

DECISION MEMORANDUM

**TO: COMMISSIONER KJELLANDER
COMMISSIONER SMITH
COMMISSIONER HANSEN
COMMISSION SECRETARY
LEGAL
WORKING FILE**

FROM: CAROLEE HALL

DATE: AUGUST 16, 2005

**RE: APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF INTERCONNECTION AND
TRAFFIC INTERCHANGE AGREEMENT FOR COMMERCIAL
MOBILE RADIO SERVICES BETWEEN CITIZENS
TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY OF IDAHO ("FRONTIER")
AND CRICKET COMMUNICATIONS, INC. ("CRICKET").
CASE NO. CTC-T-05-3.**

BACKGROUND

Under the provision of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, interconnection agreements 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.

CURRENT APPLICATION

Frontier and Cricket filed Case No. CTC-T-05-3 on August 12, 2005. The Application states that the parties have mutually agreed, through voluntary negotiations, to interconnect their

networks thereby providing customers with increased choices among local telecommunications services. The Agreement sets forth the terms, conditions and pricing under which Frontier will offer and provide to Cricket, interconnection facilities for the purpose of delivering telecommunication services to customers.

STAFF ANALYSIS

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 Agreement is consistent with the public interest as identified in the pro-competitive policies of this Commission, the Idaho Legislature, and the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. Accordingly, Staff believes that the Agreement merits the Commission's approval.

COMMISSION DECISION

Does the Commission wish to accept and approve this Interconnection Agreement?


Carolee Hall

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