

*The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio*  
**TELECOMMUNICATIONS FILING FORM**

(Effective: 9-2-2015)

This form is intended to be used with most types of required filings. It provides check boxes with rule references for the most common types of filings. It does not replace or supersede Commission rules in any way.

In the Matter of the Application of Sycamore Telephone Company ) TRF Docket No. 90 - 5038-TP-TRF  
to acquire a portion of the customer base of Bright Long Distance, Ltd. ) Case No. 17 - 2119 - **TP - ATR**  
) **NOTE: Unless you have reserved a Case #, leave the**  
) **"Case No" fields BLANK.**

Name of Registrant(s) Sycamore Telephone Company  
DBA(s) of Registrant(s) STC Long Distance  
Address of Registrant(s) 104 E 7th St; Sycamore, OH 44882  
Company Web Address www.syctelco.com  
Regulatory Contact Person(s) Richard D. Ekleberry II Phone 419-927-6012 Fax 419-927-2990  
Regulatory Contact Person's Email Address rick.ekleberry@syctelco.com  
Contact Person for Annual Report Richard D. Ekleberry II Phone 419-927-6012  
Address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_  
Consumer Contact Information Richard D. Ekleberry II Phone 419-927-6012  
Address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

Motion for protective order included with filing? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Motion for waiver(s) filed affecting this case? ☐ Yes ☒ No [Note: Waivers may toll any automatic timeframe.]

**Notes:**

Section I and II are Pursuant to Chapter [4901:1-6](#) OAC.

Section III – Carrier to Carrier is Pursuant to [4901:1-7](#) OAC, and Wireless is Pursuant to [4901:1-6-24](#) OAC.

Section IV – Attestation.

(1) Indicate the Carrier Type and the reason for submitting this form by checking the boxes below.

(2) For requirements for various applications, see the identified section of Ohio Administrative Code Section 4901 and/or the supplemental application form noted.

(3) Information regarding the number of copies required by the Commission may be obtained from the Commission's web site at [www.puco.ohio.gov](http://www.puco.ohio.gov) under the docketing information system section, by calling the docketing division at 614-466-4095, or by visiting the docketing division at the offices of the Commission.

(4) An Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC) offering basic local exchange service (BLES) outside its traditional service area should choose CLEC designation when proposing to offer BLES outside its traditional service area or when proposing to make changes to that service.

**All Filings that result in a change to one or more tariff pages require, at a minimum, the following exhibits:**

Exhibit	Description:
A	The tariff pages subject to the proposed change(s) as they exist before the change(s)
B	The Tariff pages subject to the proposed change(s), reflecting the change, with the change(s) marked in the right margin.
C	A short description of the nature of the change(s), the intent of the change(s), and the customers affected.
D	A copy of the notice provided to customers, along with an affidavit that the notice was provided according to the applicable rule(s).

## Section I – Part I - Common Filings

<b>Carrier Type</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other</b> (explain below)	<b>For Profit ILEC</b>	<b>Not For Profit ILEC</b>	<b>CLEC</b>
Change terms & conditions of existing BLES	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <a href="#">1-6-14(H)</a> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <a href="#">1-6-14(H)</a> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <a href="#">1-6-14(H)</a> (Auto 30 days)
Introduce non-recurring charge, surcharge, or fee to BLES			<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <a href="#">1-6-14(H)</a> (Auto 30 days)
Introduce or Increase Late Payment	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <a href="#">1-6-14(I)</a> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <a href="#">1-6-14(I)</a> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <a href="#">1-6-14(I)</a> (Auto 30 days)
Revisions to BLES Cap.	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA <a href="#">1-6-14(F)</a> (0 day Notice)		
Introduce BLES or expand local service area (calling area)	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA <a href="#">1-6-14(H)</a> (0 day Notice)	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA <a href="#">1-6-14(H)</a> (0 day Notice)	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA <a href="#">1-6-14(H)</a> (0 day Notice)
Notice of no obligation to construct facilities and provide BLES	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA <a href="#">1-6-27(C)</a> (0 day Notice)	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA <a href="#">1-6-27(C)</a> (0 day Notice)	
Change BLES Rates	<input type="checkbox"/> TRF <a href="#">1-6-14(F)</a> (0 day Notice)	<input type="checkbox"/> TRF <a href="#">1-6-14(F)(4)</a> (0 day Notice)	<input type="checkbox"/> TRF <a href="#">1-6-14(G)</a> (0 day Notice)
To obtain BLES pricing flexibility	<input type="checkbox"/> BLS <a href="#">1-6-14(C)(1)(c)</a> (Auto 30 days)		
Change in boundary	<input type="checkbox"/> ACB <a href="#">1-6-32</a> (Auto 14 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ACB <a href="#">1-6-32</a> (Auto 14 days)	
Expand service operation area			<input type="checkbox"/> TRF <a href="#">1-6-08(G)</a> (0 day)
BLES withdrawal			<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA <a href="#">1-6-25(B)</a> (0 day Notice)
<b>Other*</b> (explain)			

