

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

Before Commissioners: Susan K. Duffy, Chair  
Shari Feist Albrecht  
Dwight D. Keen

In the Matter of the Application of Valu-Net, ) Docket No. 13-VNLT-556-VSA  
LLC filing for a Video Service Authorization )

**ORDER GRANTING VSA TERMINATION**

NOW, the above-captioned matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission) for consideration and decision. Having reviewed its files and records and being duly advised in the premises, the Commission makes the following findings:

1. On March 18, 2020, Valu-Net, LLC (Valu-Net) filed an Application to Terminate its Video Service Authorization (VSA) pursuant to K.S.A. 12-2023(d) and K.A.R. 82-15-1(b)(3). Valu-Net's VSA was originally granted in this docket on March 20, 2013, and amended on August 30, 2016.

2. K.S.A. 12-2023(d) provides:

(d) The certificate of video service authorization issued by the state corporation commission may be terminated by the video service provider by submitting notice to the state corporation commission.

3. K.A.R. 82-15-1(b)(3) provides:

(3) Each entity that holds a video service authorization certificate and wants to terminate its authority to provide cable or video service shall file a termination application.

4. Commission Staff (Staff) submitted a Report and Recommendation regarding the Application on April 28, 2020, attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference. Staff noted that when Valu-Net originally submitted its Application on March 18, 2020, it did not submit the requisite filing fee and copy of the notice to customers. However, these items were submitted

upon Staff's request and a copy of the notice to customers is attached to Staff's Report and Recommendation (dated March 16, 2020). Staff recommended approval of the VSA Termination.

5. The Commission finds Staff's findings and recommendation to be reasonable and hereby adopts the same.

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

A. The Application to Terminate filed by Valu-Net on March 18, 2020, is granted.

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).

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

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

Duffy, Chair; Albrecht, Commissioner; Keen, Commissioner

Dated: 05/05/2020 \_\_\_\_\_



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Lynn M. Retz  
Executive Director

MRN

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION  
UTILITIES DIVISION**

**TO:** Chair Susan K. Duffy  
Commissioner Shari Feist Albrecht  
Commissioner Dwight D. Keen

**FROM:** Kelly Mabon, Senior Telecommunications Analyst  
Christine Aarnes, Chief of Telecommunications  
Jeff McClanahan, Director of Utilities

**DATE:** April 28, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Docket No. 13-VNLT-556-VSA  
In the Matter of the Application of Valu-Net, LLC filing for a Video Service Authorization.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

On March 18, 2020, Valu-Net, LLC (Valu-Net) filed an Application for Termination of its state-issued Video Service Authorization, as authorized by K.S.A. 12-2023 and K.A.R. 82-15-1. Staff recommends approval of this Application.

The filing fee was received on April 27, 2020. Therefore, per K.S.A. 12-2023(a), Commission action in this matter is required not later than **Wednesday, May 27, 2020.**

**BACKGROUND:**

The Applicant was granted a Video Service Authorization (VSA) for ten service areas (footprints). With this filing, the Company seeks to terminate its VSA.

K.S.A. 12-2023 gives the Commission the authority to review applications for those entities who desire to provide cable service or video service in the state of Kansas.

K.S.A. 12-2023(d) provides that the Commission may terminate a video service authorization upon application for such termination by the video service provider.

In addition K.A.R. 82-15-1(b)(3) states:

Each entity that holds a video service authorization certificate and wants to terminate its authority to provide cable or video service shall file a termination application.

**ANALYSIS:**

The Applicant was issued an initial Video Service Authorization on March 20, 2013, for the service area of the City of Emporia, Kansas. On August 30, 2016, the Applicant was granted authority to serve the City of Baldwin, Kansas.

On March 18, 2020, the Applicant submitted an Application for Termination of its VSA. No filing fee, nor a copy of the Notice to Customers, was submitted. Staff requested the filing fee be remitted and asked for a copy of the notice sent to all customers dated March 16, 2020. The notice informed customers that, as of April 20, 2020, Valu-Net would no longer be able to provide service due to the rising costs of programming. Valu-Net offered to help its customers with streaming services. That notice is attached to this Report.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends Commission approval of Valu-Net's Application to Terminate its Video Service Authorization.



March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### **RG FIBER ends TV service on April 20th, 2020**

When we launched RG FIBER to bring gigabit internet to town, customers told us TV service was an important part of the bundled package. So, we partnered with our friends at ValuNet Fiber, the actual carrier of your Linear Video Service (IPTV), to bring you great TV content over our fiber network.

Over the past 6 years, we've watched our customers use our reliable, fast internet connection to "cut the cord" from traditional TV service to "streaming." Today, less than 6% of customers still have our traditional video service. At the same time, traditional TV programming costs have become unsustainable. RG FIBER and ValuNet Fiber have made the joint decision to end IPTV services.

Streaming is often cheaper, allows you to enjoy TV anywhere, and on a multitude of devices.

#### **Let us help you stream**

What we've learned is that most people just need a little bit of help getting started with streaming. The good news is that you have lots of options that have come a long way in the past few years: YouTube TV, Hulu Live TV, and Fubo TV - just to name a few.

#### **Next Steps**

Our goal is to make this as seamless and painless as possible. We will call you to set up a convenient time for us to discuss streaming options with you. We will also schedule a time to pick up our traditional TV equipment, as well as setup any streaming devices you choose.

TV service will be shut off on April 20th, 2020; you will not be billed for services after March 31st, 2020. The last 20 days are on us.

Thank you for trusting us with your business!

RG FIBER and ValuNet FIBER

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

13-VNLT-556-VSA

I, the undersigned, certify that a true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following by means of

electronic service on 05/05/2020.

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\*\*\*Hand Delivered\*\*\*

RICHARD LEE TIDWELL, MANAGING PARTNER  
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/S/ DeeAnn Shupe

DeeAnn Shupe