

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF ALLTEL COMMUNICATIONS LLC FOR) CASE NO. ATO-T-08-01
APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION)
AGREEMENT WITH PROJECT MUTUAL)
TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE) ORDER NO. 30501
ASSOCIATION, INC. PURSUANT TO 47)
U.S.C. § 252(e))

In this case the Commission is asked to approve an Interconnection Agreement between ALLTEL Communications LLC (“ALLTEL”) and Project Mutual Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc. (“PMT”). With this Order, the Commission approves their Interconnection Agreement.

BACKGROUND

Under the provisions of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, interconnection agreements, including amendments thereto, must be submitted to the Commission for approval. 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(1). The Commission may reject an agreement adopted by negotiations only if it finds that the agreement: (1) discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement; or (2) implementation of the agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity. 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A). As the Commission noted in Order No. 28427, companies voluntarily entering into interconnection agreements “may negotiate terms, prices and conditions that do not comply with either the FCC rules or with the provision of Section 251(b) or (c).” Order No. 28427 at 11 (emphasis in original). This comports with the FCC’s statement that “a state commission shall have authority to approve an interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation even if the terms of the agreement do not comply with the requirements of [Part 51].” 47 C.F.R. § 51.3.

THE APPLICATION

On January 22, 2008, ALLTEL submitted an Application seeking Commission approval of its Interconnection and Reciprocal Compensation Agreement with PMT. In its filing, ALLTEL explains that it is an authorized wireless service provider in the State of Idaho and that PMT is an incumbent local exchange carrier. The parties’ Agreement includes terms

and conditions for the interconnection and exchange of traffic between their respective land and mobile networks.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Staff has reviewed the Application and does not find any terms or conditions that it considers to be discriminatory or contrary to the public interest. Staff believes that the proposed Agreement is consistent with the pro-competitive policies of this Commission, Title 62 of the Idaho Code, and the federal Telecommunications Act. Accordingly, Staff recommends that the Commission approve ALLTEL's Application for approval of its Interconnection and Reciprocal Compensation Agreement with PMT.

COMMISSION DECISION

Under the terms of the Telecommunications Act, interconnection agreements, including amendments thereto, must be submitted to the Commission for approval. 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(1). The Commission's review is limited, however. The Commission may reject an agreement adopted by negotiation only if it finds that the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement or implementation of the agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity. *Id.*

Based upon our review of the Application and the Staff's recommendation, the Commission finds that the proposed Interconnection and Reciprocal Compensation Agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity and does not discriminate. Therefore, the Commission finds that the Agreement should be approved. Approval of this Application does not negate the responsibility of either of the parties to this Agreement to obtain a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (pursuant to Commission Order No. 26665) if they are offering local exchange services or to comply with *Idaho Code* §§ 62-604 and 62-606 if they are providing other non-basic local telecommunications services as defined by *Idaho Code* § 62-603.

ORDER

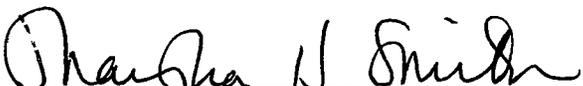
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Interconnection Agreement between ALLTEL Communications LLC and Project Mutual Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc. is approved.

THIS IS A FINAL ORDER. Any person interested in this Order (or in issues finally decided by this Order) may petition for reconsideration within twenty-one (21) days of the service date of this Order. Within seven (7) days after any person has petitioned for

reconsideration, any other person may cross-petition for reconsideration. See Idaho Code §§ 61-626 and 62-619.

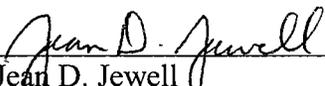
DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 11th day of February 2008.


MACK A. REDFORD, PRESIDENT


MARSHA H. SMITH, COMMISSIONER


JIM KEMPTON, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:


Jean D. Jewell
Commission Secretary

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