

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of	)	
	)	
<b>LakeNet LLC</b>	)	Case No. U-20961
	)	
for a temporary and permanent license	)	
to provide local exchange service	)	
throughout the State of Michigan	)	
_____	)	

**AMENDED APPLICATION OF LAKENET LLC**

LakeNet LLC (“LakeNet” or “Applicant”), by its undersigned counsel and pursuant to Sections 301 and 302 of the Michigan Telecommunications Act, 1991 PA 179, as amended, MCL § 484.2101 *et seq.* (the “MTA”), hereby applies for a temporary and permanent license to provide local exchange telecommunications service throughout the State of Michigan.

Approval of LakeNet’s application is in the public interest because LakeNet will provide Michigan consumers, particularly consumers in rural Michigan, value-added communications options. Grant of the license requested in this Application will further the purposes of the MTA, which specifically authorizes and encourages local exchange service competition. Therefore, LakeNet respectfully requests that the Michigan Public Service Commission (the “Commission”) grant it a license to provide local exchange service as described herein. In support of its Application, LakeNet provides the following information:

**I. NAME AND CONTACTS OF APPLICANT**

Applicant's address is:

LakeNet LLC  
16690 Gratiot Rd  
Hemlock, MI 48626  
<https://www.lakenetfiber.com/>  
Customer Support: (989) 643-5819

Correspondence concerning this Application should be directed to LakeNet's attorneys:

Hai Jiang (P67088)  
Email: [hjiang@fieldlawgroup.com](mailto:hjiang@fieldlawgroup.com)  
Gary L. Field (P37270)  
Email: [gfield@fieldlawgroup.com](mailto:gfield@fieldlawgroup.com)  
Field Law Group, PLLC  
4084 Okemos Rd, Suite B  
Okemos, Michigan 48864-5985  
Telephone: (517) 913-5100

Following the grant of a license to LakeNet, the Commission should direct all correspondence directly to LakeNet's regulatory contact:

Christopher Fabien  
16690 Gratiot Rd  
Hemlock, MI 48626  
Email: [chris@lakenetmi.com](mailto:chris@lakenetmi.com)  
Telephone: (989) 245-2289

**II. LAKENET MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 302(1) OF THE MTA FOR A LICENSE TO PROVIDE LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE**

Section 302(1) of the MTA provides that, after notice and hearing, the Commission shall approve an Application for a license if it finds that (a) the applicant possesses sufficient technical, financial, and managerial resources and abilities to provide basic local exchange service within the geographic area of the license and the applicant intends to provide service within one year from the date the license is granted; and (b) the

grant of a license to the applicant would not be contrary to the public interest. As explained in further detail below, LakeNet fully meets the requirements of Section 302(1).

In support of this Application, LakeNet is filing with this Application direct testimony of Christopher Fabien, and as required by Section 203(7) of the MTA, LakeNet's Articles of Organization in Michigan (Exhibit A), biographies of key personnel (Exhibit B), and financial information (**Confidential** Exhibit C).

LakeNet submits the Commission's generic local tariff as its illustrative tariff, linked herein at [http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mpsc/generictariff\\_554692\\_7.doc](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mpsc/generictariff_554692_7.doc). Upon issuance of this license and prior to commencing service, LakeNet will submit a final tariff to the Commission.

**A. Geographic Area for Which the License is Sought**

LakeNet seeks authority to provide local exchange service in incumbent local exchange carriers' service territories throughout the state of Michigan. The local calling areas for LakeNet's customers will correspond to these carriers' exchange boundaries. LakeNet intends to mirror the map and legal description sections of the tariffs filed by the incumbent carriers for the exchanges it proposes to serve. LakeNet understands that any future modifications to these exchange boundaries or legal descriptions thereof will be binding upon it. Should LakeNet depart from these incumbent carriers' areas and boundaries, it will file detailed maps and legal descriptions on an individual exchange basis with the Commission.

**B. Description of the Applicant's Financial, Technical and Managerial Resources**

1. Corporate Organization of the Applicant

Applicant's legal name is LakeNet LLC. Applicant is a Michigan limited liability company formed on April 8, 2010 under the laws of Michigan, with the Articles of Organization attached herein as **Exhibit A**. Applicant's headquarters is at 16690 Gratiot Road, Hemlock, MI 48626. LakeNet is registered in the Commission's ITSP program as Fiber and Wireless Broadband; Competitive Access Provider; Voice Over Internet Protocol Provider (VoIP); and Fixed Wireless Provider. It will update its registration upon being designated as a CLEC and periodically as is necessary.

2. Technical and Managerial Qualifications

LakeNet is technically and managerially qualified to establish and operate its proposed telecommunications operations in Michigan. LakeNet is not currently licensed as a local exchange carrier in any other states.

The senior management of LakeNet has extensive experience in broadband, VoIP, wireless, and internet services, and its highly-qualified technical staff will ensure that LakeNet's operations will meet high standards for service quality and reliability. Its business experience in wireline, wireless, and internet services will make Applicant's advance into the competitive local exchange service market a success.

