

**BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

**July 29, 2019**

<b>IN RE:</b>	)	
	)	<b>DOCKET NO.</b>
<b>APPLICATION OF TALK AMERICA</b>	)	<b>14-00120</b>
<b>SERVICES, LLC FOR AUTHORITY TO</b>	)	
<b>PROVIDE RESELL</b>	)	<b>Cancellation Request Co. ID:</b>
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN</b>	)	<b>129163</b>
<b>TENNESSEE</b>	)	

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**ORDER GRANTING CANCELLATION OF AUTHORITY  
TO PROVIDE RESOLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES**

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This matter came before Vice Chair Kenneth C. Hill, Commissioner David F. Jones, and Commissioner John Hie of the Tennessee Public Utility Commission (the “Commission” or “TPUC”), the voting panel assigned to this docket, during a regularly scheduled Commission Conference held on July 15, 2019. Talk America Services, LLC (“Talk America” or the “Company”) was granted authority to provide operator services and/or resell telecommunications by the Tennessee Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) on April 20, 2015 in Docket No. 14-00120. A final order was issued on April 29, 2015.<sup>1</sup>

On June 14, 2019, the Commission received a notice of voluntary relinquishment and request for cancellation of authority from Talk America. The notice requested cancellation of the authority of Talk America to provide facilities-based local exchange and resold local and interexchange services granted in Dockets No. 14-00120 and 15-00098, effective as soon as possible. A copy of the Application to Discontinue Services submitted to the FCC and the

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<sup>1</sup> Talk America Services, LLC was also granted authority to provide facilities-based local exchange telecommunications service in Docket No. 15-00098. Cancellation of its CLEC authority will be addressed in that docket.

customer notification letters were included with the cancellation request. The states within which customers would be affected by the discontinuance were listed as Kentucky, Oklahoma, Oregon and Tennessee.

Both the Application to Discontinue Services to the FCC and the customer notification letter indicated Talk America Services would be discontinuing services on or about June 1, 2019. At the time of filing, Talk America Services had no local exchange customers and 22 long-distance customers in Tennessee. The customer notification emphasized the need for long-distance customers to find another carrier prior to that date. The FCC notice further explained that the reason for discontinuance was due to Talk America Services having a very small customer base in the affected states and further growth in its customer base was not anticipated, making it economically unviable to continue to offer services in the affected states.

Based upon careful consideration of the entire record in this matter, the Commissioners voted unanimously to grant the Company's request to cancel its authority.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**Vice Chair Kenneth C. Hill, Commissioner David F. Jones, and Commissioner John Hie concur.**

**ATTEST:**



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**Earl R. Taylor, Executive Director**