

ALJ/PG1/smt 7/3/2025

FILED 07/03/25 10:09 AM

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 007

In the Matter of the Application of CROWN CASTLE FIBER LLC (U6190C) and FIBER ASSETCO-CA LLC for Approval of a ProForma Transfer of Certain Assets from Crown Castle Fiber LLC to Fiber AssetCo-CA LLC.

Application 25-05-007

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING DIRECTING FILING OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WITHIN 10 DAYS

This ruling directs Crown Castle Fiber LLC (CCF) and Fiber AssetCo-Ca LLC (Fiber) to file and serve a response within 10 days of the date of this ruling.

1. Background

On May, 15, 2025 Crown Castle Fiber LLC and Fiber filed Application (A.) 25-05-007 (Application), where CCF seeks approval for an intracompany *pro forma* transfer of certain assets and customers to Fiber.¹ The Application states Fiber will subsequently be sold to an unrelated company, Front Range Intermediate, Inc (Front Range). Finally, the Application states that Fiber is filing

571985307 - 1 -

¹ Application (A.) 25-05-007 at 1. "The assets being transferred include California fiber customers and California fiber optic cable strands, all sheaths and similar conduits surrounding or travelling the same routes as said fiber optic cable strands, the panel or similar item of equipment connecting to said fiber optic cable strands at each identifiable demarcation or other end-point of said fiber optic cable strands, all hand holes, manholes and similar means of access to such fiber optic cable strands, sheaths and conduits".

a separate application with the Commission to obtain a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN).²

2. Discussion

Upon review of A.25-05-007, the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) requires the following additional information in order to review the Application:

- 1. Ownership and management structure:
- a. Provide a detailed organization chart clearly stating ownership structure of both CCF and Fiber, including ultimate parent company(ies) and all affiliates.
- b. The Application states on page 5: "[Fiber] will continue to rely on the key management and officers of CCF and Crown Castle Inc (CCI)." The information requested below is necessary to clarify employment relationship of management and officers of CCI, CCF, Fiber or other entities pre-transfer and post-transfer. Provide the following:
 - i. Names of all management and officers of Fiber pre-transfer, and which other entities within the organization chart requested above that these management and officers of Fiber work for pre-transfer;
 - ii. Names of all management and officers of Fiber post-transfer, and which other entities within the organization chart requested above that these management and officers of Fiber work for post-transfer;
- iii. For each management and officer referenced in response to Question 1.b.i. and 1.b.ii, state whether, post-transfer, they will work ONLY for Fiber or will

² A.25-05-014, Application of Fiber AssetCo-CA LLC for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Provide Full Facilities-Based and Resold Competitive Local Exchange Service and Interexchange Service in California.

continue to work for both Fiber and related entities. If work for both post transfer, state which entities management and officers will work for.

- 2. Pro forma transfer:
- a. Clarify if the Application is for a direct or indirect transfer of control. Explain.
- b. Are the Applicants requesting authority for the transfer pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 854(b)? Explain, including references to Exhibits and page numbers.
- c. What percentage of CCF's assets will be transferred to Fiber? Explain, including references to Exhibits and page numbers.
- d. The Application on page 8 provides brief information pursuant to Rules of Practice and Procedure (Rule) 3.6 (a)-(f). To enable adequate review of the request, provide detailed responses to each section of the Rule, including specific references to Application sections, Exhibits and page numbers.
- 3. CCF and Fiber operation post-transfer:
- a. The Application on page 2 states that CCF plans to transfer certain assets and customers to Fiber and that Fiber will be subsequently sold to Front Range. When will this proposed sale of Fiber to Front Range occur? Explain.
- b. Does CCF intend to keep providing services under the terms of its CPCN post-transfer?
 - i. If yes, describe which categories of services CCF will continue to provide and, for each category of service, the assets, customers, regions to maintain its public utility obligations?
 - ii. If not, how will its customers be served once the transfer becomes effective?
- c. Does Fiber intend to provide competitive local exchange and interexchange services, should its CPCN request be approved, post-transfer?

i. If yes, for each of these categories of services, describe the proposed service territory, assets and customers, and the extent to which Fiber intends to operate as a full facilities-based, resold service provider or otherwise.

If there are clarifications needed regarding the required information, Applicant may contact the assigned Administrative Law Judge by email at Paula.Gruendling@cpuc.ca.gov, copying the service list. Within 10 days of the date of this ruling, the Applicant shall provide the additional information as directed herein. Failure to provide the additional information may result in dismissal of A.25-05-007 for failure to prosecute. Applicant's filing must be titled "Response to Administrative Law Judge Inquiry," otherwise a new protest period will be triggered.

IT IS SO RULED.

Dated July 3, 2025, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ PAULA GRUENDLING
Paula Gruendling
Administrative Law Judge