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UTILITIES COMMISSION

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472 W WASHINGTON
BOISE ID 83702-5983

Attorney for the Commission Staff

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	
CENTEL COMMUNICATIONS INC. FOR A)	CASE NO. GNR-T-02-4
CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE)	
AND NECESSARY TO PROVIDE LOCAL)	
EXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS)	COMMENTS OF THE
SERVICES.)	COMMISSION STAFF
)	

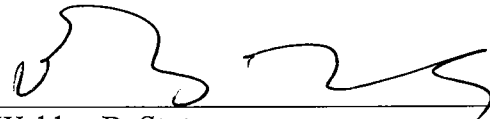
COMES NOW the Staff of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, by and through its Attorney of record, Weldon B. Stutzman, Deputy Attorney General, and in response to the Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure issued in Order No. 29194 on February 19, 2003, submits the following comments.

On February 28, 2002, Centel Communications Inc. filed an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide basic local exchange service within the State of Idaho. Centel specializes in the resale of business, residential and public access lines (PAL). The Company is incorporated in the State of Washington with headquarters in Goldendale, Washington.

Centel initially intends to resell business, residential and PAL lines within the State of Idaho. Centel filed its financial information with its Application and asserts it will comply with all applicable Commission rules. Centel asserts it owns no property in Idaho and will be only a reseller of services.

Staff has reviewed the Application and finds that it includes all the information required by the Commission in an Application for a Certificate. The Company is an ongoing operation with experience in providing the services identified in its Application in the State of Washington. The Company primarily operates in a relatively small niche of the market, providing service to independent payphone service providers. Competition in the provision of PAL lines may help to stem the rapid decline in the number of payphones, which would clearly be within the public interest. Staff therefore recommends the approval of this Application.

Respectively submitted this 12th day of March 2003.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'W' followed by a series of loops and a final flourish.

Weldon B. Stutzman
Deputy Attorney General

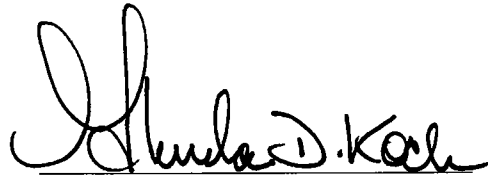
Technical Staff: Wayne Hart

WS:i:umisc/comments/gnrt02.4wswh

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE THIS 12TH DAY OF MARCH 2003,
SERVED THE FOREGOING **COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION STAFF**, IN CASE
NO. GNR-T-02-4, BY MAILING A COPY THEREOF, POSTAGE PREPAID, TO THE
FOLLOWING:

CENTEL COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
1505 S GRANT STREET
PO BOX 25
GOLDENDALE, WA 98620


SECRETARY

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE