## **DECISION MEMORANDUM**

TO: COMMISSIONER KJELLANDER

COMMISSIONER SMITH
COMMISSIONER HANSEN
COMMISSION SECRETARY

**COMMISSION STAFF** 

LEGAL

FROM: DONOVAN E. WALKER

**DATE: JANUARY 11, 2005** 

SUBJECT: APPLICATION OF COMMPARTNERS, LLC FOR A CERTIFICAT OF

PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY - CASE NO. CMP-T-04-1

On November 16, 2004, CommPartners, LLC filed an Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide facilities-based and resale local exchange and interexchange services in the State of Idaho. According to the Application, CommPartners is in the process of building an Internet Protocol (IP) based communications network throughout all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The network is designed to connect public and private IP networks with the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN). The Company will provide the network needed for Voice-Over-Internet Protocol (VoIP) providers to originate and terminate IP-based communications, as well as allow for the termination of traditional circuit-switched telephone calls. The traffic to be carried over this network will be comprised of primarily information services traffic such as VoIP, as well as interstate, intrastate interLATA, intraLATA, and local traffic.

CommPartners is organized as a Nevada Limited Liability Company. The Application states that it has an Operating Agreement and Certificate of Status issued by the Idaho Secretary of State stating that it is qualified to transact business in the State of Idaho. The Company's principal place of business is in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Company states that it will primarily be providing network transit and associated operations support systems for VoIP traffic to wholesale customers. CommPartners proposed service area will be all areas served by incumbent local exchange carriers, Qwest and Verizon, that are required by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 to interconnect their networks with competitive local exchange carriers.

CommPartners network is a "hub-centric" topology consisting of switching centers in Las Vegas, Chicago, Atlanta, and New York. These switching centers are collocation points situated in highly sophisticated environments where large numbers of network providers meet for interconnection among their networks. At these locations, CommPartners has placed softswitch equipment, routers and border control devices.

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Application be processed by modified procedure.

## **COMMISSION DECISION**

Should the Application of CommPartners, LLC for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity be processed by modified procedure?

Donovan E. Walker