VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS INC Form 424B3 August 10, 2016 Table of Contents

> Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3) Registration No. 333-212307

#### **PROSPECTUS**

#### **Verizon Communications Inc.**

# Offer to Exchange

\$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of Floating Rate Notes due 2022

for

\$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of Floating Rate Notes due 2022

that have been registered under the

Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act )

Offer to Exchange

\$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of Floating Rate Notes due 2025

for

\$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of Floating Rate Notes due 2025

that have been registered under the Securities Act

The Exchange Offers will expire at

noon, New York City time, on September 12, 2016,

unless extended with respect to either or both series.

We hereby offer, upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this prospectus and the accompanying letter of transmittal, to exchange (i) up to \$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of our outstanding Floating Rate

Notes due 2022 (CUSIP No. U9221A AB4) (the Original Notes due 2022 ) for a like principal amount of our Floating Rate Notes due 2022 that have been registered under the Securities Act (CUSIP No. 92343V DA9) (the Exchange Notes due 2022 ) and (ii) up to \$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of our outstanding Floating Rate Notes due 2025 (CUSIP No. U9221A AC2) (the Original Notes due 2025 and, together with the Original Notes due 2022, the Original Notes ) for a like principal amount of our Floating Rate Notes due 2025 that have been registered under the Securities Act (CUSIP No. 92343V DB7) (the Exchange Notes due 2025 and, together with the Exchange Notes due 2022, the Exchange Notes ). We refer to these offers as the Exchange Offers . When we use the term Notes in this prospectus, the term includes the Original Notes and the Exchange Notes unless otherwise indicated or the context otherwise requires. The terms of the Exchange Offers are summarized below and are more fully described in this prospectus.

The terms of each series of Exchange Notes are identical to the terms of the corresponding series of Original Notes, except that the transfer restrictions, registration rights and additional interest provisions applicable to the Original Notes do not apply to the Exchange Notes.

We will accept for exchange any and all Original Notes of each series validly tendered prior to noon, New York City time, on September 12, 2016, unless extended (the expiration date) and not validly withdrawn.

You may withdraw tenders of Original Notes of each series at any time before noon, New York City time, on the expiration date.

We will not receive any cash proceeds from the issuance of the Exchange Notes in the Exchange Offers. The Original Notes surrendered and exchanged for the Exchange Notes will be retired and canceled. Accordingly, the issuance of the Exchange Notes will not result in any increase in our outstanding indebtedness.

The exchange of Original Notes of each series for the corresponding series of Exchange Notes will not be a taxable event for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

No public market currently exists for any series of Original Notes. We do not intend to list any series of Exchange Notes on any securities exchange and, therefore, no active public market is anticipated.

Any broker-dealer that holds Original Notes that were acquired as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities will not be entitled to tender its Original Notes in the Exchange Offers and this prospectus may not be used by a broker-dealer in connection with resales of Exchange Notes received in exchange for Original Notes where such Original Notes were acquired by such broker-dealer as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities.

See <u>Risk Factors</u> beginning on page 8 to read about important factors you should consider before tendering your Original Notes.

Neither the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is August 10, 2016

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## **ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS**

You should read this prospectus carefully before you invest. This prospectus contains important information you should consider when making your investment decision. You should rely only on the information provided or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein, which are accurate as of their respective dates. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with different information, and we take no responsibility for any information that others may give you.

If any statement in this prospectus conflicts with any statement in a document that we have incorporated by reference, then you should consider only the statement in the more recent document. The information on our website is not incorporated by reference into this document.

In this prospectus, we, our, us, Verizon and Verizon Communications refer to Verizon Communications Inc. and consolidated subsidiaries.

# FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, including the documents that we incorporate by reference, contains both historical and forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act ). These forward-looking statements are not historical facts, but only predictions and generally can be identified by use of statements that include phrases such as will, anticipate, should. continue, believe, expect, appear, project, estimate, intend, or other word plan, similar import. Similarly, statements that describe our objectives, plans or goals also are forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties which could cause actual results to differ materially from those currently anticipated. Factors that could materially affect these forward-looking statements can be found in our periodic reports filed with the SEC.

Potential investors and other readers are urged to consider these factors carefully in evaluating the forward-looking statements and are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements included in this prospectus are made only as of the date of this prospectus, and we undertake no obligation

to update publicly these forward-looking statements to reflect new information, future events or otherwise. In light of these risks, uncertainties and assumptions, the forward-looking events might or might not occur. We cannot assure you that projected results or events will be achieved.

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## WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any of these documents at the SEC s public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of the public reference room. Our SEC filings are also available to the public on the SEC s website at http://www.sec.gov.

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-4 relating to the securities covered by this prospectus. This prospectus is a part of the registration statement and does not contain all of the information in the registration statement. Whenever a reference is made in this prospectus to a contract or other document of ours, please be aware that the reference is only a summary and that you should refer to the exhibits that are a part of the registration statement for a copy of the contract or other document. You may review a copy of the registration statement at the SEC s public reference room in Washington, D.C., as well as through the SEC s website.

#### INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with them, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus, and information that we file later with the SEC will automatically update and supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the following documents we have filed with the SEC and the future filings we make with the SEC until the date we consummate the Exchange Offers under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (excluding any information furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 on any Current Report on Form 8-K):

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015;

our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2016 and June 30, 2016; and

our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on April 1, 2016, May 11, 2016, June 9, 2016, July 25, 2016 (not including information furnished pursuant to Item 7.01), July 29, 2016 and August 1, 2016 (not including information furnished pursuant to Item 7.01), and on Form 8-K/A filed on June 2, 2016.

You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by contacting us at:

**Investor Relations** 

Verizon Communications Inc.

One Verizon Way

Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920

Telephone: (212) 395-1525

Internet Site: www.verizon.com/investor

In order to obtain timely delivery of such materials, you must request information from us no later than five business days prior to the expiration of the relevant Exchange Offer.

