BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

October 2, 2026

IN RE:	)	
	)	
APPLICATION OF QUANTA TELECOMMUNICATION SOLUTIONS, LLC d/b/a RBL FIBER GRID FOR A CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO PROVIDE COMPETING LOCAL EXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN THE STATE OF TENNESSEE	)	**DOCKET NO. 26-00086**

INITIAL ORDER GRANTING CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

This matter came before the Administrative Judge of the Tennessee Public Utility Commission (the "Commission" or "TPUC") at a Hearing held on September 15, 2026, to consider the *Application for Certificate to Provide Competing Local Telecommunications Services* ("*Application*") filed by Quanta Telecommunications Solutions, LLC d/b/a RBL Fiber Grid ("Quanta" or "Company") on September 1, 2026, and considered complete as of the date of filing.[1] In its *Application*, Quanta seeks a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CCN") for authority to provide competing local exchange and interexchange telecommunications services within the State of Tennessee.

I. LEGAL STANDARD

Quanta's *Application* was made in accordance with and is considered in light of the criteria for granting a CCN, as set forth in Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-201 which provides, in pertinent part:

> (a) No public utility shall establish or begin the construction of, or operate any line, plant, or system, or route in or into a municipality or other territory already receiving a like service from another public utility, or establish service therein, without first

[1] *See Notice of Complete Application* (September 8, 2026).

> having obtained from the commission, after written application and hearing, a certificate that the present or future public convenience and necessity require or will require such construction, establishment, and operation, and no person or corporation not at the time a public utility shall commence the construction of any plant, line, system, or route to be operated as a public utility, or the operation of which would constitute the same, or the owner or operator thereof, a public utility as defined by law, without having first obtained, in like manner, a similar certificate …
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> ….
>
> (c) (1) After notice to the incumbent local exchange telephone company and other interested parties and following a hearing, the commission shall grant a certificate of convenience and necessity to a competing telecommunications service provider if after examining the evidence presented, the commission finds:
>
> (A) The applicant has demonstrated that it will adhere to all applicable commission policies, rules and orders; and
>
> (B) The applicant possesses sufficient managerial, financial and technical abilities to provide the applied for services….

Furthermore, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-5-112, a competing telecommunications provider is required to file with the Commission a small and minority-owned telecommunications business participation plan, which provides the provider's plan for purchasing goods and services from small and minority-owned telecommunications businesses and information on programs that might provide technical assistance to such businesses.

II. HEARING ON THE MERITS

In accordance with the requirements of Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-201, a public notice of the Hearing in this matter was issued by the Administrative Judge on September 4, 2026, setting the docket for Hearing on September 15, 2026. No one sought intervention prior to or during the Hearing. Carissa S. Duggan, Senior Vice President of Quanta, appeared at the Hearing as the witness for Quanta.

Ms. Duggan participated in the Hearing and summarized her pre-filed testimony with no corrections, revisions, or amendments. Ms. Duggan testified that the Company would comply with all applicable laws, and TPUC rules, policies, and orders and stated that it is in the public interest to

grant the *Application*. She also provided a summary of the Company's financial, technical, and managerial qualifications.

The Administrative Judge opened the floor for public comment, but no member of the public sought recognition to comment. Upon conclusion of the presentation of its proof, the Administrative Judge granted Quanta's *Application* based upon the findings of fact and conclusions of law stated herein.

III. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

A. QUANTA'S QUALIFICATIONS

1. Quanta is a Delaware corporation authorized to do business in the State of Tennessee.

2. The Company's principal office is located at 10000 Energy Drive, South Tower, Suite 400 Spring, Texas 77389. The Company's telephone number is: 832-634-0010.

3. The *Application* and information in the record indicate that Quanta has the requisite technical and managerial ability to provide competitive local exchange and interexchange telecommunications services within the State of Tennessee. Specifically, Quanta's management team has "decades of extensive management and usiness experience in the telecommunications sector."[2]

4. Quanta has the necessary capital and financial ability to provide the services it proposes to offer.

5. Quanta has represented that it will adhere to all applicable statutes, policies, rules, and orders of the Commission.

B. PROPOSED SERVICES

Ms. Duggan testified that Quanta seeks authority to provide "fiber-based competitive telecommunications services statewide, including dark fiber leasing (IRUs), long-haul fiber transport,

[2] *Application*, p. 4 (September 1, 2026).

lit and managed fiber services, fiber lease agreements, operations and maintenance services, and colocation services. These services will be offered to wholesale carriers, ISPs, utilities, and enterprise customers."[3] The Applicant does not intend to provide switched voice grade service to retail residential end-users. Quanta maintained its services will be available on a full-time basis, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.[4]

According to the *Application*, Quanta plans to elect market regulation in accordance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-5-109 and will provide the services described in this *Application* on a de-tariffed basis. To the extent Quanta provides switched voice services in the future, it will submit a switched access tariff.[5]

C. PERMITTING COMPETITION TO SERVE THE PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

Quanta asserted that approving its *Application* furthers the public interest by "increasing the level of competition in the Tennessee market. Ultimately, competition will compel all service providers to operate more efficiently, resulting in reduced prices for customers. Applicant's participation in the Tennessee market therefore will promote the public interest by, among other things, providing high-quality service at competitive prices and by creating greater economic incentives for the development and improvement for all competing providers."[6] In addition, Ms. Duggan testified that "Applicant's deployment of resilient, diverse long-haul fiber routes will support critical infrastructure, strengthen network reliability, enhance broadband deployment, and support economic development… will benefit customers by expanding connectivity options, supporting broadband buildout, and creating greater incentives for all providers to operate efficiently and innovate."[7]

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[3] *Application,* Exhibit J, *Id.* at 4-5 (September 1, 2026).
[4] *Application,* Exhibit J, *Id.* at 5 (September 1, 2026).
[5] *Id.* at 7.
[6] *Id.* at 8.
[7] *Id.* at Exhibit J, Carissa S. Duggan, Pre-Filed Direct Testimony, pp. 6-7 (September 1, 2026).

D. COMPLIANCE WITH COMMISSION RULE 1220-04-08-.04(1) AND Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 65-4-125(j), and 65-5-112.

Quanta filed all necessary documents and satisfied the provisions of Commission Rule 1220-04-08-.04(1). In compliance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-125(j), the Company has also filed a surety bond and a satisfactory Small and Minority-Owned Telecommunications Business Participation Plan in compliance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-5-112.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The *Application for Certificate to Provide Competing Local Telecommunications Services* filed by Quanta Telecommunications Solutions, LLC d/b/a RBL Fiber Grid is approved.

2. Any party aggrieved by the Administrative Judge's decision in this matter may file a petition for reconsideration within 15 days from the date of this Order.

3. This Initial Order shall become a Final Order of the Tennessee Public Utility Commission, if no petition for reconsideration or appeal of this Order is filed prior to the expiration of the 15-day appeal period.

Monica Smith-Ashford

Monica Smith-Ashford
Administrative Judge
By Commission Delegated Authority

cc: Interested Parties
Original in Docket File