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Division Director

Action Request Response

To: Public Service Commission of Utah

From: Utah Division of Public Utilities

Chris Parker, Director
Brenda Salter, Assistant Director
Abdinasir Abdulle, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor
Ron Slusher, Utility Technical Consultant

Date: August 19, 2026

Re: **Docket No. 26-2665-01:** In the Matter of the Application of FirstDigital Asset Holdings, LLC for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Provide Facilities-Based and Resold Local Exchange, Access, and Interexchange Telecommunications Services within the State of Utah.

Recommendation (Approve)

The Utah Division of Public Utilities (Division) has conducted a comprehensive review of the application submitted by FirstDigital Asset Holdings, LLC ("FirstDigital" or "Applicant") for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN"). The Division finds that the Applicant has demonstrated the necessary technical, managerial, and financial capabilities to provide the proposed services, thereby fulfilling the requirements outlined in the Public Service Commission of Utah ("Commission") Utah Administrative Code R746-349-3.

The Division recommends that the Commission waive the \$100,000 bond requirement pursuant to R746-349-3(1)(b). This recommendation is based on the Applicant's attestation that it will not require customer deposits or prepayments.

The Division expects no objections to this recommendation, as filings of this type, with the information submitted by FirstDigital, have historically generated none.



Therefore, the Division requests that this docket be adjudicated informally in accordance with Utah Administrative Code R746-110-1 and Utah Code Ann. § 54-8b-3(1)(b).

Discussion

On July 27, 2026, FirstDigital filed an application for a CPCN to provide facilities-based and resold public telecommunications services. FirstDigital is a Utah limited liability company organized under the laws of Utah on May 01, 2026, as evidenced by the Articles of Organization provided in Exhibit B. The Applicant received authorization to conduct business in the State of Utah on that same date.

General Entity Information:

- **Utah Business Entity Number:** 14690217-0161
- **Principal Address:** 66 Wadsworth Park Drive, Suite 200, Draper, UT 84020

Registered Agent: Wesley McDougal

The Compliance Matrix below details the requirements for CPCN application approval and includes the Division's analysis locating the corresponding data within the application.

Compliance Matrix

Checklist Requirement	Applicant Status	Source Reference
R746-349-3(1)(a)(i): Support for Tech/Fin/Man	Fulfilled	Application Response, Exhibit C and Exhibit D
R746-349-3(1)(b): Proof of Bond (\$100,000)	Waiver Requested	Application Section R746-349-3(1)(b)
R746-349-3(1)(c): Facilities to be Used	Provided	Application Response R746-349-3(1)(c)
R746-349-3(1)(d): Services to be Offered	Provided	Application Response R746-349-3(1)(d)
R746-349-3(1)(g): Managerial Experience	Provided	Exhibit C

R746-349-3(1)(h): Organization Chart	Provided	Exhibit D
R746-349-3(1)(i): Chart of Accounts	Waiver Requested	Application Response R746-349-3(1)(i)
R746-349-3(1)(j): Financial Statements	Provided Confidentially	Exhibit E
R746-349-3(1)(p): Authority to Conduct Business	Provided	Exhibit B
R746-349-3(1)(q): Slamming/Illegal Activities	Provided	Application Response R746-349-3(1)(q)

Technical and Managerial Ability (R746-349-3(1)(g, h, n))

The Applicant is led by a sophisticated management team with extensive expertise in systems architecture and corporate finance. This team maintains a local presence in Draper, UT. The existing personnel of the Applicant's parent company, FirstDigital Communications, LLC will be responsible for the Applicant's management. Key personnel include:

- **Wesley McDougal (President):** Holds a Juris Doctorate from Northwestern University, Master of Public Policy and a Bachelor of Science in Economics from Brigham Young University. Founded FirstDigital in 2000.
- **Alex Jackson (COO):** Holds a Bachelor of Science in Business from Utah State University. Has led Operations at FirstDigital for over 15 years. He oversees and directs all administration, customer service, service delivery, engineering, and field operations teams. Has worked in the Telecom industry for over 20 years, including previous management positions with Nextlink and XO Communications.
- **Roger Worth (CFO):** Holds a Bachelor and Master's in Accounting from Brigham Young University. He leads all financial accounting and reporting efforts and brings with him a wealth of experience and expertise in financial management, having previously served as the Vice President of Accounting at Vivint.

