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Attorney for the Commission Staff

## **BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF</b>	)	
<b>CONTACT COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR A</b>	)	<b>CASE NO. CZ6-T-06-1</b>
<b>CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE</b>	)	
<b>AND NECESSITY TO PROVIDE LOCAL</b>	)	
<b>EXCHANGE SERVICES WITHIN THE STATE</b>	)	<b>COMMENTS OF THE</b>
<b>OF IDAHO</b>	)	<b>COMMISSION STAFF</b>
	)	

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The Staff of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, by and through its Attorney of record, Cecelia A. Gassner, Deputy Attorney General, in response to the Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure in Order No. 29967 issued on February 1, 2006, submits the following comments.

### **BACKGROUND**

On January 25, 2006, Contact Communications, Inc. ("Contact" or "Company") filed an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to provide advanced data services to Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and other retailers on a wholesale basis, operating as both a reseller and facility-based provider throughout Idaho. Contact will also provide Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) services on a retail basis to business and residential consumers. The Company entered into an interconnection agreement with Qwest that was approved by the Commission on January 29, 2003 (Order No. 29186).

Contact is a Wyoming corporation with its corporate headquarters in Riverton, Wyoming. Contact is authorized by the Idaho Secretary of State to transact business within the State of Idaho. The Company has provided financial sheets for a nine-month period ending on September 30, 2005 and the appropriate contact information for its registered agent for service of process within Idaho.

Contact's Application states the company has been providing telecommunications service in the State of Wyoming since 1999 and has been granted CPCN certification in Montana, Oregon, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Colorado.


### **STAFF ANALYSIS**

Staff has reviewed the Application submitted by Contact, and believes the Company understands and agrees to comply with the Commission rules and requirements. Based on this review, the Company's filing fulfills the requirements of the Commission Rules and Procedural Order No. 26665. Staff believes that the Company possesses the requisite financial, managerial, and technical qualifications necessary to operate as a provider of telecommunications services. Staff, therefore, recommends approval of the Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

As noted above, because the Company has demonstrated compliance with the necessary qualifications, Staff recommends approval of the Company's Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity.

Respectfully submitted this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February 2006.

  
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Cecelia A. Gassner  
Deputy Attorney General

Technical Staff: Grace Seaman

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE THIS 22<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2006, SERVED THE FOREGOING **COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION STAFF**, IN CASE NO. CZ6-T-06-01, BY MAILING A COPY THEREOF, POSTAGE PREPAID, TO THE FOLLOWING:

DEAN J MILLER  
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SECRETARY