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#### **SUMMARY**

This summary highlights selected information appearing elsewhere, or incorporated by reference, in this prospectus and is, therefore, qualified in its entirety by the more detailed information appearing elsewhere, or incorporated by reference, in this prospectus. It may not contain all the information that is important to you. We urge you to read carefully this entire prospectus and the other documents to which it refers to understand fully the terms of the Exchange Notes and the Exchange Offers. You should pay special attention to Risk Factors and Forward-Looking Statements.

#### **Verizon Communications**

We are one of the world s leading providers of communications, information and entertainment products and services to consumers, businesses and governmental agencies. With a presence around the world, we offer voice, data and video services and solutions on our wireless and wireline networks that are designed to meet customers demand for mobility, reliable network connectivity, security and control. Our wireless segment, doing business as Verizon Wireless, provides wireless communications services across one of the most extensive wireless networks in the United States, with 113.2 million retail connections as of June 30, 2016. Our wireline segment provides voice, data and video communications products and enhanced services, including broadband video and data, corporate networking solutions, data center and cloud services, security and managed network services and local and long distance voice services. We provide these products and services to consumers in the United States, as well as to carriers, businesses and government customers both in the United States and around the world. We employed a diverse workforce of approximately 162,700 employees as of June 30, 2016, and generated consolidated revenues of \$131.6 billion for the year ended December 31, 2015.

Our principal executive offices are located at 1095 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10036, and our telephone number is (212) 395-1000.

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## **The Exchange Offers**

On February 21, 2014, in connection with the consummation of our acquisition of Vodafone Group Plc s (Vodafone Group) indirect 45% interest in Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless we issued \$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of Original Notes due 2022 and \$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of Original Notes due 2025. As part of those issuances, we entered into an exchange and registration rights agreement, dated February 21, 2014 (the Registration Rights Agreement), with respect to each series of Original Notes with Vodafone Group and Vodafone 4 Limited (Vodafone 4), in which we agreed, among other things, to use our commercially reasonable efforts to complete an exchange offer for each series of Original Notes. Below is a summary of the Exchange Offers.

The Exchange Offers

We are offering to exchange up to \$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Original Notes due 2022 and up to \$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Original Notes due 2025 for like principal amounts of Exchange Notes due 2022 and Exchange Notes due 2025, respectively. You may tender Original Notes only in denominations of \$2,000 and any integral multiple of \$1,000 in excess of \$2,000. We will issue each series of Exchange Notes promptly after the expiration of the applicable Exchange Offer. In order to be exchanged, an Original Note must be validly tendered, not validly withdrawn and accepted by us. Subject to the satisfaction or waiver of the conditions of the Exchange Offers, all Original Notes that are validly tendered and not validly withdrawn will be accepted by us and exchanged. As of the date of this prospectus, \$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of Original Notes due 2022 is outstanding and \$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of Original Notes due 2025 is outstanding. The Original Notes were issued under our Indenture, dated as of December 1, 2000 (as amended or supplemented, the Indenture ), between us and U.S. Bank National Association (as successor

Indenture ), between us and U.S. Bank National Association (as successor to Wachovia Bank, National Association, formerly known as First Union National Bank), as trustee (the Trustee ). If all outstanding Original Notes are tendered for exchange, there will be \$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of Exchange Notes due 2022 and \$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of Exchange Notes due 2025 outstanding after the Exchange Offers.

Purpose of the Exchange Offers

The purpose of the Exchange Offers is to satisfy our obligations under the Registration Rights Agreement.

**Expiration Date; Tenders** 

The Exchange Offers will expire at noon, New York City time, on September 12, 2016, unless we extend the period of time during which either or both of the Exchange Offers is open. In the event of any material change to either of the Exchange Offers, we will extend the period of time during which the relevant Exchange Offer is open as necessary so that at least five business days remain in the relevant

Exchange Offer period following notice of such material change. By signing or agreeing to be bound by the accompanying letter of transmittal, you will represent, among other things, that: (i) any Original Notes to be exchanged were acquired by you in the ordinary course of business, (ii) any Exchange Notes received by you will be

acquired in the ordinary course of business, (iii) you have no arrangements or understanding with any person, including us, to participate in the distribution of the Original Notes or the Exchange Notes within the meaning of the Securities Act, (iv) you are not an affiliate of the Company, and (v) you are not a broker-dealer electing to exchange Original Notes, acquired for your own account as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities, for the applicable Exchange Notes.

Accrued Interest on the Exchange Notes and The Exchange Notes due 2022 will bear interest from August 21, 2016, Original Notes which will be the most recent date to which interest on the Original

which will be the most recent date to which interest on the Original Notes due 2022 will have been paid prior to the issuance of the Exchange Notes due 2022. The Exchange Notes due 2025 will bear interest from August 21, 2016, which will be the most recent date to which interest on the Original Notes due 2025 will have been paid prior to the issuance of the Exchange Notes due 2025. If your Original Notes are accepted for exchange, you will receive interest on the corresponding Exchange Notes and not on such Original Notes. Any Original Notes not tendered will remain outstanding and continue to accrue interest according to their terms.

Conditions to the Exchange Offers

Our obligation to accept Original Notes tendered in the Exchange Offers is subject to the satisfaction of certain customary conditions. See The Exchange Offers Conditions to the Exchange Offers.

Procedures for Tendering Original Notes

A tendering holder must, at or prior to the applicable expiration date:

transmit a properly completed and duly executed letter of transmittal, including all other documents required by the letter of transmittal, to the Exchange Agent (as defined herein) at the address listed in this prospectus; or

if Original Notes are tendered in accordance with the book-entry procedures described in this prospectus, the tendering holder must transmit an agent s message (as defined herein) to the Exchange Agent.

See The Exchange Offers Procedures for Tendering.

