

KIRA DALE PFISTERER
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
PO BOX 83720
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0074
(208) 334-0314
IDAHO BAR NO. 6571

RECEIVED
FILED
2005 JUL -6 PM 2:13
IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Street Address for Express Mail:
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)
METROPOLITAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS) **CASE NO. MRO-T-05-1**
OF IDAHO, INC. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF)
PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO)
PROVIDE LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICES) **COMMENTS OF THE**
WITHIN THE STATE OF IDAHO.) **COMMISSION STAFF**
)

COMES NOW the Staff of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, by and through its Attorney of record, Kira Dale Pfisterer, Deputy Attorney General, in response to Order No. 29801, the Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure in Case No. MRO-T-05-1 issued on June 15, 2005, and submits the following comments.

BACKGROUND

On May 6, 2005, Metropolitan Telecommunications of Idaho, Inc. ("MetTel") filed an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to provide resold and facilities-based local exchange telecommunications services in the State of Idaho throughout the service areas of existing local exchange carriers: Qwest North, Qwest South and Verizon.

STAFF ANALYSIS

Staff has reviewed MetTel's Application and finds that it complies with the Commission's requirements. Staff reviews all requests for a CPCN certificate pursuant to *Idaho Code* §§ 61-526 through -528, IDAPA 31.01.01.111 and 112 (Rules 111 and 112), and Procedural Order No. 26665. In order to be issued a CPCN, a public utility must provide the Commission with the following information: (1) name, address, and form of business; (2) the date on which the applicant proposes to begin construction or anticipates that it will provide service, including a written description of customer classes and services proposed to be offered; (3) the proposed service territory; (4) certain financial information; (5) maps regarding the proposed service area; (6) a proposed initial tariff and price sheets; (7) contact information; (8) interconnection agreements if any; (9) an agreement to comply with the Commission's Rules; and (10) an escrow account with a bonded escrow agent if the company requires advanced deposits from its customers. Order No. 26665.

MetTel's Application includes all of the required information. MetTel is a Delaware corporation with its principal office in New York, New York. MetTel is authorized by the Idaho Secretary of State to transact business within the State of Idaho and has a registered agent for service in Idaho. MetTel is wholly owned by Metropolitan Telecommunications Holding Corporation.

MetTel plans to offer resold local and interexchange telecommunications services to both business and residential customers in Idaho. The Company will provide these services using unbundled network elements of the Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC) except for those rural ILECs where competitive entry may be prohibited.

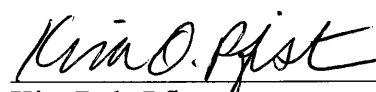
Staff believes the Company possesses the requisite financial, managerial, and technical qualifications necessary to operate as a provider of telecommunications services. In addition, MetTel agrees to comply with the Commission's Rules and Staff has found that the Company is cooperative and responsive to Staff's inquiries. Staff reviewed the Company's illustrative price list and it appears to comport with the Commission's guidelines.

The Company does not anticipate collecting deposits, and therefore requests a waiver of that portion of Commission Order No. 26665 that requires an Escrow Account be established.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff finds that the Company's Application and price list meets the requirements of the Commissions Rules and Order No. 26665. Therefore, Staff recommends that the Commission approve the CPCN Application and waive the escrow account requirement until the Company begins to collect deposits.

Respectfully submitted this 6th day of July 2005.



Kira Dale Pfisterer
Deputy Attorney General

Technical Staff: Carolee Hall

i:\umisc\comments\mrot05.1kdpch

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE THIS 6TH DAY OF JULY 2005,
SERVED THE FOREGOING **COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION STAFF**, IN
CASE NO. MRO-T-05-1, BY MAILING A COPY THEREOF, POSTAGE PREPAID,
TO THE FOLLOWING:

LANCE JM STEINHART PC
1720 WINDWARD CONCOURSE
SUITE 250
ALPHARETTA GA 30005



SECRETARY