

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Application of Horizon,)	
Telecom, Inc. and Horizon Acquisition Parent)	
LLC to Transfer ownership of Horizon)	Case No. 18-0199-TP-ACO
Telecom , Inc. to Horizon Acquisition Parent)	
LLC)	
)	

**REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION
SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

On February 1, 2018, Horizon Telecom, Inc. (Horizon Telecom) and Horizon Acquisition Parent, LLC (Horizon Acquisition) filed an application seeking approval of a merger that will transfer control of Horizon Telecom to Horizon Acquisition, which is owned by the Novacap TMT V funds (Novacap). Under the terms of the Merger Agreement, Horizon Telecom will merge with Horizon Acquisition with Horizon Telecom continuing as the surviving corporation. As such, Horizon Telecom will become a direct subsidiary of Novacap and Chillicothe Telephone Company (Chillicothe), a current subsidiary of Horizon Telecom will become an indirect subsidiary of Novacap. After the changes, applicants state that Chillicothe will continue to offer the same services under the same rates, terms and conditions as currently offered. This application is being filed pursuant to Section 4901:1-6-29(E) as adopted in Case No. 12-922-TP-ORD. As the transaction is completely transparent to end users, no customer notice is required.

O.A.C. 4901:1-6-29(E) requires the filing of an ACO application to conduct a transaction involving one or more telephone companies providing BLES for any change in ownership. Section 4901:1-6-29(E) O.A.C. allows for a 30 day notice filing for changes in ownership transparent to customers.

The Staff has reviewed all documents filed with the application and has determined that the application has satisfied the requirements set forth in the rule. As such, Staff recommends that the application be approved with an effective date of March 4, 2018.

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

3/6/2018 9:48:45 AM

in

Case No(s). 18-0199-TP-ACO

Summary: Staff Review and Recommendation electronically filed by Jason Well on behalf of PUCO Staff