

## DECISION MEMORANDUM

**TO: COMMISSIONER KJELLANDER  
COMMISSIONER SMITH  
COMMISSIONER HANSEN  
COMMISSION SECRETARY  
COMMISSION STAFF  
LEGAL**

**FROM: JOHN R. HAMMOND**

**DATE: JULY 30, 2003**

**RE: IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF HIGH TECH TELEPHONES, INC. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO PROVIDE LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES IN IDAHO. CASE NO. GNR-T-03-1.**

On January 8, 2003, High Tech Telephones, Inc. (High Tech) filed an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to provide basic local exchange services in the State of Idaho. On July 8, 2003, the Commission issued a Notice of Application and a Notice of Modified Procedure. Order No. 29283. Staff was the only party to submit written comments on High Tech's Application.

### BACKGROUND

High Tech states that it is a non facilities-based reseller of local exchange services, inter-exchange private lines, access to long distance services and custom calling features. The Company also states that it intends to be a facilities-based provider as well. High Tech intends to provide service in Qwest Corporation's southern Idaho exchanges of Boise, Nampa, Meridian and Caldwell. Currently, the Company does not have any interconnection agreements with other carriers but intends to begin negotiating one as soon as it can obtain its CPCN. High Tech is organized and incorporated in the State of Idaho and obtained a Certificate of Authority from Idaho's Secretary of State on December 24, 2002. The Company maintains an office in Boise, Idaho.

### STAFF REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION

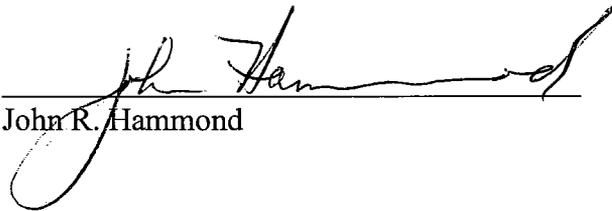
Staff reviewed the Application submitted by High Tech and believed that it provides sufficient grounds upon which the Commission could grant the Company a CPCN. Staff also believes the Company understands and will comply with the Commission's Rules and requirements. In addition, Staff has reviewed the Company's finances and believes that although the Company has

a relatively small budget, it has demonstrated positive net income in 2002. Finally, Staff notes that the Company would establish an escrow account with a local bank in the event that customer deposits are required.

Based on Staff's review of High Tech's Application, Staff believes the Company's filing satisfies all the requirements of the Commission's Rules and Procedural Order No. 26665. Staff also believes that the public interest would be served by the issuance of this Certificate: first, by maintaining and enhancing competition in the local exchange market place in Idaho, and second, by increasing customer choice. Accordingly, Staff recommends approval of the Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience.

### COMMISSION DECISION

Does the Commission wish to approve High Tech Telephone's Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity?



John R. Hammond

Staff: Doug Cooley

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