

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

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| <p>IN RE:</p> <p>IOWA TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC., d/b/a IOWA TELECOM, AND PARTNER COMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE</p> | <p>DOCKET NO. SPU-04-15</p> |
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ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT

(Issued June 5, 2006)

On June 23, 2004, the Utilities Board (Board) issued an order in Docket No. SPU-04-15 approving an application for discontinuance of service by Iowa Telecommunications Services, Inc., d/b/a Iowa Telecom (Iowa Telecom), to the Baxter, Melbourne, Rhodes, and State Center, Iowa, exchanges and the continuance of service in those exchanges by Partner Communications Cooperative (Partner). The Board also approved a partial transfer of Iowa Telecom's certificate for the Baxter, Melbourne, Rhodes, and State Center exchanges to Partner.

As part of that order, the Board found that Partner had demonstrated a history of providing local exchange telecommunications service in compliance with the Board's rules and requirements and that it was ready, willing, and able to provide comparable service in the Baxter, Melbourne, Rhodes, and State Center exchanges.

On May 16, 2006, Iowa Telecom and Partner filed a request to amend the June 23, 2004, order. In support of their request, the parties state that Partner has

been prepared to complete the acquisition as soon as all regulatory approvals were obtained and notes that the final approval was received from the Federal Communications Commission on April 27, 2006. The parties note that during the time since the June 23, 2004, order was issued by the Board, both Partner and Iowa Telecom have had Basic Local Exchange Services rate changes. The Board notes that at the time of its previous order, Partner's residential and business rates were lower than Iowa Telecom's residential and business rates. Today, only Partner's residential rates are lower than Iowa Telecom's while its business rates are now the same as Iowa Telecom's business rates. The Board finds that the criteria for consideration contained in 199 IAC 7.1(6)"e" indicates the Board must find the transferee is "ready, willing, and able to provide comparable utility service." The Board finds that although there have been rate changes since the Board's previous order, Partner still satisfies the criteria specified in 199 IAC 7.1(6)"e." Therefore, the Board will grant the parties' request to amend the June 23, 2004, order to reflect Board approval of the now-existing circumstances.

In addition, the Board notes that the customer authorization requirements in Board rule 199 IAC 22.23(2) have been amended since the issuance of the June 23, 2004, order to specifically address procedures in the event of a sale or transfer of customer base. The parties have provided a statement that Partner will comply with the new notice and authorization requirements of 199 IAC 22.23(2)"e"(1) and have

submitted a revised notice letter that will be sent to all Iowa Telecom customers in the Baxter, Melbourne, Rhodes, and State Center, Iowa, exchanges.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The request to amend the "Order Approving Joint Application for Discontinuance of Service, Authorizing Transfer of Certificate, and Granting Waiver," issued by the Board on June 23, 2004, in Docket No. SPU-04-15, filed by Iowa Telecommunications Services, Inc., d/b/a Iowa Telecom, and Partner Communications Cooperative on May 16, 2006, is granted as described in this order.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ John R. Norris

/s/ Diane Munns

ATTEST:

/s/ Margaret Munson
Executive Secretary, Deputy

/s/ Curtis W. Stamp

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 5th day of June, 2006.