The officers of LakeNet are as follows:

Christopher Fabien, Co-Owner and Chief Technology Officer (CTO)  
Keri Fabien, Co-Owner and Director of Operations  
Rob Bresnahan, Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

As the CTO of LakeNet, Christopher Fabien primarily serves as Network Engineer. Rob Bresnahan operate a full service Virtual/Fractional CFO and financial consult-

ing practice specializing in the telecommunications industry. Though he is a consultant by classification, Rob Bresnahan acts in the capacity of CFO at LakeNet's finance department.

All the above officers may be contacted through the Applicant's headquarters list above. Descriptions of technical, financial, and managerial experience of Applicant's key personnel are attached hereto as Exhibit B.

### 3. Financial Qualifications

In support of Applicant's financial qualification, financial information for Applicant is provided under seal as **Confidential** Exhibit C<sup>1</sup>. The Confidential Exhibit C includes LakeNet's years 2018 and 2019 internal financial statements, including statements of income, balance sheet, statements of member's equity, and statements of cashflow. As evidenced in detail in Exhibit C, Applicant possesses the requisite financial resources to provide facilities-based local exchange and other regulated and unregulated telecommunications services. Therefore, as shown in the attached information, Applicant is financially qualified to operate in the State of Michigan.

#### **C. Intent to Provide Service Within One Year**

LakeNet intends to start deploying and providing local exchange service within one year after the date the Commission grants its license.

#### **D. Proposed Services**

LakeNet plans to offer facilities-based local exchange services and unregulated services to both residential customers and business customers. Those service will be provided via (1) LakeNet's own facilities, (2) commercial wholesale agreements with in-

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<sup>1</sup> LakeNet is not a publicly traded company and thus requests that the financial information be submitted separately under seal as confidential information under Section 210 of the MTA, MCL §484.2210.

cumbents, or (3) a combination thereof. The facilities-based regulated and unregulated services will include, but not be limited to: local exchange and extended area service, toll restriction, caller ID services, telephone number porting, E-911 emergency services, operator services, private line and special access services, broadband services and transport services.

#### **E. Discussion of the Public Interest**

Both the Michigan Legislature and the United States Congress have determined that it is in the public interest to promote competition in the provision of telecommunications services. The Commission, too, has determined that the grant of applications for competing licenses to provide basic local exchange services promotes the public interest.<sup>2</sup> The introduction of competition into other telecommunications markets, such as long distance, has already created significant public interest benefits in those markets.

Grant of this application will promote the public interest by offering Michigan residents and businesses telecommunications services through its up-to-date technologies. LakeNet will provide customers with high quality, cost effective telecommunications services in combination with broadband services. These benefits work to maximize the public interest by providing continuing incentives for carriers to reduce costs while, simultaneously, promoting the availability of potentially desirable services.

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<sup>2</sup> See, e.g., *In the Matter of the Application of MFS Intelenet of Michigan, Inc., for a License to Provide Basic Local Exchange Service, Opinion and Order*, Case No. U-10721 (May 9, 1995) (“MFS Order”); *In the Matter of the Application of City Signal, Inc., for a License to Provide Basic Local Exchange Service in the Grand Rapids District Exchange*, Case No. U-10555 (October 12, 1994) (“City Signal Order”).

**III. LAKENET MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 301(2) OF THE MTA FOR A TEMPORARY LICENSE TO PROVIDE BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE.**

LakeNet further requests the granting of a temporary license to provide local exchange service throughout the State of Michigan pursuant to Section 301(2) of the MTA. MCL 484.2301(2). Section 301(2) states, “pending the determination of an application for a license the Commission without notice and hearing may issue a temporary license for a period not to exceed one year.” Granting LakeNet a temporary license will allow LakeNet to immediately start installing equipment and deploying services. LakeNet will provide regulated service under the temporary license in accordance with the regulatory requirements specified in the MTA. Prior to commencing local exchange service under the temporary license, LakeNet will also submit a final tariff reflecting the services that it will offer and identifying zones and exchanges of the approved service area.

**IV. NOTICE OF HEARING**

Section 302 of the MTA requires a hearing in connection with the issuance of a new license. LakeNet will therefore consult with the Commission’s Executive Secretary to identify interested persons and to determine the proper format and procedure for giving notice.

**V. CONCLUSION**

In this application, LakeNet has demonstrated that it possesses sufficient technical, financial and managerial resources and abilities to provide telecommunications service throughout the state of Michigan. LakeNet has also demonstrated that its exercise of this authority will not be contrary to the public interest.

WHEREFORE, LakeNet respectfully requests that the Commission issue an order under Sections 203, 301, and 302 of the MTA that

1. grants LakeNet a temporary license to provide local exchange service throughout the State of Michigan,
2. grants LakeNet a permanent license to provide local exchange service throughout the State of Michigan, and
3. grants such additional or further relief as may be necessary or appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

LakeNet LLC

Dated: March 4, 2021

/s/ Hai Jiang  
By one of its attorneys

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