minnesota Commission Expires Jan 31, 2015