

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FILING FORM
(Effective: 10-11-2017)

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 Talk America Services, LLC

) TRF Docket No. 90 - 9419

) Case No. - - **TP** -

to Partially Discontinue Service in Ohio

) **NOTE: Unless you have reserved a Case #, leave the**
) **"Case No" fields BLANK.**

Name of Registrant(s) Talk America Services, LLC

DBA(s) of Registrant(s) _____

Address of Registrant(s) 10802 Executive Center Drive, Benton Bldg. Suite 300, Little Rock, AR 72211

Company Web Address www.talkamericaservices.com

Regulatory Contact Person(s) Sharon Thomas Phone 407-740-3031 Fax 407-740-0163

Regulatory Contact Person's Email Address stthomas@inteserra.com

Contact Person for Annual Report Carly Fiola Phone 407-740-1010

Address (if different from above) 151 Southhall Lane, Suite 450, Maitland, FL 32751

Consumer Contact Information Mr. James Severance, Director of Customer Service Phone 888-546-5000

Address (if different from above) 2134 W. Laburnum Ave., Richmond, VA 23227

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 Ohio Administrative Code 4901:1-6.

Section III – Carrier to Carrier is Pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-7, and Wireless is Pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-6-24.

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 Adm.Code Chapter 4901 and/or the supplemental application form noted.

(3) Information regarding the number of copies required by the PUCO may be obtained from the PUCO's website at 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 PUCO.

(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

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

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

Type of Notice	Direct Mail	Bill Insert	Bill Notation	Electronic Mail
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Date Notice Sent: June 14, 2019				

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

IOS	Introduce New	Tariff Change	Price Change	Withdraw
<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 <u>1-6-08</u> * (Auto 30- day)	<input type="checkbox"/> ACE <u>1-6-08</u> *(Auto 30 day)	<input type="checkbox"/> ACE <u>1-6-08</u> *(Auto 30 day)	<input type="checkbox"/> ACE <u>1-6-10</u> (Auto 30 day)	<input type="checkbox"/> UNC <u>1-6-09</u> *(Non-Auto)

*Supplemental Certification forms can be found on the PUCO webpage.

Section II – Part II – Certificate Status & Procedural

Certificate Status	ILEC	CLEC	Telecommunications Service Provider Not Offering Local
Abandon all Services		<input type="checkbox"/> ABN <u>1-6-26</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ABN <u>1-6-26</u> (Auto 30 days)
Change of Official Name *	<input type="checkbox"/> ACN <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ACN <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> CIO <u>1-6-29(C)</u> (0 day Notice)
Change in Ownership *	<input type="checkbox"/> ACO <u>1-6-29(E)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ACO <u>1-6-29(E)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> CIO <u>1-6-29(C)</u> (0 day Notice)
Merger *	<input type="checkbox"/> AMT <u>1-6-29(E)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> AMT <u>1-6-29(E)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> CIO <u>1-6-29(C)</u> (0 day Notice)
Transfer a Certificate *	<input type="checkbox"/> ATC <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATC <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> CIO <u>1-6-29(C)</u> (0 day Notice)
Transaction for transfer or lease of property, plant or business *	<input type="checkbox"/> ATR <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATR <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> CIO <u>1-6-29(C)</u> (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 PUCO's webpage 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 <u>1-7-07</u> (Auto 90 day)	<input type="checkbox"/> NAG <u>1-7-07</u> (Auto 90 day)
Request for Arbitration	<input type="checkbox"/> ARB <u>1-7-09</u> (Non-Auto)	<input type="checkbox"/> ARB <u>1-7-09</u> (Non-Auto)
Introduce or change c-t-c service tariffs	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <u>1-7-14</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <u>1-7-14</u> (Auto 30 days)
Request rural carrier exemption, rural carrier suspension or modification	<input type="checkbox"/> UNC <u>1-7-04 or 05</u> (Non-Auto)	
Changes in rates, terms & conditions to Pole Attachment, Conduit Occupancy and Rights-of-Way. (13-579-AU-ORD 11/30/16 Entry)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <u>1-3-04</u> (Auto 60 days)	
Wireless Providers See <u>4901:1-6-24</u>	<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, Talk America Services, **■**, and am authorized to make this statement on its behalf.

(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 Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-6-7.

