

**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 Stratus)
Networks, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to)
Provide Telecommunications Services as a) Docket No. 24-SNIC-671-COC
Competitive Local Exchange Carrier and)
Competitive Access Provider)

ORDER GRANTING PETITION TO INTERVENE

This matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission) for consideration and decision. Having reviewed the pleadings and record, the Commission makes the following findings:

1. On April 12, 2024, Stratus Networks, Inc. (“Stratus”) filed an Application requesting a Certificate of Convenience and Authority (“COC”) to engage in the business of a Competitive Local Service Provider in Kansas.¹

2. On May 29, 2024, a group of rural local exchange carriers (“RLECs”) filed their Petition to Intervene requesting intervention in order to protect their competitive interests. The RLECs allege Stratus’s Application inaccurately equates the services Stratus offers with local exchange/exchange access service in Kansas.² The RLECs assert that the interests of justice will be served by allowing their intervention, as they seek to correctly process Stratus’s certificate of

¹ Stratus Networks, Inc. Application (Apr. 12, 2024) (Application).

² Petition to Intervene, p. 1 (May 29, 2024).

convenience and authority, and ensure conformance with Kansas law.³ The RLECs further stated their intervention would not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceeding.⁴

3. The Commission has broad discretion to grant a petition for intervention if it is in the interest of justice, if the intervention will not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings, and if the party has stated facts demonstrating its legal rights, duties, and privileges, immunities, or other legal interests may be substantially affected by the proceeding.⁵

4. The Commission finds the RLECs have demonstrated an interest in this proceeding, and granting their intervention would further the interests of justice. The Commission further finds the RLEC's intervention will not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings. Therefore, pursuant to K.S.A. 77-521, the Commission grants the RLEC's Petition for Intervention.

5. The RLECs will be added to the official service list. Service of pleadings, communications, and correspondence should be delivered to counsel of record, as follows:

Colleen R. Jamison
JAMISON LAW, LLC
PO BOX 128
Tecumseh, KS 66542
785-331-8214
colleen.jamison@jamisonlaw.legal

Mark Doty
Gleason & Doty, Chartered
401 S. Main, Ste. 102
Ottawa, KS 66067
785-242-3775
doty.mark@gmail.com

³ Petition to Intervene, p. 3.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ K.S.A. 77-521; K.A.R. 82-1-225.

Anthony K. Veach
1575 Birdie Way, A107
Lawrence, KS 66047
202-631-9190
anthonyveach@anthonyveachlaw.com

THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

A. The Rural Local Exchange Carriers' Petition to Intervene is granted pursuant to K.S.A. 77-521.

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).⁶

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

French, Chairperson; Keen, Commissioner; Kuether, Commissioner

Dated: 07/30/2024



Lynn M. Retz
Executive Director

CRM

⁶ K.S.A. 66-118b; K.S.A. 77-503(c); K.S.A. 77-531(b).

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

24-SNIC-671-COC

I, the undersigned, certify that a true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following by means of electronic service on 07/30/2024.

MICHAEL P. DONAHUE
MARASHLIAN & DONAHUE, LLC
The CommLaw Group
1420 Spring Hill Rd Ste 401
Tysons, VA 22102
mpd@commlawgroup.com

MARK DOTY, ATTORNEY
GLEASON & DOTY CHTD
401 S MAIN, SUITE 102
OTTAWA, KS 66067
doty.mark@gmail.com

KAREN HYDE, CONSULTANT
STRATUS NETWORKS, INC.
4700 N PROSPECT RD
PEORIA HEIGHTS, IL 61616
kmh@compliancegroup.com

COLLEEN JAMISON
JAMISON LAW, LLC
P O BOX 128
TECUMSEH, KS 66542
colleen.jamison@jamisonlaw.legal

CARLY MASENTHIN, LITIGATION COUNSEL
KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION
1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD
TOPEKA, KS 66604
carly.masenthin@ks.gov

ANTHONY K. VEACH
ANTHONY VEACH LAW
1575 BIRDIE WAY, A107
LAWRENCE, KS 66047
anthonyveach@anthonyveachlaw.com

MEREDITH A WEBSTER, ATTORNEY
KUTAK ROCK LLP
2300 MAIN ST
SUITE 800
KANSAS CITY, MO 64108-2432
meredith.webster@kutakrock.com

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