

# SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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## BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application    ) Application No. C-5332  
of Windstream Systems of the        )  
Midwest, Inc. and Windstream        )  
Long Distance, LLC, Little Rock,    ) GRANTED  
Arkansas, seeking approval for a    )  
transfer of control.                   ) Entered: October 19, 2021

### BY THE COMMISSION:

On September 9, 2021, an application was filed by Windstream Systems of the Midwest, Inc. and Windstream Long Distance, LLC, Little Rock, Arkansas, seeking approval of a transfer of control. Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, on September 15, 2021. No protests were filed; therefore, this application is processed pursuant to the Commission's Rule of Modified Procedure.

## O P I N I O N    A N D    F I N D I N G S

### Description of the Parties:

Windstream Systems of the Midwest, Inc., ("Windstream Midwest") is an Arkansas corporation with its principal office located at 4001 North Rodney Parham Rd., Little Rock, Arkansas. Windstream Midwest is authorized to provide telecommunications services throughout Nebraska pursuant to a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity granted in Docket No. C-3591.

Windstream Long Distance, LLC ("Windstream Long Distance") is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Delaware. Its principal office is located at 4001 North Rodney Parham Road, Little Rock, Arkansas. Windstream Long Distance is a direct subsidiary of Windstream Services, LLC. Upon completion, Windstream Long Distance will control Windstream Midwest.

### Description of the Transaction:

On September 7, 2021, Windstream Midwest and Windstream Long Distance, a Delaware company and a wholly owned subsidiary of Windstream Services, LLC, entered into an agreement ("Planned Transaction") pursuant to which Windstream Midwest will merge into Windstream Long Distance and transfer all assets and CPCN to Windstream Long Distance.

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The Planned Transaction's anticipated effective date is December 1, 2021. Following the Planned Transaction, Windstream Long Distance will continue to provide quality telecommunications services to Nebraska customers without interruption and without any resulting changes in rates, terms, or conditions of service. Customer notification will be sent via direct mail to all current customers of Windstream Midwest. A copy of the proposed notice was included in the application as Exhibit B.

According to the Applicant, the proposed merger is in the public interest and will simplify Windstream's existing corporate structure, reduce its reporting and accounting burdens, and provide beneficial operational efficiencies that will allow Windstream to serve its customers in a more efficient and nimble fashion.

Based on the evidence, we find the application to be fair and reasonable and in the public interest. The application should be granted.

## O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application No. C-5332 be, and it is hereby, granted.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

*Rock Johnson*  
*Crystal Broadie*  
*Mary Kidden*  
*Tim Schram*

*Don W. Johnson*  
Chair

ATTEST:

*Sharice Knutson*  
Deputy Director