WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC. Form POSASR February 20, 2018

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 20, 2018

Registration No. 333-216390

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

POST-EFFECTIVE AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO FORM S-3 REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Windstream Holdings, Inc. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 46-2847717 (State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer incorporation or organization) Identification Number)

4001 Rodney Parham Road Little Rock, Arkansas 72212 (501) 748-7000 (Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Kristi Moody, Esq. Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary Windstream Holdings, Inc. 4001 Rodney Parham Road Little Rock, Arkansas 72212 (501) 748-7000 (Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

With a copy to:

Geoffrey D. Neal Kutak Rock LLP 124 West Capitol Avenue, Suite 2000

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Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 Phone: (501) 975-3000 Facsimile: (501) 975-3001

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: Not applicable.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company" and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. Large Accelerated filer Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 7(a)(2)(B) of the Securities Act.

### EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This Post-Effective Amendment relates to the Registration Statement on Form S-3ASR, File No. 333-216390 (the "Registration Statement") filed by Windstream Holdings, Inc. (the "Company"), with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 2, 2017, registering up to \$25,000,000 of an indeterminate number of shares of common stock, par value \$0.0001 per share.

The Company is terminating the offering of securities under the Registration Statement. In accordance with an undertaking contained in the Registration Statement to remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities that remain unsold at the termination of the offering, the Company hereby removes from registration all securities of the Company registered but unissued under the Registration Statement.

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#### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 to the Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Little Rock, State of Arkansas, on February 20, 2018.

### WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.

By: /s/ Kristi M. Moody Name: Kristi M. Moody Title: Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary

Note: No other person is required to sign this Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 to the Registration Statement in reliance on Rule 478 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.