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NOTICE OF INTERCONNECTED VOIP NUMBERING AUTHORIZATION¹ APPLICATIONS DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE

The following applications have been submitted to the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau), pursuant to section 52.15(g)(3) of the Commission's rules, seeking authorization to obtain North American Numbering Plan telephone numbers directly from the Numbering Administrator:²

Interconnected VoIP Numbering Authorization Application Filed by Backbone Communications, Inc., Pursuant to Section 52.15(g)(3) of the Commission's Rules, WC Docket No. 16-361 (October 11, 2016);

Interconnected VoIP Numbering Authorization Application Filed by Freeway Communications, LLC, Pursuant to Section 52.15(g)(3) of the Commission's Rules, WC Docket No. 17-88 (March 22, 2017);

Interconnected VoIP Numbering Authorization Application Filed by Technology Innovations Lab, LLC, Pursuant to Section 52.15(g)(3) of the Commission's Rules, INBOX-52.15 (June 23, 2020);

Interconnected VoIP Numbering Authorization Application Filed by Single Point Global Pursuant to Section 52.15(g)(3) of the Commission's Rules, INBOX-52.15 (March 16, 2021);

Interconnected VoIP Numbering Authorization Application Filed by T3 Communications, Inc. Pursuant to Section 52.15(g)(3) of the Commission's Rules, WC Docket No. 21-165 (April 12, 2021);

Interconnected VoIP Numbering Authorization Application Filed by Digital Network Access Communications Pursuant to Section 52.15(g)(3) of the Commission's Rules, WC Docket No. 21-317 (July 29, 2021);

Interconnected VoIP Numbering Authorization Application Filed by SimpleVoIP Pursuant to Section 52.15(g)(3) of the Commission's Rules, WC Docket No. 23-408 (November 10, 2023);

¹ See Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Commencement Date and Process for Interconnected VoIP Providers to File Applications for Authorization to Obtain Telephone Numbers, Public Notice, 31 FCC Rcd 949, 950 (WCB 2016) (Report and Order); see also Numbering Policies for Modern Communications et al., WC Docket No. 13-97 et al., Second Report and Order and Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 23-75 (rel. Sept. 22, 2023) (Second Report and Order).

² See 47 CFR § 52.15(g)(3).

Interconnected VoIP Numbering Authorization Application Filed by VoIP Stir PR LLC Pursuant to Section 52.15(g)(3) of the Commission's Rules, WC Docket No. 23-409 (November 17, 2023).

After a preliminary review of the applications, the Bureau determined that the applications did not include all of the information required by the Commission's rules.³ The Bureau, pursuant to its normal practice of informally requesting supplemental information from the Applicants via email or telephone conference, requested that the applicants in each of the above-listed applications file an amendment or provide specific, additional information to complete their applications.⁴ To date, the applicants have not complied with the requests. As a result, the Commission has not released public notices accepting the applications for filing.⁵ The Commission delegated authority to the Bureau to dismiss an application when it determines that the applicant cannot satisfy the qualifications for a direct access authorization.⁶ The Bureau cannot determine whether the listed applicants satisfy the qualifications for a direct access authorization without the specific information it requested. The applications are therefore incomplete as filed, and the Bureau dismisses them without prejudice. Applicants may in the future refile their applications with the information necessary to comply with the Commission's filing requirements.⁷

Please contact Jordan Reth, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at <u>Jordan.Reth@fcc.gov</u>, or (202) 418-1418.

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³ See 47 CFR § 52.15(g). In September 2023, the Commission adopted new rules clarifying and strengthening its direct access rules, requiring numbering authorization applicants to make new certifications and disclosures. See Second Report and Order, 8957-80, paras. 13-55. These new rules became effective on August 8, 2024.

⁴ See, e.g., 47 CFR § 52.15(g)(3)(ii)(H) (Backbone Communications, Inc., Freeway Communications, Inc., SinglePoint Global, T3 Communications, Inc., Digital Network Access Communications, SimpleVoIP, LLC, and VoIP Stir PR, LLC, failed to respond to staff requests to provide sufficient documentation as proof of their facilities readiness); see, e.g., 47 CFR 52.15(g)(3)(vi)(T3 Communications, Inc. and Digital Network Access Communications failed to respond to additional information requests by staff concerning their status regarding foreign ownership).

⁵ See 47 CFR 52.15(g)(3)(ii).

⁶ See Report and Order, 30 FCC Rcd at 6857-58, paras. 38-40 (2015); Second Report and Order, 38 FCC Rcd at 8982-83, para. 62 and n.207 (2023) (stating that the Commission authorizes the Bureau to reject applications, and that "by reject we mean either dismiss or deny depending on the specifics of any particular application and the reason for its rejection."). See also 47 CFR § 1.65.

⁷ Applicants were either notified or on notice that subsequent to the filing of their applications, the Commission had instituted an application processing fee for all direct access applications to which they would be subject if they choose to refile their applications upon dismissal. *See Wireline Competition Bureau Reminds Applicants of the Effective Date of New Application Processing Fees*, Public Notice, DA 21-1578A1 at 1-2 (WCB Dec. 15, 2021).