

**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 Northeast       )  
Rural Services, LLC Formerly Northeast Rural       )                   Docket No. 25-NERT-380-CCN  
Services, Inc, to Change Name on Certificate       )  
of Convenience.   )

**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 April 25, 2025, Northeast Rural Services, LLC (“Northeast Rural”) filed an application requesting authority to change its name on the records of the Commission from Northeast Rural Services, Inc., to Northeast Rural Services, LLC. Northeast Rural is certificated as a Kansas local exchange and exchange access service provider in the service territories of AT&T Kansas and Brightspeed Companies of Kansas. <sup>1</sup>

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 June 18, 2025, recommending that the Commission grant Northeast Rural’s application and approve the requested name change. <sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Docket No. 19-NERT-192-COC

<sup>2</sup> Report and Recommendation, Docket No. 25-NERT-380-CCN (June 19, 2025) (“Staff’s R&R”), p. 2.

4. Granting the application will allow the records of the Commission to be updated consistent with Northeast Rural's current name as registered with the Kansas Secretary of State. Northeast Rural's business entity registration is active and in good standing.

5. The Commission finds that Staff's analysis, findings and recommendations of June 18, 2025, as stated in the Report and Recommendation, which is attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference, should be adopted and that Northeast Rural's application should be granted.

6. The Commission concludes that the requested name change to Northeast Rural, LLC on the Certificate of Convenience and Authority will promote public convenience.

**IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:**

A. The application of Northeast Rural, LLC, filed herein on April 25, 2025, is hereby granted and the request for a name change to Northeast Rural, 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).<sup>3</sup>

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.

**BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.**

French, Chairperson; Keen, Commissioner; Kuether, Commissioner

Dated: 07/15/2025



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Celeste Chaney-Tucker  
Acting Secretary to the Commission

BWB

<sup>3</sup> K.S.A. 66-118b; K.S.A. 77-503(c) and K.S.A. 77-531(b).

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

Laura Kelly, Governor

## **REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION UTILITIES DIVISION**

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

**FROM:** Hemant Bhagat, Senior Telecommunications Analyst  
Steve Garrett, Deputy Chief of Telecommunications  
Janet Buchanan, Deputy Director of Utilities  
Jeff McClanahan, Director of Utilities

**DATE:** June 18, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Docket No. 25-NERT-380-CCN

In the Matter of the Application of Northeast Rural Services, LLC Formerly  
Northeast Rural Services, Inc, to Change Name on Certificate of Convenience.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

On April 25, 2025, Northeast Rural Services, LLC (Northeast Rural) filed an application requesting the Kansas Corporation Commission (Commission) change its name on all Commission records from Northeast Rural Services, Inc. to Northeast Rural Services, LLC. The Commission Staff (Staff) recommends approval of this Application.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Commission derives its authority to supervise telecommunications public utilities from 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” will be promoted by granting the request.

### **ANALYSIS**

Northeast Rural, an Oklahoma Limited Liability Company, is registered and authorized to do business in the state of Kansas as a local exchange and exchange access service provider in the service territories of AT&T Kansas and Brightspeed Companies of Kansas (formerly known as CenturyLink).<sup>1</sup> The Company filed an application with the Commission on April 25, 2025, to change its name on its Certificate of Convenience and Authority to Northeast Rural Services, LLC.

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<sup>1</sup> Docket Nos. 19-NERT-192-COC

On April 9, 2025, Northeast Rural responded upon Staff's request that the Company does not have any customers in Kansas, hence, the change in name does not affect the day-to-day operations of the company or affect the service rates, terms, or the conditions of the services to customers. The Company is properly registered with the Kansas Secretary of State's Office and is currently "active and in good standing."<sup>2</sup> The Company provided documentation of the conversion to Limited Liability Company with the Oklahoma Secretary of State, effective November 22, 2024. Northeast Rural has a current Annual Interrogatory on file and is current with its Commission assessments and Kansas Universal Service Fund (KUSF) reporting and payment obligations.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends approval of Northeast Rural's application to change its name on its Certificate of Convenience and Authority to Northeast Rural Services, LLC to provide local exchange services within the state of Kansas in the service territories of AT&T Kansas and Brightspeed Companies of Kansas (formerly known as CenturyLink). The Company is reminded to notify the Commission immediately of any change in address or contact telephone numbers, timely file Annual Interrogatories, maintain current registration with the Kansas Secretary of State's Office, and pay all Commission and KUSF assessments in a timely manner.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.sos.ks.gov/eforms/BusinessEntity/Search.aspx> - last checked May 13, 2025.

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

25-NERT-380-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 07/15/2025.

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/S/ KCC Docket Room  
KCC Docket Room