

Decision No. C24-0501

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 24A-0251T

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY EASTON TELECOM SERVICES, L.L.C. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY (CPCN) TO PROVIDE PART IV SERVICES (4 CCR 723-2-2103).

**COMMISSION DECISION DEEMING APPLICATION
COMPLETE AND GRANTING APPLICATION**

Issued Date: July 11, 2024

Adopted Date: July 10, 2024

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. By this Decision, we grant the Application filed by Easton Telecom Services, L.L.C. (“Easton Telecom”) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (“CPCN”) to provide local exchange telecommunications services throughout the State of Colorado pursuant to 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* (“CCR”) 723-25-4, Commission’s Rules Regulating Telecommunications Service and Providers of Telecommunications Service.

B. Background

2. On May 31, 2024, Easton Telecom filed an Application for a CPCN to provide Part IV services. Easton Telecom seeks to provide both local services via VoIP and data services throughout Colorado.

3. On June 4, 2024, notice of the Application was provided to all persons, firms, or corporations, interested in, or affected by the grant or denial of the request. Interventions were due on or before July 8, 2024. No interventions were received in this proceeding.

4. On June 5, 2024, Easton Telecom filed a supplement to their application, a notarized attestation, and a copy of their most recent financial statements.

C. Discussion

5. No one has filed an intervention opposing the Application. We, therefore, find that the Application is unopposed and considered without a formal hearing pursuant to § 406109(5), C.R.S.

6. The Commission modified its Rules Regulating Telecommunications Services and Providers of Telecommunications Services, 4 CCR 723-2 (Proceeding No. 16R-0453T, effective September 1, 2017). The modified rules allow providers offering Part IV services under §40-15-401, C.R.S., to apply to the Commission to obtain a CPCN. No CPCN is required for services classified in Part IV of Article 15 of Title 40 of the Colorado Revised Statutes.

7. Pursuant to § 4015-503.5, C.R.S., and Commission Rule 2111, 4 CCR 723-2, the Commission may require an applicant requesting an operating authority to post a bond or provide other security as a condition of obtaining a Commission operating authority.

8. Due to the financial information provided by Easton Telecom, we conclude that financial assurance for the issuance of a CPCN has been met.

9. With the issuance of this authority, Easton Telecom must: comply with all statutory and regulatory requirements pursuant to Rule 2103(a)(XVI), 4 CCR 723-2.

II. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

1. The Application, filed by Easton Telecom Services, L.L.C. on May 31, 2024, is deemed complete within the meaning of § 40-6-109.5, C.R.S., and is granted.

2. Easton Telecom Services, L.L.C. is not required to create and provide tariffs to the Commission.

3. Easton Telecom Services, L.L.C., shall not unjustly discriminate among customers in the same class of service, per Commission Rule 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* 723-2-2103.

4. Consistent with terms and conditions established in previous Commission decisions, Easton Telecom Services, L.L.C. will be required to contribute, as prescribed by statute, rule, or order of the Commission, based on the entirety of its intrastate services regardless of the technology, to the Public Utilities Commission's Telecommunications Utilities Fund, the Colorado High-Cost Support Mechanism, the Colorado Telephone Users Disabilities Fund, the Statewide 9-1-1 Surcharge Trust Cash Fund, the Statewide 9-8-8 Surcharge, and other financial support mechanisms that may be created in the future by the Commission to implement §§ 4015-502(4) and (5), C.R.S.

5. The 20-day period provided for in § 40-6-114, C.R.S., within which to file an Applications for Rehearing, Reargument, or Reconsideration begins on the first day following the effective date of this Decision.

6. This Decision is effective on its Issued Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
July 10, 2024.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rebecca E. White".

Rebecca E. White,
Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

ERIC BLANK

MEGAN M. GILMAN

TOM PLANT

Commissioners