

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY L.P.	DOCKET NO. SPU-05-21
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ORDER APPROVING APPLICATION FOR DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE

(Issued November 23, 2005)

On November 1, 2005, Sprint Communications Company L.P. (Sprint) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a notice of intent to discontinue service pursuant to 199 IAC 22.16. The filing indicates that Sprint intends to cease providing local services to its residential and business customer base in Iowa and to transfer that customer base to Trinsic Communications, Inc., f/k/a Z-Tel Communications, Inc. (Trinsic). Sprint states that Trinsic currently provides local exchange service in Iowa pursuant to its certificate of public convenience and necessity, identified as Certificate No. 0228. Sprint proposes to discontinue service and transfer customers to Trinsic on February 1, 2006.

Iowa Code § 476.20(1) states that a utility shall not discontinue service to a community unless permission is obtained from the Board. According to this statutory provision, the Board must either approve an application or docket it for further investigation within 30 days; otherwise, it will be deemed approved. The Board may

grant an application if the Board finds that the transferee is ready, willing, and able to provide comparable utility service.

Based on the information provided, the Board finds that by undergoing the certification process, Trinsic has demonstrated that it is ready, willing, and able to provide comparable local exchange service to Sprint's customers. The Board finds that the requirements of Iowa Code § 476.20(1) are satisfied and will approve Sprint's request for discontinuance of its local service in Iowa pursuant to 199 IAC 7.12 and 22.16 and Iowa Code § 476.20(1). Since Trinsic is already certificated to provide local exchange service in Iowa, there is no need to transfer Sprint's certificate to Trinsic. Both Sprint and Trinsic will be required to amend their tariffs and maps as necessary to reflect the discontinuance of service within 30 days of this order.

The Board notes that a recently-adopted rule was not addressed in Sprint's application. Subparagraph 199 IAC 22.23(2)"e"(1) states in part:

No later than 30 days before the planned transfer of the affected customers from the selling or transferring carrier to the acquiring carrier, the acquiring carrier shall file with the board a letter notifying the board of the transfer and providing the names of the parties to the transaction, the types of telecommunications services to be provided to the affected customers, and the date of the transfer of the customer base to the acquiring carrier.

This rule applies to Trinsic, the acquiring carrier. Since Sprint proposes to transfer its local service customers to Trinsic on February 1, 2006, Trinsic shall file a notice with the Board on or before January 1, 2006, pursuant to 199 IAC 22.23(2)"e"(1).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The application for approval of discontinuance of service with regard to local service in Iowa filed November 1, 2005, by Sprint Communications Company L.P. is approved.
2. Sprint Communications Company L.P. and Trinsic Communications, Inc., f/k/a Z-Tel Communications, Inc., are directed to file revised tariffs and maps as necessary to reflect the discontinuance of local service in Iowa by Sprint Communications Company L.P.
3. Trinsic Communications, Inc., f/k/a Z-Tel Communications, Inc., is directed to file a notice of the customer transfer with the Board on or before January 1, 2006, pursuant to 199 IAC 22.23(2)"e"(1).

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ John R. Norris

/s/ Diane Munns

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Curtis W. Stamp

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 23rd day of November, 2005.