

- BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH -

Application of the Manti Telephone Company for an Order Approving the Acquisition of the Assets of the Manti Telephone Company by Lynch Telephone Corporation X

DOCKET NO. 24-046-01

ORDER DENYING JOINT MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE AND SUSPENDING SCHEDULING ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING

ISSUED: April 18, 2024

On March 11, 2024, Lynch Telephone Corporation X (“Lynch”) and Manti Telephone Company (“Manti”) filed a joint application. A scheduling conference before the Public Service Commission (PSC) was initially scheduled for March 27, 2024. By Joint Motion for Continuance filed March 21, 2024, Lynch, as joined by the Division of Public Utilities (DPU), the Office of Consumer Services (OCS), and Manti, requested to reschedule that conference (“Joint Motion”). That motion was granted, and a scheduling conference was subsequently held on April 1, 2024, and a scheduling order was issued on April 3, 2024 (“Scheduling Order”). The Scheduling Order established, among other things, that the pre-filed written direct testimony of Lynch and Manti was due on April 16, 2024 (“Applicant Direct Testimony”).

On April 16, 2024, Lynch and Manti filed a Motion for Extension of Time to File Direct Testimony and Request for Expedited Treatment (“Motion for Extension”). The Motion for Extension asserts “Manti and Lynch are in discussions regarding certain aspects of the [subject matter of the application] which may result in an amended agreement and/or an amended application being filed with the [PSC].” Because of

these discussions, the Motion for Extension seeks an extension of the Applicant Direct Testimony deadline from April 16, 2024 to May 7, 2024.

The Motion for Extension represents that counsel for Lynch “is authorized to represent that the [DPU] is not opposed to this Motion[,]” and further asserts “[t]here are no other parties to this docket.” However, the OCS was identified as a party to this docket in the Joint Motion, but the Motion for Extension makes no representations about OCS’s position on the requested extension. Thus, OCS is not a party to the Motion for Extension and thus it cannot be deemed a stipulated motion.

However, considering the representations in the Motion for Extension about why the extension is being sought, balanced against preserving an appropriate amount of time for all parties to fully participate in this docket, we are:

1. Denying the Motion for Extension; and
2. Suspending the Scheduling Order and, once resolution of the Manti and Lynch discussions referenced in the Motion for Extension occurs, directing the parties to jointly contact the PSC about how they propose to proceed with this docket.

DOCKET NO. 24-046-01

- 3 -

DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, April 18, 2024.

/s/ John E. Delaney
Presiding Officer

Attest:

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg
PSC Secretary
DW#333447

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that on April 18, 2024, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served upon the following as indicated below:

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