# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of	)	
Telrite Corporation and	)	
Applewood Communications Corporation	)	File No. XM-2013-0308
For Approval of an Asset Purchase Agreement	)	
And Transfer of Customers	ý	

### **JOINT APPLICATION**

COME NOW Telrite Corporation ("Telrite") and Applewood Communications Corporation ("Applewood") (together "Applicants"), by and through counsel, pursuant to Sections 392.290 and 392.300 RSMo., 4CSR 240-2.060 and 4CSR 240-3.520, and hereby jointly request Commission approval of a transaction whereby, pursuant to an Asset Purchase Agreement (the "Agreement"), Telrite will acquire substantially all of the assets of Applewood, including, but not limited to, Applewood's customer accounts in this State (the "Acquisition").

Applicants respectfully submit that the expeditious completion of the Acquisition is necessary to ensure uninterrupted service to Applewood's customers. Applewood will continue to provide service to its customers until such time as the Commission approves the Agreement and this Application.

Applicants emphasize that the Acquisition will not change the rates, terms and conditions under which Applewood's customers will receive service. The Acquisition

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A copy of the Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit "A."

benefits Applewood's customers by providing them assurances that they will continue to receive the same high quality services previously rendered to them. In compliance with applicable law, customers of Applewood will be informed of the Acquisition. <sup>2</sup> Accordingly, approval of the Acquisition will not in any way be detrimental to the public interests of this State.

In support of this Application, Applicants submit the following:

#### I. THE PARTIES

1. Telrite is a Georgia corporation with principal offices located at 4113 Monticello Street, Covington, Georgia 30014. The nature of Telrite's business is telecommunications. Telrite provides long distance telecommunications services in this State pursuant to authority granted by this Commission. Documentation from the Missouri Secretary of State was filed in Case No. XA-2004-0197, and is incorporated herein by reference pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.060(1)(G). Telrite states that it does not have any outstanding Annual Reports or assessment fees owed to the Missouri Public Service Commission and it does not have any pending action or final unsatisfied judgments or decisions against it from any state or federal agency or court which involve customer service or customer rates, which action, judgment, or decision has occurred within three years of the date of this application.

The proposed form of the customer notice is provided in Exhibit "B" attached hereto.

Telrite provides resold long distance telecommunications services in this State pursuant to authority granted in Docket No. XA-2004-0197, dated 11/18/2003 (effective 12/08/2003).

2. Applewood is a Delaware corporation with principal offices located at 1057 Bill Tuck Highway, Suite 224, South Boston, VA 24592. The nature of Applewood's business is telecommunications. Applewood provides long distance telecommunications services in this State pursuant to authority granted by this Commission. Documentation from the Missouri Secretary of State was filed in Case No. TA-2009-0170, and is incorporated herein by reference pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.060(1)(G). Applewood states that it does not have any outstanding Annual Reports or assessment fees owed to the Missouri Public Service Commission and it does not have any pending action or final unsatisfied judgments or decisions against it from any state or federal agency or court which involve customer service or customer rates, which action, judgment, or decision has occurred within three years of the date of this application.

### II. DESIGNATED CONTACTS

3. Copies of all Orders, Notices, and pleadings should be served on:

William D. Steinmeier WILLIAM D. STEINMEIER, P.C. 2031 Tower Drive P.O. Box 104595 Jefferson City, MO 65110-4595 Telephone: (573) 659-8672

Fax: (573) 636-2305 Email: wds@wdspc.com

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Applewood provides resold long distance telecommunications services in this State pursuant to authority granted in Docket No. TA-2009-0170, dated 12/23/2008 (effective 01/03/2009).

With a copy of such correspondence also sent to:

Leon Nowalsky, Esq. Nowalsky, Bronston & Gothard A Professional Limited Liability Company 1420 Veterans Blvd. Metairie, Louisiana 70005 Telephone: (504) 832-1984

Telephone: (504) 832-1984 Fax: (504) 831-0892

Email: Inowalsky@nbglaw.com

4. Copies of such correspondence should also be sent to:

Michael Geoffroy, Esq. Telrite Corporation 4113 Monticello Street Covington, GA 30014

and

Applewood Communications, Inc. 277 Royal Poinciana Way, Suite 143 Palm Beach, FL 33480

### III. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE ACQUISITION

- 5. The Acquisition contemplates the following:
  - a. Telrite will receive ownership, right, title and interest in and to substantially all of Applewood's assets, including its customer accounts, as defined in the Agreement.
  - b. Applewood will receive the purchase price set forth in the Agreement.
- 6. The customers of Applewood will be given notice of the proposed transfer and the opportunity to switch their service from Applewood to a different carrier. The notification will be sent in the form of a bill insert, a copy of which is attached hereto as **Exhibit "B"**. Those customers of Applewood who choose not to switch their service to a

different carrier will continue to receive service pursuant to authority previously granted to Applewood by this Commission until such time as the Commission grants the instant application, at which time the customers will be serviced under Telrite's certificate of service authority.