Special Procedures for Beneficial Holders

If you are a beneficial holder of Original Notes that are registered in the name of your broker, dealer, commercial bank, trust company or other nominee, and you wish to tender in either of the Exchange Offers, you

should promptly contact the person in whose name your Original Notes are registered and instruct that nominee to tender on your behalf. See The Exchange Offers Procedures for Tendering.

Withdrawal Rights

Tenders may be withdrawn at any time before noon, New York City time, on the applicable expiration date. See 
The Exchange 
Offers Withdrawal Rights.

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of Exchange Notes

Acceptance of Original Notes and Delivery Subject to the conditions stated in the section The Exchange Offers Conditions to the Exchange Offers of this prospectus, we will accept for exchange any and all Original Notes of each series that are properly tendered in the Exchange Offers and not validly withdrawn. The corresponding Exchange Notes will be delivered promptly after the applicable expiration date. See The Exchange Offers Terms of the Exchange Offers.

Absence of Dissenters Rights of Appraisal You do not have dissenters rights of appraisal with respect to the Exchange Offers. See The Exchange Offers Absence of Dissenters Rights of Appraisal.

U.S. Federal Tax Considerations

Your exchange of Original Notes for Exchange Notes pursuant to either of the Exchange Offers will not be a taxable event for U.S. federal income tax purposes. See U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations.

Exchange Agent

U.S. Bank National Association is serving as the exchange agent (the Exchange Agent ) in connection with the Exchange Offers. The address and telephone number of the Exchange Agent are listed under the heading The Exchange Offers Exchange Agent.

Use of Proceeds

We will not receive any cash proceeds from the issuance of the Exchange Notes in the Exchange Offers. The Original Notes surrendered and exchanged for the Exchange Notes will be retired and canceled. Accordingly, issuance of the Exchange Notes will not result in any increase in our outstanding indebtedness.

Resale of the Exchange Notes

Based on existing interpretations of the Securities Act by the SEC staff set forth in several no-action letters to third parties and subject to the immediately following sentence, we believe Exchange Notes issued under these Exchange Offers in exchange for Original Notes may be offered for resale, resold and otherwise transferred by the holders thereof (other than holders that are broker-dealers) without further compliance with the registration and prospectus delivery provisions of the Securities Act. However, any holder of Original Notes that is an affiliate of ours, did not acquire the Original Notes, or will not acquire the Exchange Notes, in the ordinary course of its business or that intends to participate in the Exchange Offers for the purpose of distributing any of the Exchange Notes (i) will not be able to rely on the interpretations of the SEC staff set forth in the above-mentioned no-action letters, (ii) will not be entitled to tender its Original Notes in the Exchange Offers and (iii) must comply with the registration and prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act in connection with any sale or transfer of the

Original Notes unless such sale or transfer is made pursuant to an exemption from such requirements.

Notes, including Exchange Notes issued under these Exchange Offers, held by a Vodafone Entity (as defined in the Noteholders

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Agreement) will continue to be subject to the contractual limitations on transfer set forth in the Noteholders Agreement. See The Exchange Offers Noteholders Agreement.

Any broker-dealer that holds Original Notes that were acquired as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities will not be entitled to tender its Original Notes in the Exchange Offers.

# Notes

Consequences Of Not Exchanging Original If you do not exchange your Original Notes in the Exchange Offers, you will continue to be subject to the restrictions on transfer described in the legend on your Original Notes. In general, you may offer or sell your Original Notes only:

> if they are registered under the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws;

if they are offered or sold under an exemption from registration under the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws; or

if they are offered or sold in a transaction not subject to the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws.

Although your Original Notes will continue to accrue interest, they will generally retain no rights under the Registration Rights Agreement. We currently do not intend to register any series of Original Notes under the Securities Act. For more information regarding the consequences of not tendering your Original Notes, see The Exchange Offers Consequences of Exchanging or Failing to Exchange the Original Notes.

#### Risk Factors

For a discussion of risk factors you should consider carefully before deciding to participate in the Exchange Offers, see Risk Factors beginning on page 8 of this prospectus.

#### **The Exchange Notes**

**Issuer** Verizon Communications Inc.

**Securities Offered**Up to \$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of Exchange Notes due 2022 and up to \$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of

Exchange Notes due 2025.

The terms of each series of Exchange Notes are identical to the terms of the corresponding series of Original Notes, except that the transfer restrictions, registration rights and additional interest provisions applicable to the Original Notes do not apply to the Exchange Notes.

Maturity Dates Exchange Notes due 2022: February 21, 2022. Exchange Notes due

2025: February 21, 2025.

**Interest Rates** Exchange Notes due 2022: LIBOR plus 1.222%. Exchange Notes due

2025: LIBOR plus 1.372%.

The Exchange Notes due 2022 will bear interest from August 21, 2016, which will be the most recent date to which interest on the Original Notes due 2022 will have been paid prior to the issuance of the Exchange Notes due 2022. The Exchange Notes due 2025 will bear interest from August 21, 2016, which will be the most recent date to which interest on the Original Notes due 2025 will have been paid prior to the issuance of the Exchange Notes due 2025.

**Interest Payment Dates** Exchange Notes due 2022: February 21, May 21, August 21 and

November 21 of each year, commencing on November 21, 2016.

Exchange Notes due 2025: February 21, May 21, August 21 and

November 21 of each year, commencing on November 21, 2016.

**Optional Redemption** The Exchange Notes due 2022 and the Exchange Notes due 2025 will

not be redeemable prior to maturity. See Description of the Exchange

Notes Redemption.

# **Ranking**

Each series of Exchange Notes will be unsecured and will rank equally with all of our senior unsecured debt.

# **Book Entry; Form and Denominations**

Each series of Exchange Notes will initially be represented by (i) one or more fully registered global notes, which we refer to as the Global Notes and (ii) one or more fully registered physical certificated notes, which we refer to as the Physical Notes.