## Section I – Part II – Customer Notification Offerings Pursuant to Chapter 4901:1-6-7 OAC

<b>Type of Notice</b>	<b>Direct Mail</b>	<b>Bill Insert</b>	<b>Bill Notation</b>	<b>Electronic Mail</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> 15-day Notice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 30-day Notice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Date Notice Sent:</b> October 1, 2017 and will be again on November 1, 2017				

## Section I – Part III –IOS Offerings Pursuant to Chapter 4901:1-6-22 OAC

<b>IOS</b>	<b>Introduce New</b>	<b>Tariff Change</b>	<b>Price Change</b>	<b>Withdraw</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> IOS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Section II – Part I – Carrier Certification - Pursuant to Chapter 4901:1-6-08, 09 & 10 OAC

Certification	ILEC (Out of territory)	CLEC	Telecommunications Service Provider Not Offering Local	CESTC	CETC
* See Supplemental form	<input type="checkbox"/> ACE <a href="#">1-6-08</a> * (Auto 30- day)	<input type="checkbox"/> ACE <a href="#">1-6-08</a> *(Auto 30 day)	<input type="checkbox"/> ACE <a href="#">1-6-08</a> *(Auto 30 day)	<input type="checkbox"/> ACE <a href="#">1-6-10</a> (Auto 30 day)	<input type="checkbox"/> UNC <a href="#">1-6-09</a> *(Non-Auto)

\*Supplemental Certification forms can be found on the Commission Web Page.

## Section II – Part II – Certificate Status & Procedural

Certificate Status	ILEC	CLEC	Telecommunications Service Provider Not Offering Local
Abandon all Services		<input type="checkbox"/> ABN <a href="#">1-6-26</a> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ABN <a href="#">1-6-26</a> (Auto 30 days)
Change of Official Name *	<input type="checkbox"/> ACN <a href="#">1-6-29(B)</a> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ACN <a href="#">1-6-29(B)</a> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> CIO <a href="#">1-6-29(C)</a> (0 day Notice)
Change in Ownership *	<input type="checkbox"/> ACO <a href="#">1-6-29(E)</a> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ACO <a href="#">1-6-29(E)</a> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> CIO <a href="#">1-6-29(C)</a> (0 day Notice)
Merger *	<input type="checkbox"/> AMT <a href="#">1-6-29(E)</a> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> AMT <a href="#">1-6-29(E)</a> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> CIO <a href="#">1-6-29(C)</a> (0 day Notice)
Transfer a Certificate *	<input type="checkbox"/> ATC <a href="#">1-6-29(B)</a> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATC <a href="#">1-6-29(B)</a> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> CIO <a href="#">1-6-29(C)</a> (0 day Notice)
Transaction for transfer or lease of property, plant or business *	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ATR <a href="#">1-6-29(B)</a> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATR <a href="#">1-6-29(B)</a> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> CIO <a href="#">1-6-29(C)</a> (0 day Notice)

\* **Other exhibits may be required under the applicable rule(s). ACN, ACO, AMT, ATC, ATR and CIO applications see [the 4901:1-6-29 Filing Requirements on the Commission's Web Page](#) for a complete list of exhibits.**

## Section III – Carrier to Carrier (Pursuant to 4901:1-7), and Wireless (Pursuant to 4901:1-6-24)

Carrier to Carrier	ILEC	CLEC
Interconnection agreement, or amendment to an approved agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> NAG <a href="#">1-7-07</a> (Auto 90 day)	<input type="checkbox"/> NAG <a href="#">1-7-07</a> (Auto 90 day)
Request for Arbitration	<input type="checkbox"/> ARB <a href="#">1-7-09</a> (Non-Auto)	<input type="checkbox"/> ARB <a href="#">1-7-09</a> (Non-Auto)
Introduce or change c-t-c service tariffs,	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <a href="#">1-7-14</a> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <a href="#">1-7-14</a> (Auto 30 days)
Request rural carrier exemption, rural carrier suspension or modification	<input type="checkbox"/> UNC <a href="#">1-7-04</a> or 05 (Non-Auto)	
Changes in rates, terms & conditions to Pole Attachment, Conduit Occupancy and Rights-of-Way.	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <a href="#">1-3-04</a> (Auto 30 days)	
<b>Wireless Providers</b> See <a href="#">4901:1-6-24</a>	<input type="checkbox"/> RCC [Registration & Change in Operations] (0 day)	<input type="checkbox"/> NAG [Interconnection Agreement or Amendment] (Auto 90 days)

#### Section IV. – Attestation

Registrant hereby attests to its compliance with pertinent entries and orders issued by the Commission.