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

Executed on
(Date) _____

at (Location) _____

*Signature and
Title _____

Date _____

**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 _____

Date 6-14-19

**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

June 14, 2019

Via Web Filing

Ms. Tonawa Troupe, Acting Secretary
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

**RE: Talk America Services, LLC
Notice of Discontinuance**

Dear Ms. Troupe:

Please find the original of this letter and the Telecommunications Filing Form submitted on behalf of Talk America Services, LLC ("Talk America Services" or "Company") to notify the Commission of the Company's intent to discontinue the provision of intrastate and interstate telephone services to certain residential customers in certain locations in the State of Ohio on or after August 1, 2019, subject to applicable regulatory approvals. Also enclosed is a copy of the Application to Discontinue Service filed with the Federal Communications Commission on June 14, 2019, requesting approval for the discontinuance of the affected interstate services, which includes the customer notice.

The Company holds Certificate No. 90-9419-TP-TRF to provide competitive Local Exchange and Toll Services in Case No. 14-1439-TP-ACE. It wishes to retain its authority, as the above-referenced discontinuance impacts only a subset of its customer base in Ohio.

Talk America has provided the attached customer notice at least 30 days prior to the proposed August 1, 2019 effective date and has established a dedicated toll-free customer service number to assist customers in transitioning their service to other providers.

Please acknowledge receipt of this filing by date-stamping the extra copy of this cover letter and returning it to me in the self-addressed, stamped envelope provided for that purpose. Any questions you may have regarding this filing should be directed to my attention at 407-740-3031 or via email to Sthomas@inteserra.com. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Sharon Thomas

Sharon Thomas
Consultant

tms: OHx1901

Enclosures
ST/cc

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)
Section 63.71 Application of)
Talk America Services, LLC)
to Discontinue Services)

File No. _____

Section 63.71 Application of Talk America Services, LLC

Talk America Services, LLC ("Talk America Services" or "Applicant"), hereby seeks authorization pursuant to Section 214 (a) of the Communication Act of 1934, as amended, and 47 C.F.R. §63.71, to discontinue the provision of exchange access and interstate long distance services in certain locations in the states of Delaware, Georgia, Michigan and Ohio. This proposed discontinuance will affect approximately 339 existing customers.¹

Applicant is considered a non-dominant telecommunications carrier with respect to all of its services, including those affected by the proposed discontinuance.

Talk America Services provides the following information pursuant to Section 63.71 of the Commission's rules:

1. Name and corporate headquarters address of Carrier

Talk America Services, LLC
10802 Executive Center Drive
Benton Building, Suite 300
Little Rock, AR 72211

2. Correspondence concerning this Application should be sent to:

Sharon Thomas
Consultant to Talk America Services, LLC
Inteserra Consulting Group, Inc.
151 Southhall Lane, Suite 450
Maitland, FL 32751
Telephone: 407-740-3031
Facsimile: 407-740-0613
E-Mail: stthomas@inteserra.com

¹ Talk America Services also intends to disconnect local exchange service (dial tone and local usage), digital subscriber line ("DSL") internet access, and intrastate long-distance services to the affected customers. These services are not subject to the FCC's Section 214 discontinuance rules and are, therefore, not included as part of this request for authorization. However, customers are being notified regarding all of the services that are to be discontinued.

3. *Date of Planned Service Discontinuance, Reduction or Impairment:*

Talk America Services proposes to discontinue the services that are the subject of this Application on or about August 1, 2019, pending required federal and state regulatory approval of the discontinuance.

4. *Points of Geographic Areas of Service Affected:*

The services that are the subject of this discontinuance will be discontinued in certain locations in the states of Delaware, Georgia, Michigan and Ohio. The Applicant does NOT intend to discontinue service to all locations in these states, however, and will continue to offer service where the facilities of its underlying carriers allow.

5. *Brief Description of Types of Service Affected and Reason for Discontinuance:*

Talk America Services proposes to discontinue local exchange service, including exchange access; DSL internet access; and intrastate and interstate long distance services provided to approximately 3 residential customers in Delaware, 147 residential customers in Georgia, 188 residential customers in Michigan and one residential customer in Ohio. The services subject to the FCC's jurisdiction that are the subject of this request for authorization are exchange access and interstate long distance.

The services are being discontinued because Talk America Services' wholesale service providers in the affected service locations, which are competitive local exchange carrier affiliates of Windstream Services, LLC, intend to decommission certain equipment that is used to serve the affected customers. Talk America Services operates as a reseller of the Windstream affiliates' services and has no ability to provide the same bundle of services to the impacted customers. As described below, Talk America Services is providing all affected customers with ample notice of the discontinuance and has established a dedicated toll-free customer service number to support customers impacted by the discontinuance.

