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IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

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Attorney for the Commission Staff

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
ACCERIS COMMUNICATIONS CORP. FOR A) CASE NO. ACC-T-04-1
CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE)
AND NECESSITY 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, Lisa D. Nordstrom, Deputy Attorney General, submits the following comments in response to the Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure, Order No. 29615, issued on October 13, 2004.

BACKGROUND

On June 7, 2004, Acceris Communications Corp. ("Acceris" or "Company") filed an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide local exchange telecommunications services to customers throughout Idaho. Principally located in San Diego, California, Acceris is incorporated in Delaware and is authorized to do business as a foreign corporation in the State of Idaho.

Acceris requests authority to provide facilities-based and resold local exchange, intraLATA interexchange and exchange access services throughout the State of Idaho.

Specifically, the Company intends to serve in the areas of Qwest Corporation and Verizon but does not intend to serve areas where local exchange companies are eligible for rural exemptions pursuant to Section 251 of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

The Company plans to provide service mainly utilizing Unbundled Network Elements Platform (UNE-P) leased or purchased from Qwest or Verizon. The Company proposes to provide services to business and residential customers.

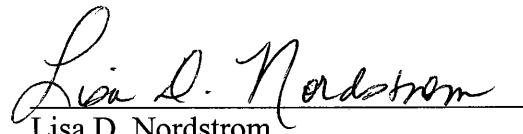
Although the Company does not maintain an office in Idaho, it does have a registered in-state agent. Acceris has submitted its management profiles and financials for the period ending December 31, 2003. Staff has reviewed these documents and, based on those documents, believes the Company is solvent. At this time, the Company does not propose to collect separate deposits and has not obtained an interconnection agreement in Idaho.

Acceris has been granted authority to provide local exchange service in several other states such as Oregon, California and Wyoming. Acceris also states that it has reviewed the rules of this Commission and affirms its commitment to abide by them.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff has reviewed the Application submitted by Acceris and believes the Company understands and agrees to comply with the Commission's rules and requirements. Based on this review of Acceris'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.

Respectfully submitted this ^{3rd} day of November 2004.


Lisa D. Nordstrom
Deputy Attorney General


Technical Staff: Doug Cooley

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE THIS 3RD DAY OF NOVEMBER 2004, SERVED THE FOREGOING **COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION STAFF**, IN CASE NO. ACC-T-04-01, BY MAILING A COPY THEREOF, POSTAGE PREPAID, TO THE FOLLOWING:

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