- 7. Telrite and Applewood seek waiver of 4 CSR 240-33.150, which contains subscriber authorization and verification requirements for the change of customers' interexchange carrier. This waiver is appropriate and in the public interest because this is not the type of transfer to which the "anti-slamming" rule was intended to apply. In addition, Applicants submit that the notice to be provided to customers will reasonably and adequately advise them of both the change in their telecommunications services provider and their opportunity to choose another provider.
- 8. Telrite is well-qualified to consummate the transactions which are the subject of this Application. The technical, managerial and financial personnel of Applewood will assist Telrite with the transition and integration of the acquired Assets after consummation of the transaction. Information on Telrite's management team is attached hereto as Exhibit "C".
- 9. Because Telrite will acquire substantially all of the assets of Applewood and Applewood will thereafter cease operations in this State, Applewood will no longer require authority to provide service in this State. Applicants therefore respectfully request that, through this proceeding, the Commission grant any authority necessary to permit Applewood to discontinue service upon approval of this Application and

consummation of the Acquisition, permit Applewood to relinquish its certification in this State, simultaneously with the effective date of the Acquisition, and cancel Applewood's filed tariffs on the effective date of the Commission's order.

### IV. PUBLIC INTEREST CONSIDERATIONS

- 10. Crucial to the Acquisition is the need to ensure the continuation of high quality, uninterrupted service to all customers currently served by Applewood. The Acquisition will serve the public interest in that it will ensure that current Applewood customers maintain uninterrupted service.
- 11. The Acquisition will not have any impact on Applewood's customers in terms of the services that they presently receive. In particular, the Acquisition will not cause any change to the rates, terms and conditions of service that Applewood's customers presently receive. Telrite will incorporate such rates, terms and conditions into its tariffs by separate filing.
- 12. The Acquisition will also serve to create a heightened level of operating efficiency which generally will serve to enhance the overall capacity of Telrite to compete in the marketplace and to provide telecommunications services for a greater number of consumers in this State at competitive rates.

### V. CONCLUSION

13. WHEREFORE, for the reasons stated herein, Applicants respectfully request that the Commission approve the Agreement, authorize Applewood and Telrite to consummate the Acquisition as soon as possible and grant the other relief specifically requested herein.

Respectfully submitted,

### /s/ William D. Steinmeier

William D. Steinmeier, Mo.Bar #25689
WILLIAM D. STEINMEIER, P.C.
2031 Tower Drive
P.O. Box 104595
Jefferson City MO 65110-4595

Phone: 573-659-8672 Fax: 573-636-2305 Email: wds@wdspc.com

Date: November 21, 2012

### **Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that a copy of this document has been served electronically on the Office of the General Counsel of the Missouri Public Service Commission and the Office of Public Counsel, on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2012.

/s/ William D. Steinmeier

STATE OF Georgia

#### VERIFICATION

I, Reggie McFarland, am the Chief Executive Officer of Telrite Corporation, and am authorized to make this verification on its behalf. The statements made in the foregoing Application are true of my own knowledge, except as to those matters which are therein stated on information and belief, and as to those matters! believe them to be true.

Name: Title: Reggie McFarland Chief Executive Officer

Sworn to and subscribed before me, Notary Public, in and for the State and County named above, this <u>3</u> day of August, 2012.

Melissa Dishell Notary Public

My commission expires:

EXPIRES
GEORGIA
JULY 27, 2015

STATE OF Louisiana

#### VERIFICATION

I, Courtlandt G. Miller, am the Chief Executive Officer of Applewood Alpha, Inc. (formerly called Applewood Communications Corporation), and am authorized to make this verification on its behalf. The statements made in the foregoing Application are true of my own knowledge, except as to those matters which are therein stated on information and belief, and as to those matters I believe them to be true.

By:

Name: Title: Courtlandt G. Miller Chief Executive Officer

Sworn to and subscribed before me, Notary Public, in and for the State and County named above, this ###, day of August, 2012.

Notary Public

My commission expires:

LEON L. NOWALSKY
Notary Public, State of Louisiana
My Commission is issued for life.
Notary Number: 4339

### EXHIBIT "A"

### ASSET PURCHASE AGREEMENT

### HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL

(Filed as separate pdf document)

# EXHIBIT "B"

# SAMPLE CUSTOMER NOTICE

### Customer Notice/Bill Insert

Dear Customer:

Applewood Communications Corporation ("Applewood") has signed a definitive agreement to be acquired by Telrite Corporation ("Telrite"). This transaction requires certain regulatory approvals in order to be complete. The companies expect the transaction to be completed by October 1, 2012.

