

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the matter of the Joint Application)	
of New Florence Telephone Company,)	
Tiger Telephone, Inc. and Direct)	
Communications Rockland, Inc.)	
for an order authorizing Direct)	Case No. TO-2007-0139
Communications Rockland, Inc.)	
to purchase or acquire, take or hold all of)	
the issued and outstanding capital stock)	
of Tiger Telephone, Inc.)	

**RESPONSE OF JOINT APPLICANTS TO STAFF'S
RECOMMENDATION AND REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED ORDER**

Come now New Florence Telephone Company ("New Florence"), Tiger Telephone, Inc. ("TigerTel") and Direct Communications Rockland, Inc. and the individuals designated by Direct, ("DCR") (collectively referred to as "Joint Applicants") and file this Response to Staff's Recommendation and Request for an Expedited Order. Joint Applicants state to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") as follows:

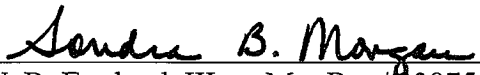
1. Joint Applicants filed an Application with the Commission on October 2, 2006, requesting authority for DCR to acquire the stock of TigerTel. On January 17, 2007, Joint Applicants filed an Amended and Supplemental Application seeking approval for New Florence to give a guaranty and place a lien on its assets as security for a loan to TigerTel. On February 16, 2007, Joint Applicants filed a Second Amended Application seeking approval for individuals designated by DCR to acquire the stock of TigerTel.

2. On February 26, 2007, the Staff filed its Recommendation recommending that the proposed transaction be approved subject to certain conditions. Joint Applicants do not intend to contest any of the conditions or recommendations listed by the Staff in its Recommendation.

3. Joint Applicants have been apprised that the Section 214 application filed with the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") seeking a transfer of control has been accepted for filing as a streamlined application as of March 2, 2007. If no unfavorable comments are received, Joint Applicants will receive permission from the FCC to transfer the stock and related control on the 30th day after the date of the Notice. Joint Applicants would like to tentatively schedule the closing of this transaction on April 2, 2007, effective April 1, 2007. In order to meet this schedule, Joint Applicants will need to receive an order from the Commission by March 21, 2007, with an effective date of March 31, 2007. For this reason, Joint Applicants respectfully request that the Commission expedite its approval of this proposed transaction.

Wherefore, Joint Applicants respectfully request that the Commission accept its Response to Staff's Recommendation and expedite its consideration of this matter so that an order can be issued on or before March 21, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,



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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was sent electronically, hand-delivered or mailed, United States Mail, postage prepaid, this 6th day of March, 2007, to:

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