

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

Docket No. CP1520

In the Matter of the Petition of)	
TDS Long Distance Corporation for Approval)	Petition for Exemption from
of an Exemption from the 90 Day Notice)	OAR 860-032-0020(11)
to Subscribers Requirement under)	
OAR 860-032-0020(11))	

Home Telephone Company d/b/a TDS Telecom, including its affiliate TDS Long Distance Corporation (“TDS LD”) certificated in OPUC Docket No. CP 1520, (collectively “TDS”) and North State Telephone Company including its affiliate MD Communications d/b/a OTC Connections (collectively “NSTC”) (collectively, the “Parties”), jointly provided notice to the Oregon Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) of a transaction involving NSTC’s purchase of TDS’s customer base in Condon, Oregon.¹ The sale of the subscriber base closed on August 1, 2014, however, TDS will continue to provide all services except for Long Distance through the end of November 2014. Long Distance services will be transferred to the NSTC long distance affiliate on November 18, 2014.

Pursuant to the above-mentioned notice, TDS LD hereby respectfully requests that the Commission exercise its authority pursuant to OAR 860-032-0020(16) and grant TDS a waiver of the 90 day notification period to instead require an 80 day notification period.

The waiver is warranted in this case for the following reasons:

(1) the subscribers’ services will be minimally impacted and nearly transparent; subscribers will be able to utilize the same telecommunications services, at the same level of reliability, rates, and terms and conditions following the transfer, as existed prior to the transfer, without any necessary actions to effectuate the transaction;

¹ See Letter to Commissioners dated Jun 16, 2014 (attached).

(2) subscribers will receive notice providing all information as required in OAR 860-032-0020(5), and be able to elect another provider other than NSTC if they so choose;

(3) TDS LD and NSTC are capable of ensuring a high level of customer service and responsiveness to any concerns raised by subscribers before, during, and after the transition;

(4) TDS LD and NSTC will take all commercially reasonable measures to ensure that this transition is a smooth and uncomplicated process for all subscribers involved.

(5) to minimize costs and mailings to customers, the notice regarding long distance service changes will be included in customer bills for the August billing cycle. However, because of the billing cycle timing, customer notification will be made within a period less than the 90 days required by the rule.

(6) the requested waiver only shortens the notice period by 10 days.

TDS LD currently provides services to 402 customers. No other providers will be impacted by this change.

A copy of the customer notice is also included in compliance with OAR 860-032-0020(11)(b). Note TDS does not collect customer deposits therefore this issue is not mentioned in the notice.

For the reasons set forth above, Oregon subscribers will not be harmed should the Commission grant TDS LD's request to provide a waiver to the OAR 860-032-0020(11)(a) 90 day notification period to instead require a 80 day notification period.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this petition for waiver, please contact the undersigned at:

Gail Long Manager, State Government Affairs
TDS Telecom
PO Box 1004
Redmond, Oregon 97756
(541) 516-8210
Gail.Long@tdstelecom.com

Respectfully submitted this 4th day of August, 2014

By: Gail Long

Gail Long

Manager, State Government Affairs

TDS Telecom

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June 16, 2014

Commissioner Susan Ackerman
Public Utility Commission of Oregon
3930 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
PO Box 1088
Salem OR 97308-1088

Commissioner John Savage
Public Utility Commission of Oregon
3930 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
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Commissioner Stephen Bloom
Public Utility Commission of Oregon
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Re: Acquisition of Home Telephone Company by North-State Telephone Co.

Dear Commissioners:

You may have seen mention of the fact that North-State Telephone Co. is acquiring Home Telephone Company, a TDS Telecom Company, in the trade press recently. Both TDS Telecom and North-State Telephone Co. have asked me to write to you to let you know about the transaction. Although this transaction is not jurisdictional with the Commission since both companies are beneath the forty thousand access line threshold contained in ORS 759.040, both companies wanted to be sure that you are aware of the transaction and know what is going on in case questions arise from the general public.