The change in the ownership of Applewood will not affect or disrupt your current service in any way. You can expect the same outstanding level of service and customer care as well as additional resources that will be leveraged to ensure that you receive the highest levels of customer support. In addition your rates and the terms and conditions of your existing service will remain the same.

You will not incur any carrier-change charges from your local telephone company as a result of this transaction. If Applewood is your long distance provider and such a charge appears on the bill from your local telephone company, please call the customer service department toll-free at (866) 890-4135 and a representative will reimburse you or credit your account accordingly. Telrite Corporation will be responsible for any outstanding Applewood inquiries or complaints following the date the transfer becomes effective.

You have a choice of telecommunications service providers and have the right to choose another provider for your services. If you decide to switch to a different provider and you have not informed Applewood by the date of the transfer, your service will continue with and will be serviced by Telrite.

Telrite welcomes you and appreciates the opportunity to be your telecom provider. The combined Telrite and Applewood teams look forward to continuing to provide your business with world-class customer service and the most reliable, cutting-edge business-grade telecommunication services available today.

Telrite is a premier provider of long distance and local exchange services for residential and business clients across the US. To learn more about Telrite please visit <a href="www.telrite.com">www.telrite.com</a>

If you have any questions, please contact a Telrite customer service representative at 866-890-4135.

Sincerely,

Courtland G. Miller

Chief Executive Officer
Applewood Communications Corporation

Reggie McFarland

Chief Executive Officer Telrite Corporation

# EXHIBIT "C"

### MANAGERIAL PROFILES

# R.P. McFarland

- CEO of Telrite Corporation
- Over 10 years experience with AT&T in various management positions
- Founded Interlink Communications; merged company with ILD Corporation in 1997
- Served as Senior Vice President, Network Operations with ILD until 1999
- Founded IntraLec Telecommunications in 1999; merged with LecStar Corporation in 2000
- Served as Vice President and President of Network Operations of LecStar until 2001
- Formed Stratacom Telecommunications in 2001; merged with Telrite
   Corporation in 2005

### **Brian Lisle**

Work experience

05/2005 - Present

Telrite Corporation, Inc.

Marietta, Georgia

**VP Operations** 

- Oversight of the IT Department, LD Sales, Customer Service and Provisioning and Network Operations.
- Maintain Networks and Switch matrix
- P&L

Work experience

08/1998 - 05/2005

ILD Telecommunications, Inc. Atlanta, Georgia

**Director Network Operations** 

7/2000 - 05/2005

- Oversight of Network operations & NOC personnel
- Maintain Switch matrix and networking
- Systems
- P&L

#### **Network Operations Manager**

08/1998 -- 7/2000

Maintain Switch matrix and systems

Work experience

08/1995 - 08/1998

Interlink, Inc.

Marietta, Georgia

### **Operations Manager**

- General Management
- Customer Service
- Network Engineering
- Switch matrix/SME

Work experience

06/1990 - 08/1995

**EDS Operator Services** 

Atlanta, Georgia

### **Account Manager**

03/1994 - 08/1995

Interface with clients to ensure smooth and continued relationships

### **Business Analyst**

01/1993 - 03/1994

- Assisted three account managers
- Back Office reporting
- Systems SME

#### **Customer Service Supervisor**

03/1991 - 01/1993

Manage CSR group

### **Customer Service Agent**

06/1990 -- 03/1991

Inbound traffic, all LD call completions

Work Experience prior to the above was related to sales, as a sales representative for BellSouth Advertising and Publishing (BAPCO), Cable & Wireless Communications, Advanced Directory Company and Creative Management.

Education

1981 - 1986

The University of Florida

Gainesville, Florida

**BSBA** in Marketing

### Resume Darryl E. Davis

Education		
1994	MCI – switched & dedicated training C&W- switched & dedicated training	
1987-1988	Kaolin School of Aviation Commercial Pilot- Airplane single and multi-engine instrument Flight Instructor — Airplane single engine land Airline Transport Pilot	
1977-1979	South Georgia Vocation and Trade School Degree in Electronics	
1976-1977	Louisville High School	
1973-1976	Brentwood High School	
Career Experience		
2006-present	PureTalk - wireless company sales	
2006-present	Telrite Wireless-wireless company sales	
1994 to present	Telrite Corp.: Customer Service, Agent Support, Technical Support, Acquisition of other telecom companies, Wholesale Sales, Product Development	
1988-1994	Jet Food Stores of Ga; Regional Director of Operations and Corporate Pilot	
1987-1988	Washington County Air Services; Pilot, Flight Instructor, mechanic	
1986-1987	Swainsboro Financial Services, Inc; Manager, Vice President	
1985-1986	Anglo American Clay; Lab Technician	
1980-1985	Jefferson County Finance Co; Manager	
1980-1985	Jefferson County Motor Co.: Sales Manager	
1977-1981	Barker and Associates; Landy Survey, Laborer 30 years, Forman 1 year	

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