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Attorney for the Commission Staff

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
ILOKA INC. DBA MICROTECH-TEL'S) CASE NO. GNR-T-02-13
APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF)
PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO)
PROVIDE LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES IN) COMMENTS OF THE
IDAHO.) COMMISSION STAFF
_____)**

COMES NOW the Staff of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, by and through its Attorney of record, John R. Hammond, Deputy Attorney General, in response to Order No. 29205, the Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure in Case No. GNR-T-02-13 issued on March 17, 2003, submits the following comments.

BACKGROUND

On August 12, 2002, iLOKA Inc. dba Microtech-tel filed an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to operate as a competitive local exchange provider on a facilities-based and resale basis throughout the Idaho service areas of Verizon, Qwest North and Qwest South.¹

¹ In the Notice of Application, Notice of Modified Procedure iLOKA was inadvertently referred to as iKOLA. Order No. 29205. The correct name is iLOKA, Inc.

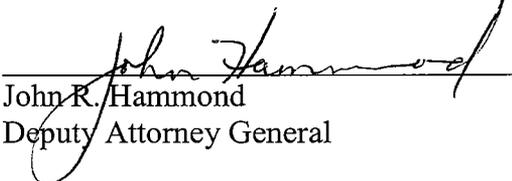
Microtech-tel is currently incorporated in the State of Delaware with its headquarters in Denver, Colorado. The Company obtained a Certificate of Authority to transact business as a foreign corporation from Idaho's Secretary of State on July 19, 2002. Although the Company does not maintain an office in Idaho, it does have a registered agent in this state. Microtech-tel's price list for providing in-state long distance, toll-free inbound calling, directory assistance and calling card service was approved in October 2002. With this Application, Microtech-tel proposes to provide flat-rated and measured local exchange service to residential and business customers, private lines, data services, and Centrex services. The Company does not propose to collect advance payments or deposits so no escrow account has been established. The Company has not yet obtained an interconnection agreement in Idaho.

Microtech-tel has been approved to provide telecommunication services in other states such as Utah, South Dakota, and Iowa. The Company states that granting its Application for a Certificate is in the public interest because Microtech-tel's entry into the local telecommunications services market will enhance competition in Idaho.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff has reviewed the Application submitted by iLOKA dba Microtech-tel and believes the Company understands and agrees to comply with the Commission's rules and requirements. Based on this review of Microtech-tel's Application, Staff believes that the Company's filing has satisfied all the requirements of the Commission's Rules and Procedural Order No. 26665. Therefore, Staff recommends approval of the Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity.

Respectively submitted this  day of April 2003.



John R. Hammond
Deputy Attorney General

Technical Staff: Doug Cooley

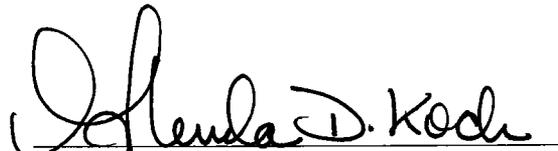
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE THIS 7TH DAY OF APRIL 2003,
SERVED THE FOREGOING **COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION STAFF**, IN
CASE NO. GNR-T-02-13, BY MAILING A COPY THEREOF, POSTAGE PREPAID,
TO THE FOLLOWING:

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