The Global Notes will be registered in the name of Cede & Co. as nominee for The Depository Trust Company, or DTC. Beneficial interests in the Exchange Notes will be represented through book-entry accounts of financial institutions acting on behalf of beneficial owners as direct and indirect participants in DTC. Clearstream Banking, *société anonyme*, and Euroclear Bank, S.A./N.V., as

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operator of the Euroclear System, will hold interests on behalf of their participants through their respective U.S. depositaries, which in turn will hold such interests in accounts as participants of DTC. Except in limited circumstances described in this prospectus, owners of beneficial interests in the Global Notes will not be entitled to have Global Notes registered in their names, will not receive or be entitled to receive Exchange Notes in definitive form and will not be considered holders of Exchange Notes under the Indenture.

The Physical Notes will be registered in the name of the beneficial owner or owners of such Physical Notes (or the nominee of such beneficial owner or owners). Except in limited circumstances provided in this prospectus, holders of Physical Notes will not be entitled to receive beneficial interests in the Global Notes.

The Exchange Notes will be issued in minimum denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess of \$2,000.

#### No Public Market

The Exchange Notes will be new securities for which there is currently no market. A market for either or both series of Exchange Notes may not develop, or if a market does develop, it may not provide adequate liquidity.

## **Governing Law**

The Indenture is, and the Exchange Notes will be, governed by the laws of the State of New York.

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## **RISK FACTORS**

An investment in the Exchange Notes involves risks. Before making a decision whether to participate in the Exchange Offers, you should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties described in this prospectus, including the risk factors set forth in the documents and reports filed with the SEC that are incorporated by reference herein. Our business, financial condition, operating results and cash flows can be impacted by these factors, any one of which could cause our actual results to vary materially from recent results or from our anticipated future results.

# Uncertainty as to the trading market for Original Notes not exchanged

To the extent tenders of Original Notes for exchange in the Exchange Offers are accepted by us and the Exchange Offers are completed, the trading market for the Original Notes that remain outstanding following such completion will be significantly limited. The remaining Original Notes may command a lower price than a comparable issue of securities with greater market liquidity. A reduced market value and reduced liquidity may also make the trading price of the remaining Original Notes more volatile. As a result, the Exchange Offers may cause the market price for the Original Notes that remain outstanding after the completion of the Exchange Offers to be adversely affected. Neither we nor the Exchange Agent has any duty to make a market in any remaining Original Notes.

## Uncertainty as to the trading market for the Exchange Notes

We cannot make any assurance as to:

the development of an active trading market for the Exchange Notes;

the liquidity of any trading market that may develop for the Exchange Notes;

the ability of holders to sell their Exchange Notes; or

the price at which the holders would be able to sell their Exchange Notes.

We do not intend to apply for listing of the Exchange Notes on any securities exchange or for quotation through any automated dealer quotation system. Any trading market that may develop for the Exchange Notes may be adversely affected by changes in the overall market for securities, changes in our financial performance or prospects, a change in our credit rating, the prospects for companies in our industry generally, any acquisitions or business combinations proposed or consummated by us, the interest of securities dealers in making a market for the Exchange Notes and prevailing interest rates, financial markets and general economic conditions. A market for the Exchange Notes may be subject to volatility.

In addition, Notes, including Exchange Notes issued under these Exchange Offers, held by a Vodafone Entity (as defined in the Noteholders Agreement) will continue to be subject to the contractual limitations on transfer set forth in the Noteholders Agreement. See The Exchange Offers Noteholders Agreement.

# Resale of the Original Notes is restricted

Each series of Exchange Notes will be issued pursuant to a registration statement filed with the SEC of which this prospectus forms a part. On the other hand, we have not registered the Original Notes under the Securities Act or for public offerings outside the United States. Consequently, the Original Notes may not be offered or sold in the United States, unless they are registered under the Securities Act, transferred pursuant to an exemption from registration under the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws or transferred in a transaction not subject to the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws. As a result, holders of Original Notes who do not participate in the Exchange Offers will face restrictions on the resale of their Original Notes, and such holders may not be able to sell their Original Notes at the time they wish or at prices acceptable to them. In addition, we do not anticipate that we will register the Original Notes under the Securities Act.

## Treatment of the Original Notes not exchanged

Original Notes not exchanged in the Exchange Offers will remain outstanding. The terms and conditions governing the Original Notes will remain unchanged. No amendments to these terms and conditions are being sought.

From time to time after the expiration date, we or our affiliates may acquire Original Notes that are not exchanged in the Exchange Offers through open market purchases, privately negotiated transactions, tender offers, exchange offers or otherwise, upon such terms and at such prices as we or our affiliates may determine or as may be provided for in the documents governing the Original Notes.

# Responsibility for complying with the procedures of the Exchange Offers

Holders of Original Notes are responsible for complying with all of the procedures for tendering Original Notes for exchange in a timely manner. Therefore, holders of Original Notes that wish to exchange them for Exchange Notes should allow sufficient time for timely completion of the exchange procedures. If the exchange procedures are not strictly complied with, the letter of transmittal or the agent s message, as the case may be, may be rejected. Neither we nor the Exchange Agent assumes any responsibility for informing any holder of Original Notes of irregularities with respect to such holder s participation in the Exchange Offers.

# Consummation of the Exchange Offers may not occur

The Exchange Offers are subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions. See The Exchange Offers Conditions to the Exchange Offers. Even if the Exchange Offers are completed, they may not be completed on the schedule described in this prospectus. Accordingly, holders participating in the Exchange Offers may have to wait longer than expected to receive their Exchange Notes.

#### Completion, termination, waiver and amendment

Until we announce whether we have accepted valid tenders of Original Notes for exchange pursuant to the Exchange Offers, no assurance can be given that the Exchange Offers will be completed. In addition, subject to applicable law and as provided in this prospectus, we may, in our sole discretion, extend, re-open, amend, waive any condition of or terminate either or both of the Exchange Offers at any time before our announcement of whether we will accept valid tenders of Original Notes for exchange pursuant to the Exchange Offers, which we expect to make as soon as reasonably practicable after the applicable expiration date.

## Responsibility to consult advisers

Holders should consult their own tax, accounting, financial and legal advisers regarding the suitability to themselves of the tax or accounting consequences of participating in the Exchange Offers and an investment in the Exchange Notes.

Neither we nor the Exchange Agent, nor our or its directors, employees or affiliates, is acting for any holder of Original Notes or will be responsible to any holder of Original Notes for providing advice in relation to the Exchange Offers, and accordingly neither we nor the Exchange Agent, nor our or its directors, employees and affiliates, makes any recommendation whatsoever regarding the Exchange Offers or any recommendation as to whether you should tender your Original Notes for exchange pursuant to the Exchange Offers.

# Registration and prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act

If you exchange your Original Notes in the Exchange Offers for the purpose of participating in a distribution of the Exchange Notes, you may be deemed to have received restricted securities and, if so, you will be required

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to comply with the registration and prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act in connection with any resale transaction. Our obligation to keep the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part effective is limited. Accordingly, we cannot guarantee that a current prospectus will be available at all times to holders of restricted securities.

Except in limited circumstances, holders of Physical Notes will not be entitled to receive beneficial interests in the Global Notes

Holders of Original Notes in physical certificated form participating in the Exchange Offers will receive Physical Notes in exchange for their Original Notes. Except in limited circumstances, holders of Physical Notes will not be entitled to receive beneficial interests in the Global Notes. See Description of the Exchange Notes.

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# **USE OF PROCEEDS**

We will not receive any cash proceeds from the issuance of the Exchange Notes in the Exchange Offers. The Original Notes surrendered and exchanged for the Exchange Notes will be retired and canceled.

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# RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The following table shows our ratios of earnings to fixed charges for the periods indicated:

Six Months Ended		Year Ended December 31,			
June 30, 2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
3.63	5.27	3.15	7.69	3.55	3.50

For these ratios, earnings have been calculated by adding fixed charges to income before (provision) benefit for income taxes, equity in losses (earnings) of unconsolidated businesses and dividends from unconsolidated businesses. Fixed charges include interest expense, capitalized interest and the portion of rent expense representing interest. We classify interest expense recognized on uncertain tax positions as income tax expense, and therefore such interest expense is not included in the ratios of earnings to fixed charges.

#### THE EXCHANGE OFFERS

## **Purpose of the Exchange Offers**

When we completed the issuance of the Original Notes on February 21, 2014, we entered into the Registration Rights Agreement with Vodafone Group and Vodafone 4. Under the Registration Rights Agreement, we agreed to use our commercially reasonable efforts to prepare and file with the SEC a registration statement or, at our election in our sole discretion, separate registration statements for (i) the Original Notes due 2022 by no later than July 1, 2016 and (ii) the Original Notes due 2025 by no later than July 1, 2018. We also agreed to use our commercially reasonable efforts to cause the applicable registration statement to become effective under the Securities Act and the exchange offers to be consummated no later than (i) October 1, 2016, in the case of the Original Notes due 2022 and (ii) October 1, 2018, in the case of the Original Notes due 2025. Upon the effectiveness of the applicable registration statement, we agreed to use our commercially reasonable efforts to commence the Exchange Offers. The Registration Rights Agreement provides that we will be required to pay additional interest to the holders of the Original Notes of the applicable series if we fail to comply with such filing requirements or the applicable registration statement does not become effective and the applicable Exchange Offer is not consummated on or prior to (i) October 1, 2016, in the case of the Original Notes due 2022 and (ii) October 1, 2018, in the case of the Original Notes due 2025.

The Exchange Offers are not being made to holders of Original Notes in any jurisdiction where the exchange would not comply with the securities or blue sky laws of such jurisdiction. A copy of the Registration Rights Agreement has been filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, and it is available from us upon request. See Where You Can Find More Information.

## **Terms of the Exchange Offers**

Upon the terms and subject to the conditions described in this prospectus and in the accompanying letter of transmittal, we will accept for exchange Original Notes that are properly tendered before noon, New York City time, on the applicable expiration date and not validly withdrawn as permitted below. We will issue a like principal amount of Exchange Notes in exchange for the principal amount of the corresponding Original Notes tendered under the respective Exchange Offers. As used in this prospectus, the term expiration date means September 12, 2016. However, if we have extended the period of time for which the Exchange Offers are open with respect to either or both series of Notes, the term expiration date means the latest date to which we extend the relevant Exchange Offer.

As of the date of this prospectus, \$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of Original Notes due 2022 is outstanding and \$2,500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of Original Notes due 2025 is outstanding. The Original Notes of each series were issued under the Indenture. Our obligation to accept Original Notes of each series for exchange in the Exchange Offers is subject to the conditions described below under Conditions to the Exchange Offers. We reserve the right to extend the period of time during which either or both of the Exchange Offers is open. We may, subject to applicable law, elect to extend the relevant Exchange Offer period if less than 100% of the Original Notes of the relevant series are tendered or if any condition to consummation of the relevant Exchange Offer has not been satisfied as of the relevant expiration date and it is likely that such condition will be satisfied after such date. In addition, in the event of any material change to either or both of the Exchange Offers, we will extend the period of time during which the relevant Exchange Offer is open as necessary so that at least five business days remain in the relevant Exchange Offer period following notice of such material change. In the event of such extension, and only in such event, we may delay acceptance for exchange of any Original Notes of the relevant series by giving written notice of the extension to the holders of Original Notes of such series as described below. During any extension period, all Original Notes of such series previously tendered will remain subject to the Exchange Offers and may be accepted for exchange by us. Any Original Notes not accepted for exchange will be returned to the tendering

holder promptly after the expiration or termination of the Exchange Offers.

