

**Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20554**

In the Matter of )  
 )  
AT&T Corp. on Behalf of the Taino-Carib )  
Submarine Cable System Consortium ) File No SCL-LIC-20180702-00019  
 )  
Application for a License to Land and )  
Operate the Taino-Carib Submarine Cable )  
System Operating Between Puerto Rico )  
and St. Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands )  
and the British Virgin Islands )

**PETITION TO ADOPT CONDITIONS TO AUTHORIZATION AND LICENSE**

Pursuant to Executive Order 13913, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) submits this Petition to Adopt Conditions to Authorization and License (Petition) on behalf of the Committee for the Assessment of Foreign Participation in the United States Telecommunications Services Sector (Committee).<sup>1</sup> Through this Petition, and pursuant to section 1.41 of the Commission’s Rules, the Committee advises the Commission that it has no objection to the Commission approving the above-captioned application, provided that the Commission conditions its approval on the assurances of AT&T Corp. and Prepa Networks, LLC to abide by the commitments and undertakings set forth in their respective June 22, 2020 and July 2, 2020 Letters of Assurance (LOAs), copies of which are attached hereto.<sup>2</sup>

Section 2 of the Cable Landing License Act authorizes the President to withhold, revoke, or condition a submarine cable landing license if the President determines that such action would, among other things, “promote the security of the United States.”<sup>3</sup> In 1954, the President

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<sup>1</sup> Exec. Order No. 13913, § 9(h), 85 Fed. Reg. 19643, 19647-48 (2020). The Executive Order directs the Committee to “assist the [Commission] in its public interest review of national security and law enforcement concerns that may be raised by foreign participation in the United States telecommunications services sector.” *Id.* § 3(a), 85 Fed. Reg. at 19643.

<sup>2</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.41.

<sup>3</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 35.

delegated that authority to the Commission, subject to a requirement that it not act on an application without first obtaining “such advice from any executive department or establishment of the Government as the Commission deems necessary.”<sup>4</sup> The Commission has long sought the expertise of the relevant Executive Branch agencies and has routinely granted agencies’ requests to impose conditions on cable landing licenses to address national security, law enforcement and other concerns raised by particular applications.<sup>5</sup>

After discussions with representatives of the parties in connection with the above-captioned application, the Committee has concluded that the additional commitments and undertakings set forth in the LOAs will help ensure that those agencies with responsibility for protecting national security, enforcing the law, and preserving public safety can proceed appropriately to satisfy those responsibilities.

Accordingly, NTIA on behalf of the Committee advises the Commission that the Committee has no objection to the Commission granting the above-captioned application, provided that the Commission conditions its consent on compliance with the LOAs, dated June 22, 2020 and July 2, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,



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January 11, 2021

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<sup>4</sup> Exec. Order No. 10530, § 5(a), 19 Fed. Reg. 2709, 2711 (1954). *See also* 47 C.F.R. § 1.767(b).

<sup>5</sup> *See, e.g., Actions Taken Under Cable Landing License Act*, 34 FCC Rcd 8628 (2019), 32 FCC Rcd 3791, 3792-93 (2017), 28 FCC Rcd 1323, 1324 (2013), 24 FCC Rcd 2219, 2220 (2009), 23 FCC Rcd 13149, 13420 (2008).