#### AFFIDAVIT *Compliance with Commission Rules*

I am an officer/agent of the applicant corporation, , and am authorized to make this statement on its behalf.

Richard D. Ekleberry II

(Name)

Please Check ALL that apply:

☐ I attest that these tariffs comply with all applicable rules for the state of Ohio. I understand that tariff notification filings do not imply Commission approval and that the Commission's rules as modified and clarified from time to time, supersede any contradictory provisions in our tariff. We will fully comply with the rules of the state of Ohio and understand that noncompliance can result in various penalties, including the suspension of our certificate to operate within the state of Ohio.

☒ I attest that customer notices accompanying this filing form were sent to affected customers, as specified in Section II, in accordance with Rule 4901:1-6-7, Ohio Administrative Code.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on  
(Date)

10/12/2017

at (Location) Sycamore, OH

\*Signature and  
Title

Richard D. Ekleberry II

GM

Date

10/12/2017

*\*This affidavit is required for every tariff-affecting filing. It may be signed by counsel or an officer of the applicant, or an authorized agent of the applicant.*

#### VERIFICATION

I, , verify that I have utilized the Telecommunications Filing Form for most proceedings provided by the Commission and that all of the information submitted here, and all additional information submitted in connection with this case, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

\*Signature and  
Title

Richard D. Ekleberry II

GM

Date

10/12/2017

*\*Verification is required for every filing. It may be signed by counsel or an officer of the applicant, or an authorized agent of the applicant.*

File document electronically as directed in case number 06-900-AU-WVR

or

Send your completed Application Form, including all required attachments as well as the required number of copies, to:

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
Attention: Docketing Division  
180 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215-3793

### **EXHIBITS REQUIRED FOR 4901:1-6-29 O.A.C. FILINGS**

- 1) **Exhibit A** contains Certification from the Ohio Secretary of State for the new Trade Name.
- 2) **Exhibit B** contains the list of names, addresses, and phone numbers of Sycamore Telephone Company and STC Long Distance Officers and Directors.
- 3) **Exhibit C** contains the description of and rationale for transfer of customers.
- 4) **Exhibit D** contains the draft Customer Notice to be sent no later than thirty (30) days prior to the transfer.
- 5) **Exhibit E** contains an Affidavit verifying that the Customer Notice will be provided to affected customers.

## **EXHIBIT A**

**Certification from the Ohio Secretary of State and Certificate of Good Standing**





DATE	DOCUMENT ID	DESCRIPTION	FILING	OVER PAYMENT	EXPED	CERT	COPY
05/15/2017	201713203346	TRADE NAME REGISTRATION (RNO)	39.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

**Receipt**

This is not a bill. Please do not remit payment.

THOMPSON HINE LLP  
ATTN: CAROL R. RUSSELL, PARALEGAL  
41 S. HIGH STREET, SUITE 1700  
COLUMBUS, OH 43215

# STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATE

**Ohio Secretary of State, Jon Husted****4028481**

It is hereby certified that the Secretary of State of Ohio has custody of the business records for

**STC LONG DISTANCE**

and, that said business records show the filing and recording of:

Document(s)

**TRADE NAME REGISTRATION**

Effective Date: 05/11/2017

Document No(s):

**201713203346**

Date of First Use: 05/09/2017

Expiration Date: 05/11/2022

SYCAMORE TELEPHONE COMPANY  
104 E. 7TH STREET  
SYCAMORE, OH 44882



United States of America  
State of Ohio  
Office of the Secretary of State

Witness my hand and the seal of the  
Secretary of State at Columbus, Ohio this  
15th day of May, A.D. 2017.