6. *Brief Description of Dates and Methods of Notice to All Affected Customers:*

The Applicant has provided written customer notice of the planned discontinuance in accordance with the requirements of section 63.71 (a) of the Commission's Rules. Notice was provided via 1st class U.S. mail to all affected customers on June 14, 2019. The notice is attached as Exhibit A.

A copy of this Application is being sent to the state regulatory commissions and governors' offices in

Delaware, Georgia, Michigan and Ohio, as well as to the Department of Defense, as required under Section 63.71, concurrent with this filing. A service list is provided in Exhibit B.

Conclusion

Talk America Services, LLC respectfully requests that the Commission approve its Section 63.71 Application to discontinue the services described herein. Pursuant to Section 214(a) of the Communication Act of 1934, as amended, and 47 C.F.R. §63.71, Talk America Services understands that this application will be automatically granted on the 31st day after the Public Notice is released, with no Commission notification to the Company, unless the Commission has notified the Company that the grant will not be automatically effective.

Dated this 14th day of June, 2019.

By: /s/ Jeffrey R. Strenkowski

Jeffrey R. Strenkowski
Vice President, Deputy General Counsel of
Governmental Affairs
Talk America Services, LLC

Sharon Thomas, Consultant to
Inteserra Consulting Group, Inc.
151 Southhall Lane, Suite 450
Maitland, FL 32751
Telephone: 407-740-3031
Facsimile: 407-740-0613
E-Mail: stthomas@inteserra.com

Exhibit A
Customer Notice



2134 W Laburnum Ave.
Richmond, VA 23227

Customer Name
Customer Address
City, State Zip

June 15, 2019

URGENT: Your telephone services will be impacted unless you take action!

Dear Valued Customer,

Talk America Services, LLC will discontinue offering local exchange (dialtone), digital subscriber line (DSL) internet access and long distance services in certain areas within the states of Delaware, Georgia, Michigan and Ohio on or after August 1, 2019, pending applicable regulatory approvals, due to the decommissioning of equipment by our wholesale service provider. **Your service will be affected by this discontinuance.**

To avoid a **permanent disruption of your telephone services**, please contact Talk America Services toll free at 1-800-962-4772 as soon as possible to discuss your available options for an alternative service provider. Failure to do so may result in insufficient time to transition your services to an alternative provider and could result in a complete loss of your dialtone, internet access and long distance services, including your telephone number, with no short-term ability to restore them. You will need to migrate your telephone service to an alternative provider **before August 1, 2019**. You may find information about alternative providers in your local telephone directory.

A filing is being made with the FCC for approval of this discontinuance of service. The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than 15 days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. You may file your comments electronically through the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System using the docket number established in the Commission's public notice for this proceeding, or you may address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the §63.71 Application of Talk America Services, LLC. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

Talk America Services' customer service can be reached at 1-800-962-4772 or customercare@talkamericaservices.com or in writing at 2134 W Laburnum Ave., Richmond, VA 23227.

Sincerely,

Talk America Services, LLC

Exhibit B – Service List

Ms. Donna Nickerson, Executive Secretary
Delaware Public Service Commission
861 Silver Lake Boulevard
Suite 100
Dover, DE 19904

Governor John Carney
Carvel State Office Building
820 N. French Street, 12th Floor
Wilmington, DE 19801

Mr. Reece McAlister, Executive Secretary
Georgia Public Service Commission
244 Washington Street S.W.
Atlanta, GA 30334-9052

Office of the Governor
206 Washington Street
111 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Ms. Robin Anconda
Director, Telecommunications Division
Michigan Public Service Commission
7109 W. Saginaw Highway
Lansing, MI 48917

Governor Gretchen Whitmer
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Ms. Tonawa Troupe, Acting Secretary
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Governor Mike DeWine
Riffe Center
30th Floor
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215-6117

U.S. Department of Defense
Pentagon
Attn. Special Assistant for Telecom.
Washington, DC 20301

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

STATE OF FLORIDA)

COUNTY OF ORANGE)

On this date, June 14, 2019, the foregoing Section 63.71 Application was sent by U.S. Mail postage prepaid and/or via overnight delivery to the service list contained in Exhibit B.

/s/Keith Rice

For Shipping Department
Inteserra Consulting Group, Inc.

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

6/14/2019 2:49:41 PM

in

Case No(s). 90-9419-TP-TRF

Summary: Notice of withdrawal Notice of Discontinuance submitted on behalf of Talk America Services, LLC. electronically filed by Ms. Iris D. Mennens on behalf of Talk America Services, LLC