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Original Notes of each series tendered in the Exchange Offers must be in denominations of \$2,000 and any integral multiple of \$1,000 in excess of \$2,000.

Subject to applicable law, we reserve the right to amend or terminate either or both of the Exchange Offers, and not to accept for exchange any Original Notes of the relevant series not previously accepted for exchange, upon the occurrence of any of the conditions of the relevant Exchange Offer specified below under Conditions to the Exchange Offers. We will give written notice of any extension, amendment, non-acceptance or termination to the holders of the Original Notes of the relevant series as promptly as practicable. Such notice, in the case of any extension, will be issued by means of a press release or other public announcement no later than 9:00 a.m., New York City time, on the next business day after the previously scheduled expiration date for such series.

Our acceptance of the tender of Original Notes by a tendering holder will form a binding agreement upon the terms and subject to the conditions provided in this prospectus and the accompanying letter of transmittal.

## Absence of Dissenters Rights of Appraisal

Holders of the Original Notes do not have any dissenters rights of appraisal in connection with the Exchange Offers.

## **Procedures for Tendering**

Except as described below, a holder tendering Original Notes must, at or prior to noon, New York City time, on the applicable expiration date:

transmit a properly completed and duly executed letter of transmittal, including all other documents required by the letter of transmittal, to the Exchange Agent, at the address listed below under the heading Exchange Agent; or

if Original Notes are tendered in accordance with the book-entry procedures described below, the tendering holder must transmit an agent s message to the Exchange Agent.

Transmittal will be deemed made only when actually received or confirmed by the Exchange Agent.

In addition:

the Exchange Agent must receive, at or before noon, New York City time, on the applicable expiration date, certificates for the Original Notes; or

the Exchange Agent must receive a timely confirmation of book-entry transfer of the Original Notes into the Exchange Agent s account at DTC, the book-entry transfer facility.

The term agent s message means a computer-generated message, transmitted by DTC to, and received by, the Exchange Agent and forming a part of a book-entry confirmation, which states that DTC has received an express acknowledgment from the tendering participant that such participant has received and agrees to be bound by, and makes the representations and warranties contained in, the letter of transmittal and that we may enforce the letter of

transmittal against such participant.

The method of delivery of Original Notes, letters of transmittal and all other required documents is at your election and risk. If delivery is by mail, we recommend that you use registered mail, properly insured, with return receipt requested. In all cases, you should allow sufficient time to assure timely delivery. You should not send letters of transmittal or Original Notes to anyone other than the Exchange Agent.

If you are a beneficial owner whose Original Notes are registered in the name of a broker, dealer, commercial bank, trust company or other nominee, and wish to tender, you should promptly instruct the registered holder to tender on your behalf. Any registered holder that is a participant in DTC s book-entry transfer facility system may make book-entry delivery of the Original Notes by causing DTC to transfer the Original Notes into the Exchange Agent s account.

Signatures on a letter of transmittal or a notice of withdrawal must be guaranteed unless the Original Notes surrendered for exchange are tendered:

by a registered holder of the Original Notes that has not completed the box entitled Special Issuance Instructions or Special Delivery Instructions on the letter of transmittal; or

for the account of an eligible institution.

If signatures on a letter of transmittal or a notice of withdrawal are required to be guaranteed, the guarantees must be by an eligible institution. An eligible institution is a financial institution, including most banks, savings and loan associations and brokerage houses, that is a participant in the Securities Transfer Agents Medallion Program, the New York Stock Exchange Medallion Signature Program or the Stock Exchanges Medallion Program.

We will reasonably determine all questions as to the validity, form and eligibility of Original Notes tendered for exchange and all questions concerning the timing of receipts and acceptance of tenders. These determinations will be final and binding.

We reserve the right to reject any particular Original Note not properly tendered, or any acceptance that might, in our judgment, be unlawful. We also reserve the right to waive any defects or irregularities with respect to the form of, or procedures applicable to, the tender of any particular Original Note prior to the applicable expiration date. Unless waived, any defects or irregularities in connection with tenders of Original Notes must be cured prior to the applicable expiration date of the Exchange Offers. Neither we, the Exchange Agent nor any other person will be under any duty to give notification of any defect or irregularity in any tender of Original Notes. Neither we, the Exchange Agent nor any other person will incur any liability for failing to give notification of any defect or irregularity.

If the letter of transmittal is signed by a person other than the registered holder of Original Notes, the letter of transmittal must be accompanied by a physical certificate representing the Original Notes endorsed by the registered holder or written instrument of transfer or exchange in satisfactory form, duly executed by the registered holder, in either case with the signature guaranteed by an eligible institution. In addition, in either case, the original endorsement or the instrument of transfer must be signed exactly as the name of any registered holder appears on the Original Notes.

If the letter of transmittal or any Original Notes or powers of attorney are signed by trustees, executors, administrators, guardians, attorneys-in-fact, officers of corporations or others acting in a fiduciary or representative capacity, these persons should so indicate when signing. Unless waived by us, proper evidence satisfactory to us of their authority to so act must be submitted.

By signing or agreeing to be bound by the letter of transmittal, each tendering holder of Original Notes will represent, among other things, that (i) any Original Notes to be exchanged were acquired by it in the ordinary course of business, (ii) any Exchange Notes received by it will be acquired in the ordinary course of business, (iii) it has no arrangements

or understanding with any person, including the Company, to participate in the distribution of the Original Notes or the Exchange Notes within the meaning of the Securities Act, (iv) it is not an affiliate of the Company, and (v) it is not a broker-dealer electing to exchange Original Notes, acquired for its own account as a result of market-making activities or other trading activities, for the applicable Exchange Notes.

