

**BEFORE THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF KANSAS**

Before Commissioners: Andrew J. French, Chairperson
 Dwight D. Keen
 Annie Kuether

In the Matter of the Application of)
Consolidated Communications Enterprise)
Services, Inc. for an Amended and Reissued) Docket No. 25-COCS-317-CCN
Certificate of Convenience and Authority to)
Reflect its New Legal Name "Consolidated)
Communications Enterprise Services, LLC.)

ORDER APPROVING NAME CHANGE

The above-captioned matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas ("Commission") for consideration and determination. Having examined its files and records, the Commission finds and concludes:

1. On February 13, 2025, Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc. ("Consolidated") filed an application requesting authority to change its name on the records of the Commission to Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, LLC. Consolidated was previously certificated as an interexchange ("IXC") service provider in the State of Kansas.

2. The Commission derives its authority to supervise telecommunications public utilities from K.S.A. 66-1,188 and K.S.A. 66-2005(z). Regarding the request for a company name change, the Commission, in accordance with K.S.A. 66-131 and K.S.A. 66-136, must determine whether the proposed change will promote the public convenience.

3. Commission Staff ("Staff") submitted a Report and Recommendation dated March 3, 2025, advising the Commission to grant Consolidated's application and approve the requested name change.

4. Granting the application will allow the records of the Commission to be updated consistent with Consolidated's current name, Consolidate Communications Enterprise Services, LLC, and business entity registration filed with the Kansas Secretary of State. It is reported active and in good standing.

5. The Commission adopts Staff's analysis, findings and recommendations of March 3, 2025, as stated in the Report and Recommendation, which is attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference and finds that Consolidated's application should be granted. The Commission further finds that the requested name change to Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, LLC on the Certificate of Convenience and Authority will promote the public convenience and should be approved.

IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:

A. The application of Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc., filed herein on February 13, 2025, is hereby granted, and the request for a name change to Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, LLC, under its Certificate of Convenience and Authority thereby approved.

B. Any party may file and serve a petition for reconsideration pursuant to the requirements and time limits established by K.S.A. 77-529(a)(1).¹

C. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties for the purpose of entering such further order, or orders, as it may deem necessary.

¹ K.S.A. 66-1 18b; K.S.A. 77-503(c) and K.S.A. 77-531(b).

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

French, Chairperson; Keen, Commissioner; Kuether, Commissioner

Dated: 03/13/2025



Abigail D. Emery
Acting Secretary to the Commission

PJH

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION UTILITIES DIVISION

TO: Andrew J. French, Chairperson
Dwight D. Keen, Commissioner
Annie Kuether, Commissioner

FROM: Drennan Dolsky, Telecommunications Analyst
Jorge Soto-Gomez, Telecommunications Analyst
Steve Garrett, Deputy Chief of Telecommunications
Jeff McClanahan, Director of Utilities

DATE: March 3, 2025

SUBJECT: Docket No. 25-COSC-317-CCN

In the Matter of the Application of Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc. for an Amended and Reissued Certificate of Convenience and Authority to Reflect its New Legal Name "Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, LLC."

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On February 13, 2025, representatives of Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc. ("Consolidated Communications") filed an application to change the name of the Company to Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, LLC (Application). The Company is requesting the Kansas Corporation Commission (Commission) for Approval of an Amended and Reissued Certificate of Convenience and Authority to reflect the new legal name. The Commission Staff recommends approval of this Application.

BACKGROUND

The Commission derives its authority and jurisdiction to supervise and control telecommunications public utilities from K.S.A. 66-1,188 and K.S.A. 66-2005(z). The Commission derives its authority to certificate and de-certificate public utilities from K.S.A. 66-131; which requires the Commission to review all certification and decertification applications to determine whether the public convenience and necessity will be promoted by granting the request. Regarding the request for a company name change, the Commission, in accordance with K.S.A 66-131 and K.S.A 66-136, must determine whether the proposed change will promote the public convenience.

Consolidated Communications is authorized to provide Interexchange (IXC) Services pursuant to authority initially granted in Docket No. 00-EVCC-873-COC on June 1, 2000, belonging to Everest Connections Corporations. This certificate was transferred to Everest Midwest Licensee, LLC pursuant to Orders issued by the Commission in Docket No. 01-EVMC-417-CCN. On February 14, 2008, SureWest Communications, Inc. acquired the parent company of Everest Midwest Licensee, LLC, Everest Broadband, Inc. On October 2009, Docket No. 10-EVMC-184-CCN approved Everest Midwest Licensee, LLC to begin operating under the name SureWest Kansas Licensee, LLC. Docket No. 14-EVMC-281-CCN approved SureWest Kansas Licensees, LLC to change its name to SureWest Kansas, Inc. On July 1, 2012, Consolidated Communications, Inc. purchased SureWest Communications, Inc. Docket No. 15-COSC-219-CCN approved SureWest Kansas, Inc. to change its name to Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc. Consolidated Communications continues to operate under the Certificate of Convenience and Authority to Provide IXC Services issued on January 15, 2015, in Docket No. 15-COSC-219-CCN.¹

On August 27, 2024, an Order granted a joint application in Docket No. 24-CCHT-521-ACQ (Docket 24-521), where Condor Holding, LLC's (Condor) proposed acquisition of Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc. stock was approved. On January 8, 2025, a notice was filed in Docket 24-521 affirming the acquisition was completed on December 27, 2024. This Application is a following result of the completed 24-521 acquisition, where Condor and its subsidiaries will undergo a series of planned internal restructuring and other internal corporate changes for tax and business purposes.²

ANALYSIS

The name change was seamless to customers as there was no change in Consolidated Communication's rates and services.³ Staff agrees with Consolidated Communication's sentiment within the Application that notifying customers of the minor change from "Inc." to "LLC" may cause unnecessary confusion. As of February 4, 2025, both the old and the new Consolidated Communications names are properly registered with the Kansas Secretary of State's Office to engage in business in Kansas. The old name is listed as "Withdrawn" and the new name is currently listed as "Active and in Good Standing."⁴ The state of Delaware conversion documents are included in the Application. The company is current with its Commission assessments and Kansas Universal Service Fund (KUSF) reporting and payment obligations.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of Consolidated Communication's application to change its name on its Certificate of Convenience and Authority to provide IXC services within the state of Kansas. The company is reminded to notify the Commission immediately of any change in address or contact information, timely file annual reports, maintain current registration with the Kansas Secretary of State's Office, and pay all Commission and KUSF assessments in a timely manner.

¹ Application, Footnote 1.

² *Joint Application*, Docket No. 24-CCHT-521-ACQ, dated Jan. 25, 2024.

³ Application, ¶ 4, p. 2.

⁴ Kansas Secretary of State, Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc., <https://www.sos.ks.gov/eforms/BusinessEntity/Search.aspx>, last viewed February 27, 2025.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

25-COSC-317-CCN

I, the undersigned, certify that a true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following by means of electronic service on 03/13/2025.

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/S/ KCC Docket Room

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