Under this transaction, the stock of Home Telephone Company is being acquired by North-State Telephone Co. The definitive purchase and sale agreement has been signed. A transfer of control (214) application has been submitted to the Federal Communications Commission and is expected to be handled on a fast track basis. Closing is anticipated to occur later this summer.

TDS Telecom will continue to operate Home Telephone Company for a few months after closing to accommodate a smooth transition. It is expected that around the first of December,

Commissioner Susan Ackerman
Commissioner John Savage
Commissioner Stephen Bloom
June 16, 2014
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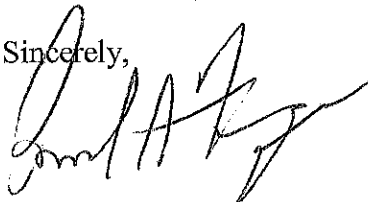
complete control of the operations will be transferred to North-State.

Prior to that transfer of operations, TDS Long Distance Corporation, which provides long distance service in the Home Telephone Company service area will file to "abandon" that service pursuant to the Commission's rules. TDS Telecom and North-State are working out details to allow for a smooth transition of those customers of TDS Long Distance that want to use a long distance service that will be offered by an affiliate of North-State. Some customers may choose other carriers, but North-State wants to be sure that there was a locally-connected carrier available for customers who choose to use it.

In addition to the filing by TDS Long Distance, there will be other assorted filings, such as filing to change the language in the Home Telephone Company tariffs to remove the TDS trade name. However, there is no plan to make an immediate change to rates, terms and conditions of service.

If you have any questions concerning these events, please do not hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard A. Finnigan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

RICHARD A. FINNIGAN

RAF/ cs

cc: Garrin Bott (via e-mail)
Gail Long (via e-mail)
Joel Dohmeier (via e-mail)
Bryan Conway (via e-mail)



NORTH-STATE TELEPHONE CO.
ONE TELEPHONE DRIVE
PO BOX 609
MT. VERNON, OREGON 97865
(541) 932-4411
800-650-7856

Dear TDS customer:

We are writing to share with you an exciting announcement regarding your TDS services! TDS and North-State Telephone Co. (NSTC) have recently signed an agreement whereby North-State Telephone Co. will become your communications provider. This includes all TDS services you subscribe to – local and long-distance telephone, data and DISH services. All regulatory approvals have been received, and TDS Long Distance Corporation's service will be automatically transferred on Nov. 18, 2014. The transfer of all other services will be completed by Dec. 1.

North-State Telephone is an integrated communications provider of voice, data, Internet services and business telephone systems. As an industry leader in providing communications services in your area, North-State Telephone has an exceptional customer satisfaction and retention rating, and offers a wide range of expertise and resources, as well as a complete line of innovative, high-quality, cost-effective services.

This change in providers will not disrupt your current service. **Prior to and immediately following the transfer, you will continue to receive the same services at the same rates, terms and conditions as you do now.** You should not be charged any fees in connection with this transfer, but if you are, North-State Telephone will pay them.

As always, you have the right to select

continued...

another long distance provider. However, in accordance with Oregon Public Utility Commission rules, if you currently subscribe to **TDS Long Distance Corporation's** service those services will automatically be transferred on Nov. 18 and your account assigned to MD Communications dba OTC Connections unless you select another provider. If you placed a "freeze" on your services to prevent the unauthorized transfer of your services to another carrier, the freeze will be lifted and your services transferred to MD Communications dba OTC Connections. At your request, North-State Telephone can reestablish freeze protection for you after the transfer.

What are the next steps?

You don't have to do a thing! North-State Telephone will notify you prior to moving your service over to them and will inform you of any changes in billing statement format, remittance addresses and customer service information. We are confident you will be completely satisfied with North-State Telephone and will receive the same high level of customer service and support that you have come to expect.

We will do everything to help ensure this transition is a smooth one. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, please contact TDS representatives at 1-888-CALL-TDS.

Thank you,

TDS Telecom

P.O. Box 608

Lancaster, WI 53813-0608

North-State Telephone Company