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## Acceptance of Original Notes for Exchange; Delivery of Exchange Notes

Upon satisfaction of all of the conditions to an Exchange Offer, we will accept, promptly after the applicable expiration date, all Original Notes of the relevant series properly tendered. We will issue the applicable Exchange Notes promptly after the expiration of the relevant Exchange Offer and acceptance of the corresponding Original Notes. See Conditions to the Exchange Offers below. For purposes of the Exchange Offers, we will be deemed to have accepted properly tendered Original Notes for exchange when, as and if we have given written notice of such acceptance to the Exchange Agent.

For each Original Note accepted for exchange, the holder of the Original Note will receive an Exchange Note of the corresponding series having a principal amount equal to that of the surrendered Original Note, and represented by a Global Note or a Physical Note, as applicable. Original Notes (and beneficial interests therein) represented by one or more global notes may only be exchanged for Global Notes (and beneficial interests therein). Original Notes represented by one or more physical certificated notes may only be exchanged for Physical Notes. The Exchange Notes due 2022 will bear interest from August 21, 2016, which will be the most recent date to which interest on the Original Notes due 2022 will have been paid prior to the issuance of the Exchange Notes due 2022. The Exchange Notes due 2025 will bear interest from August 21, 2016, which will be the most recent date to which interest on the Original Notes due 2025 will have been paid prior to the issuance of the Exchange Notes due 2025. Original Notes accepted for exchange will cease to accrue interest from and after the date of completion of the relevant Exchange Offer. Holders of Original Notes whose Original Notes are accepted for exchange will not receive any payment for accrued interest on the Original Notes otherwise payable on any interest payment date, the record date for which occurs on or after completion of the relevant Exchange Offer and will be deemed to have waived their rights to receive the accrued interest on the Original Notes.

In all cases, issuance of Exchange Notes for Original Notes will be made only after timely receipt by the Exchange Agent of:

certificates for the Original Notes, or a timely book-entry confirmation of the deposit of the Original Notes into the Exchange Agent's account at the book-entry transfer facility;

a properly completed and duly executed letter of transmittal or a transmitted agent s message; and

all other required documents.

Unaccepted or non-exchanged Original Notes will be returned without expense to the tendering holder of the Original Notes promptly after the expiration of the relevant Exchange Offer. In the case of Original Notes tendered by book-entry transfer in accordance with the book-entry procedures described below, the non-exchanged Original Notes will be returned or recredited promptly after the expiration of the relevant Exchange Offer.

## **Book-Entry Transfer**

The Exchange Agent will make a request to establish an account for the Original Notes at DTC for purposes of the Exchange Offers within two business days after the date of this prospectus. Any financial institution that is a participant in DTC s systems and is tendering Original Notes must make book-entry delivery of the Original Notes by causing DTC to transfer those Original Notes into the Exchange Agent s account at DTC in accordance with DTC s

procedure for transfer. The participant should transmit its acceptance to DTC at or prior to noon, New York City time, on the applicable expiration date. DTC will verify this acceptance, execute a book-entry transfer of the tendered Original Notes into the Exchange Agent s account at DTC and then send to the Exchange Agent confirmation of this book-entry transfer. The confirmation of this book-entry transfer will include an agent s message confirming that DTC has received an express acknowledgment from the participant that the participant has received and agrees to be bound by the letter of transmittal and that we may enforce the letter of transmittal against the participant. Delivery of Exchange Notes issued in the Exchange Offers may be effected through book-entry transfer at DTC. However, the letter of transmittal (or an agent s message in lieu thereof),

with any required signature guarantees and any other required documents, must be transmitted to, and received by, the Exchange Agent at the address listed below under Exchange Agent (or its account at DTC with respect to an agent s message) at or prior to noon, New York City time, on the applicable expiration date.

#### **Exchanging Book-Entry Notes**

The Exchange Agent and the book-entry transfer facility have confirmed that any financial institution that is a participant in the book-entry transfer facility may utilize the book-entry transfer facility s Automated Tender Offer Program, or ATOP, procedures to tender Original Notes. Any participant in the book-entry transfer facility may make book-entry delivery of Original Notes by causing the book-entry transfer facility to transfer such Original Notes into the Exchange Agent s account in accordance with the book-entry transfer facility s ATOP procedures for transfer. However, the exchange for the Original Notes so tendered will only be made after a book-entry confirmation of the book-entry transfer of Original Notes into the Exchange Agent s account, and timely receipt by the Exchange Agent of an agent s message and any other documents required by the letter of transmittal.

# **Exchanging Physical Certificated Notes**

Holders of Original Notes in physical certificated form must transmit a properly completed and duly executed letter of transmittal, including all other documents required by the letter of transmittal, to the Exchange Agent, at the address listed below. Transmittal will be deemed made only when actually received or confirmed by the Exchange Agent. In addition, the Exchange Agent must receive, at or before noon, New York City time, on the expiration date, certificates for the Original Notes.

# **Deliver To:**

By Mail:

U.S. Bank National Association Attn: Specialized Finance 60 Livingston Ave EP-MN-WS2N St. Paul, MN 55107-2292 By Hand or Overnight Courier:

U.S. Bank National Association Attn: Specialized Finance 111 Fillmore Ave E St. Paul, MN 55107-1402 For information or confirmation by email or telephone:

651-466-7150 cts.specfinance@usbank.com

## Withdrawal Rights

For a withdrawal to be effective, the Exchange Agent must receive a written notice of withdrawal at the address indicated below under Exchange Agent before noon, New York City time, on the applicable expiration date. Any notice of withdrawal must:

specify the name of the person, referred to as the depositor, having tendered the Original Notes to be withdrawn:

identify the Original Notes to be withdrawn, including the relevant series, certificate number or numbers and principal amount of the Original Notes;

in the case of Original Notes tendered by book-entry transfer, specify the number of the account at the book-entry transfer facility from which the Original Notes were tendered and specify the name and number of the account at the book-entry transfer facility to be credited with the withdrawn Original Notes and otherwise comply with the procedures of such facility;

contain a statement that the holder is withdrawing his election to have the Original Notes exchanged;

be signed by the holder in the same manner as the original signature on the letter of transmittal by which the Original Notes were tendered, including any required signature guarantees, or be

