

**Receive-Only Earth Station Registration
& Request for Special Temporary Authority**

Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc. ("CCES") is seeking to re-register its domestic fixed receive-only earth station at Coles, Illinois, **call sign E040102**, and requesting that the Commission grant Special Temporary Authority ("STA") for CCES to continue uninterrupted operation of this earth station.

This earth station was registered to CCES's predecessor on April 5, 2004, **file no. SES-REG-20040223-00264**. The earth station was assigned to CCES (with FCC approval) as part of an acquisition in 2005. The expiration date of the registration was **February 23, 2019**.

The earth station communicates only with space stations on the U.S. permitted space station list. It is operated on a non-common carrier basis. Since 2005 CCES has operated this earth station as the single point of reception for all of CCES's video customers served from its Charleston, Illinois central office location. These video signals are an essential part of CCES's daily video service operations. The public interest would be disserved by requiring CCES to discontinue these operations due to the unintended expiration of the registration.

On July 3, 2017, CCES's parent company, Consolidated Communications, Inc. ("Consolidated"), completed a large transaction resulting in the combining of the facilities and licenses controlled by Consolidated and those under the control of FairPoint Communications, Inc. ("FairPoint"), including more than 30 separate FairPoint entities that were regulated by the Commission and the states. The merger of Fairpoint and Consolidated necessitated the integration of their respective back-office systems, including their regulatory compliance databases, over a period of more than two years. The license renewal reminder for this earth station was inadvertently overlooked during that transition, resulting in CCES's failure to file an earth station registration renewal application within 30 days prior to the February 23, 2019 registration expiration date. *See* 47 C.F.R. §25.121(e).

CCES requests STA to continue operating this receive-only earth station, effective immediately, pending the Commission's action on its permanent earth station registration application.

Filed: May 18, 2020