BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application for Approval)	Case No. 18-0751-TP-CIO
of a Pro Forma Change in Indirect Ownership)	
of Uniti Fiber, LLC.)	

REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION

SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

On April 24, 2018, Uniti Fiber LLC (Uniti Fiber) filed an application notifying the Commission of a pro forma change in its intermediate ownership and control structure with no change to its ultimate owner. The pro forma change will involve the removal of two intermediate companies (Uniti Holdings LP and Uniti Holdings GP LLC, from the ownership control chain between Uniti Group LP and Fiber Holdings. Upon completion of the pro forma change, Fiber Holdings will be a direct subsidiary of Uniti Group LP and will no longer be a subsidiary of Uniti Holdings LP. Since Uniti Fiber will remain a wholly owned, indirect subsidiary of parent company Uniti Group Inc., the change is therefore pro forma in nature. After the changes, applicant states that Uniti Fiber 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(C) as adopted in Case No. 12-922-TP-ORD.

O.A.C. 4901:1-6-29 requires the filing of a CIO application to conduct a transaction involving one or more telephone companies not providing BLES for any change in ownership which is transparent to customers. Section 4901:1-6-29(C) O.A.C. allows for a zero day notice filing for changes in ownership transparent to customers. As the transaction is transparent to customers, no customer notice is required.

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 April 24, 2018.

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