**Ohio Secretary of State**

**JON HUSTED**  
Ohio Secretary of State



Form 534A Prescribed by:

Toll Free: (877) SOS-FILE (877-767-3453)  
Central Ohio: (614) 466-3810  
[www.OhioSecretaryofState.gov](http://www.OhioSecretaryofState.gov)  
[busserv@OhioSecretaryofState.gov](mailto:busserv@OhioSecretaryofState.gov)  
File online or for more information: [www.OHBusinessCentral.com](http://www.OHBusinessCentral.com)

Mail this form to one of the following:

Regular Filing (non expedite)  
P.O. Box 670  
Columbus, OH 43216  
Expedite Filing (Two business day processing time.  
Requires an additional \$100.00)  
P.O. Box 1390  
Columbus, OH 43216

## Name Registration

Filing Fee: \$39  
Form Must Be Typed

CHECK ONLY ONE (1) Box

☒ Trade Name  
(167-RNO)

Date of first use: 05/09/2017

MM/DD/YYYY

☐ Fictitious Name  
(169-NFO)

STC Long Distance

Name being Registered or Reported

Sycamore Telephone Company

Name of the Registrant

Note: If the registrant is a partnership, please provide the name of the partnership. Individual partner names are not permitted but are required on page 2 of the form.

Registrant's Entity Number (if registered with Ohio Secretary of State): 33823

### All registrants must complete the information in this section

The general nature of business conducted by the registrant:

Providing Long Distance Telephone Services

Business address:

104 E. 7th Street

Mailing Address

Sycamore

City

OH

State

44882

Zip Code



Complete the information in this section if registrant is a partnership NOT registered in Ohio pursuant to ORC 1776. If partnership is registered, provide registration number on page one.

Provide the name and address of at least one general partner:

Name

Address

NOTE: Pursuant to OAG 89-081, if a general partner is a foreign corporation/limited liability company, it must be licensed to transact business in Ohio; if a general partner is a foreign corporation/limited liability company licensed in Ohio under an assumed name, please provide the assumed name and the name as registered in its jurisdiction of formation.

By signing and submitting this form to the Ohio Secretary of State, the undersigned hereby certifies that he or she has the requisite authority to execute this document.

**Required**

Application must be signed by the registrant or an authorized representative.

  
Signature

If authorized representative is an individual, then they must sign in the "signature" box and print their name in the "Print Name" box.

By (if applicable)

Rick Ekleberry  
Print Name

If authorized representative is a business entity, not an individual, then please print the business name in the "signature" box, an authorized representative of the business entity must sign in the "By" box and print their name in the "Print Name" box.

## **EXHIBIT B**

### **Officers and Directors of Sycamore Telephone Company and STC Long Distance**

All officers and directors may be contacted at corporate headquarters (104 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Sycamore, OH 44882, or by calling 419-927-6012).

#### **Officers:**

**Richard Ekleberry**  
President

**Steve Ekleberry**  
Vice President and Treasurer

**Rick Ekleberry**  
General Manager and Secretary

#### **Directors:**

**Richard Ekleberry**

**Steve Ekleberry**

**Rick Ekleberry**

**Chris Fry**

**Esther Fry**

## **EXHIBIT C**

### **Description of the Transaction and Public Interest Considerations**

Sycamore Telephone Company ("Sycamore") and STC Long Distance ("STC") (Sycamore and STC collectively, the "Parties"), hereby seek approval from the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("Commission") of a pending transaction between Sycamore and STC pursuant to which Sycamore will transfer its Ohio intrastate and interstate long distance customer base to STC (the "Transaction"). Sycamore is currently offering Bright Long Distance ("BLD") intrastate and interstate long distance service to subscribers.

#### **I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTIES**

##### **A. Sycamore Telephone Company**

Sycamore Telephone Company is a corporation for profit with headquarters located at 104 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Sycamore, OH 44882. Sycamore has an arrangement with Bright Long Distance (BLD) to provide long distance services to its customers. International long distance services will continue to be offered by BLD. Intrastate and interstate long distance services will be offered by STC.

##### **B. STC Long Distance**

STC is located at 104 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Sycamore, OH 44882 and registered with the Secretary of the State of Ohio on May 11, 2017. STC intends to provide intrastate and interstate long distance services to Sycamore subscribers.

#### **II. DESIGNATED CONTACTS**

Correspondence concerning this matter should be directed to the following.