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accompanied by documents of transfer to have the Trustee with respect to the Original Notes register the transfer of the Original Notes in the name of the person withdrawing the tender; and

specify the name in which the Original Notes are registered, if different from that of the depositor. If certificates for Original Notes have been delivered or otherwise identified to the Exchange Agent, then, prior to the release of these certificates, the withdrawing holder must also submit the serial numbers of the particular certificates to be withdrawn and signed notice of withdrawal with signatures guaranteed by an eligible institution unless this holder is an eligible institution. We will determine all questions as to the validity, form and eligibility, including time of receipt, of notices of withdrawal. Properly withdrawn Original Notes may be re-tendered by following the procedures described under Procedures for Tendering above at any time on or before noon, New York City time, on the applicable expiration date.

## **Conditions to the Exchange Offers**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this prospectus, with respect to each Exchange Offer, we will not be obligated to (i) accept for exchange any validly tendered Original Notes or (ii) issue any Exchange Notes in exchange for validly tendered Original Notes or complete such Exchange Offer, if at or prior to the applicable expiration date:

- (1) there is threatened, instituted or pending any action or proceeding before, or any injunction, order or decree issued by, any court or governmental agency or other governmental regulatory or administrative agency or commission that might materially impair our ability to proceed with the applicable exchange offer; or
- (2) the applicable exchange offer or the making of any exchange by a holder of Original Notes of the relevant series would violate applicable law or any applicable interpretation of the SEC staff.

In addition, we will not accept for exchange any Original Notes tendered, and no Exchange Notes will be issued in exchange for any Original Notes, if any stop order is threatened by the SEC or in effect relating to the registration statement of which this prospectus constitutes a part or the qualification of the Indenture under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended. We are required to use our commercially reasonable efforts to obtain the withdrawal of any stop order suspending the effectiveness of a registration statement at the earliest possible time.

No Exchange Offer is conditioned upon any minimum amount of Original Notes being tendered or the consummation of any other Exchange Offer and each Exchange Offer may be amended, extended or terminated individually.

# **Exchange Agent**

We have appointed U.S. Bank National Association as the Exchange Agent for the Exchange Offers. You should direct all Original Notes in physical certificated form and all executed letters of transmittal to the Exchange Agent at the address indicated below. You should direct questions and requests for assistance, and requests for additional copies of this prospectus or of the letter of transmittal to the Exchange Agent addressed as follows:

Deliver To:

By Mail: By Hand or Overnight Courier:

For information or confirmation by email or telephone:

U.S. Bank National Association Attn: Specialized Finance 60 Livingston Ave EP-MN-WS2N St. Paul, MN 55107-2292 U.S. Bank National Association Attn: Specialized Finance 111 Fillmore Ave E St. Paul, MN 55107-1402 651-466-7150 cts.specfinance@usbank.com

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All other questions should be addressed to Verizon Communications Inc., One Verizon Way, Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920, Attention: Fixed Income Investor Relations. If you deliver any Original Notes in physical certificated form or the letter of transmittal to an address other than any address for the Exchange Agent indicated above, then your delivery or transmission will not constitute a valid delivery of any Original Notes in physical certificated form or the letter of transmittal.

# **Fees and Expenses**

We will not make any payment to brokers, dealers or others soliciting acceptances of the Exchange Offers. The cash expenses to be incurred in connection with the Exchange Offers, including out-of-pocket expenses for the Exchange Agent, will be paid by us.

#### **Transfer Taxes**

We will pay any transfer taxes in connection with the tender of Original Notes in the Exchange Offers unless you instruct us to register Exchange Notes in the name of, or request that Original Notes not tendered or not accepted in the Exchange Offers be returned to, a person other than the registered tendering holder. In those cases, you will be responsible for the payment of any applicable transfer taxes.

# **Accounting Treatment**

The Exchange Notes will be recorded at the same carrying value as the Original Notes as reflected in our accounting records on the date of the exchange. Accordingly, we will not recognize any gain or loss for accounting purposes upon the completion of the Exchange Offers. Payments made to other third parties will be expensed as incurred in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

#### **Consequences of Exchanging or Failing to Exchange the Original Notes**

Holders of Original Notes that do not exchange their Original Notes for Exchange Notes under the Exchange Offers will remain subject to the restrictions on transfer of such Original Notes as set forth in the legend printed on the global or physical certificates representing the Original Notes as a consequence of the issuance of the Original Notes pursuant to exemptions from, or in transactions not subject to, the registration requirements of the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws. In general, you may not offer or sell the Original Notes unless they are registered under the Securities Act, transferred pursuant to an exemption from registration under the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws or transferred in a transaction not subject to the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws. We do not intend to register resales of any series of Original Notes under the Securities Act.

Under existing interpretations of the Securities Act by the SEC staff contained in several no-action letters to third parties, and subject to the immediately following sentence, we believe the Exchange Notes of each series would, subject to the terms of the Noteholders Agreement for Notes held by a Vodafone Entity, generally be freely transferable by holders after the Exchange Offers without further registration under the Securities Act, subject to certain representations required to be made by each holder of Exchange Notes, as set forth below. However, any holder of Original Notes that is one of our affiliates (as defined in Rule 405 under the Securities Act) or that intends to participate in the Exchange Offers for the purpose of distributing the Exchange Notes:

will not be able to rely on the interpretation of the SEC staff;

will not be able to tender its Original Notes of any series in the Exchange Offers; and

must comply with the registration and prospectus delivery requi