- **Brandon Balmforth (Director – Outside Plant):** Is an accomplished telecommunications operations leader with more than 28 years of experience in outside plant operations, fiber optic network deployment, and telecommunications infrastructure. As Outside Plant Director at FirstDigital, he leads a team of more than 30 field technicians and project managers responsible for the construction, maintenance, and expansion of the company's fiber network throughout Utah.
- **Dusty Hone (Director Data Engineering):** Has nearly 20 years of experience in network engineering, architecture, and operations. As Director of Data Engineering at FirstDigital, he has led the design and deployment of critical Carrier Ethernet, WDM, and MPLS infrastructure, driven network automation initiatives, and built strong relationships with customers, carriers, and stakeholders.
- **Chris Dunford (Director – Voice Engineering):** Has more than 25 years of experience leading global network, voice, systems, and IT organizations. As Director of Voice Engineering and IT at FirstDigital, he oversees mission-critical communications infrastructure, multiple engineering and support teams, and strategic technology planning to ensure highly available, secure, and scalable services.

The Division finds that the combination of high-level academic credentials, expertise in the telecommunications industry, and established local management satisfies the requirements for technical and managerial reliability.

Financial Qualifications (R746-349-3(1)(j, k, l))

The Applicant has submitted a Financial Statements and Five-Year Projections (CONFIDENTIAL Exhibit E) under seal. The Division's review confirms these statements were prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP") and has been attested to by management in the same exhibit.

FirstDigital is a start-up company and as such will look to the parent company for its financial resources. The submitted five-year pro forma projection demonstrates that the

Applicant possesses sufficient projected cash flow and capital to sustain long-term operations and infrastructure deployment within the State of Utah.

Services and Facilities (R746-349-3(1)(c, d, e))

FirstDigital proposes a "mixed approach" to infrastructure:

- **Infrastructure & Standards:** The Applicant does not currently own or lease facilities in the state of Utah but will use the communications optical fiber and associated telecommunications equipment and assets to be assigned to the Applicant by certain subsidiaries of First Digital Communications, LLC or leased from an affiliate or another provider. Though the Applicant does not have current plans to construct additional facilities in the state of Utah, the Applicant seeks the authority to do so should such construction become warranted.
- **Service Area & Market:** The Applicant will provide its proposed services to and from all points in the state of Utah where demand for such services arises. However, the Applicant does not seek authority to provide local exchange service within any local exchange that has fewer than 5,000 access lines and that is owned or controlled by an incumbent telephone corporation with fewer than 30,000 access lines in the state.
- **Service Types & Access:** Proposed services include facilities-based telecommunications services, including local exchange service, exchange access service, long-distance telecommunications service, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) voice service, SIP trunking, dedicated internet access, broadband services, and other telecommunications services in Utah.

Public Interest (R746-349-3(1)(o))

Granting the CPCN to FirstDigital serves the public interest through the following:

- **Market Discipline:** The entry of a new CLEC will foster competitive pressure on incumbent providers, likely leading to enhanced service quality and pricing discipline for Utah consumers.

- **Diversity:** Increased network and pricing diversity provides business and governmental entities with more robust redundancy options.

Adjudication Requirements

The Applicant has satisfied the requirements for informal adjudication. The “Verification Letter”, signed on July 21, 2026, provides the necessary verification under R746-110-2 regarding the accuracy and integrity of the application.

Conclusion

Based on the Division’s review of the filing, we conclude the public interest will be promoted by the Commission granting FirstDigital a CPCN and request the Commission approve the application.

cc: Wesley McDougal, President, FirstDigital Asset Holdings, LLC
Office of Consumer Services, State of Utah