Rick Ekleberry  
Sycamore Telephone Company  
STC Long Distance  
104 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sycamore, OH 44882  
419-927-6012 (telephone)  
419-927-2990 (facsimile)  
[rick.ekleberry@sycltelso.com](mailto:rick.ekleberry@sycltelso.com)

### III. DESCRIPTION OF THE TRANSACTION

Sycamore Telephone Company added the trade name, STC Long Distance, as a division of the company to offer intrastate and interstate long distance services to its customers. None of the existing tariff pages are affected by the addition of this trade name according to Rule 4901:1-6-11(A) (2) of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) and Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) Case No. 10-1010-TP-ORD. Sycamore Telephone Company understands that while there is no requirement to include telecommunications' services in a tariff, the service is subject to Commission oversight as provided in Chapter 4927 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) and Chapter 4901:1-6 of the OAC.

Use of the trade name will be for marketing reasons and will not affect associated rates, terms or conditions of the service.

The proposed transfer will affect all current Sycamore customers in Ohio, none of whom will experience any change to the terms and conditions of their services because of the transfer. The transfer is scheduled to occur upon the receipt of all necessary regulatory approvals.

**Exhibit D** contains a draft of the Customer Notice letter that will be provided to Sycamore customers in accordance with Ohio and Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") requirements, and **Exhibit E** contains an Affidavit regarding the Customer Notice.

Upon completion of the Transaction and the migration of customers to STC, Sycamore will no longer offer intrastate or interstate BLD long distance services in Ohio.

### IV. PUBLIC INTEREST ANALYSIS

Approval of the proposed Transaction serves the public interest. The proposed Transaction will ensure that affected customers enjoy continuity of high-quality long distance service. As discussed above, customers will be given prior written notice of the transfer of their account to STC, in compliance with state and FCC Customer Notice rules. Following the Transaction, Sycamore customers will continue to receive intrastate and interstate long distance services from STC consistent with the quality of services currently provided by BLD. As a result, the proposed Transaction will be transparent to Sycamore customers. Consequently, the proposed Transaction will not have a negative impact on the public interest, services to Ohio customers, or competition.

## **EXHIBIT D**

(The following Customer Notice was sent with the October 1, 2017 subscriber bills and will be sent again with the November 1, 2017 bills.)

Dear Bright Long Distance Customer:

Your current long distance company, Bright Long Distance LTD (BLD) has agreed to transfer a portion of its customer base to Sycamore Telephone Company. Beginning on or after December 1, 2017, STC Long Distance (STC LD), a division of Sycamore Telephone Company (STC), will become your new domestic (US) long distance telecommunication service provider. The specific date of the transfer may differ depending upon when we receive the necessary Federal & State regulatory approvals. This transaction will not affect the service you currently receive. You will continue to receive services with the same rates, features, terms and conditions as you currently enjoy. Billing will continue to be provided by STC just as it has been. In the event that changes are made to your service, you will be notified by separate mailing or bill message at least thirty (30) days prior to the changes becoming effective. BLD will continue to provide your international long distance service and STC will continue to act as their agent for billing & collection as well as customer service. You will not incur any charges for the transfer of your long distance account to STC LD. All charges associated with that transfer will be borne by STC LD. Although you have the right to select the long distance carrier of your choice, we value your business and hope that STC LD may continue to serve you. If you choose another long distance provider, you will need to contact that carrier directly to arrange for the change prior to the transfer of your services to STC LD. You may also incur service initiation fees from that provider for establishing a new service account. If you have a preferred carrier freeze on your account it will be automatically lifted to implement the transfer to STC LD. You will need to contact STC LD or the long distance provider you selected to arrange for a new freeze. STC will be responsible for responding to any customer inquiries or complaints prior to and during the transfer of service from BLD to STC LD. Our toll free customer service number is 844-927-6012 (or 419-927-6012), which will remain the same after your services are transferred. We welcome you to STC LD and look forward to providing the same high quality service to which you have grown accustomed with BLD.

**EXHIBIT E**

**Customer Notice Affidavit**

I, Rick Ekleberry, General Manager of Sycamore Telephone Company hereby certifies under the penalty of perjury that Customer Notices will be sent approximately no later than thirty (30) days prior to the close of the transaction, to all affected customers in the state of Ohio in accordance with Rules 4901:1-6-7 and 4901:1-6-29, Ohio Administrative Code.

10/12/2017

Date

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rick Ekleberry", written over a horizontal line.

Rick Ekleberry  
General Manager  
Sycamore Telephone Company



**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities**

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**10/12/2017 3:58:07 PM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 90-5038-TP-TRF, 17-2119-TP-ATR**

Summary: Application to acquire a portion of the customer base of Bright Long Distance, Ltd.  
electronically filed by Debra A Thelen on behalf of Sycamore Telephone Company