Federal Communications Commission 45 L Street NE Washington, DC 20554

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DA 23-927

Released: October 3, 2023

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON PETITION FOR RELINQUISHMENT OF ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER DESIGNATION SUBMITTED BY BROADLIFE COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

WC Docket No. 09-197

Comment Date: October 17, 2023

Reply Comment Date: October 24, 2023

The Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) seeks comment on a petition for relinquishment of Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) designation pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(4) filed by BroadLife Communications, Inc. (BroadLife). BroadLife seeks this relinquishment in connection with the approval and consummation of a transaction transferring all of its Rural Digital Opportunity (RDOF) support and associated obligations to Yellowhammer Networks, LLC.²

Filing Requirements. Interested parties may file comments on or before the date indicated on the first page of this document.³ All filings must refer to **WC Docket No. 09-197**.⁴ Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).⁵

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Commission's online Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS): https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing.
 - Filings can be sent by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. All filings must be addressed to the

¹See Petition of BroadLife Communications, Inc. for Relinquishment of Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designation, WC Docket No. 09-197 (filed Sept. 15, 2023), https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/10915021177537/1; Telecommunications Carriers Eligible for Universal Service Support; Connect America Fund, WC Docket Nos. 09-197; 10-90, Order, 36 FCC Rcd 9384 (WCB 2021) (designating BroadLife as an ETC).

² Domestic Section 214 Application Granted for the Acquisition of Certain Assets of BroadLife Communications, Inc. by Yellowhammer Networks, LLC, WC Docket 23-23, Public Notice, DA 23-473 at 1, 5 (WCB June 1, 2023) (approving the transfer of the domestic section 214 authorization from BroadLife to Yellowhammer Networks, LLC (Yellowhammer), including the transfer of Rural Digital Opportunity (RDOF) support, subject to, and conditioned upon, Yellowhammer's authorization to receive this support). The Bureau has designated Yellowhammer as an ETC to become eligible to receive the transferred support. Telecommunications Carriers Eligible for Universal Service Support, Order, DA 23-505 (WCB June 13, 2023).

³ See 47 CFR §§ 1.2, 1.405, and 1.419.

⁴ All filings relating to this Public Notice should refer *only* to the docket listed above.

⁵ See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings, 63 FR 24121 (1998).

Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

- Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701. U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 45 L Street, NE, Washington DC 20554.
- Effective March 19, 2020, and until further notice, the Commission no longer accepts any hand or messenger delivered filings at its headquarters. This is a temporary measure taken to help protect the health and safety of individuals, and to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19.6

Ex Parte Rules. This proceeding shall be treated as a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding in accordance with the Commission's ex parte rules.⁷ Persons making ex parte presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral ex parte presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the ex parte presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter's written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during ex parte meetings are deemed to be written ex parte presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b). In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written ex parte presentations and memoranda summarizing oral ex parte presentations, and all attachments thereto, must be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (e.g., .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's ex *parte* rules.

People with Disabilities. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530.

Additional Information. For further information regarding this Notice, please contact Nissa Laughner, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at (202) 418-7400 or via email at Nissa.Laughner@fcc.gov.

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⁶ See FCC Announces Closure of FCC Headquarters Open Window and Change in Hand-Delivery Policy, Public Notice, 35 FCC Rcd 2788 (OMD 2020), https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-closes-headquarters-open-window-and-changes-hand-delivery-policy.

⁷ 47 CFR §§ 1.1200 et seq.