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November 11, 2009

Via Federal Express

Ms. Sharla Dillon
Docket Room Manager
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505

**Re: Docket 09-00179 - Response to Data Request No. 1
Application of Birch Telecom of the South, Inc. and Birch Communications,
Inc. for Approval of Financing Arrangements and Related Transactions**

Dear Ms. Dillon:

Birch Telecom of the South, Inc. and Birch Communications, Inc. (collectively, "Applicants"), by their attorneys, respectfully submit the following responses to Data Request No. 1 regarding the Application for Approval of Financing Arrangements and Related Transactions ("Application") filed with the Tennessee Regulatory Authority ("Authority") on November 6, 2009.

- 1) Have the Applicants applied for approval for financing from any federal agency? If so, what is the status of such application or notification?**

Approval of the financing transactions described in the Application is not required by the Federal Communications Commission.

- 2) Will Tennessee assets be pledged as collateral for any debt issued?**

Yes. Applicants are both certified carriers operating in Tennessee. As explained in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Application, the assets of the Applicants (including Tennessee assets held by the Applicants) will be pledged as collateral for the debt incurred.

- 3) Will a transfer of certificates, authorizations, assets or customers occur as a result of the Applicants' participation in the proposed debt financing transaction?**

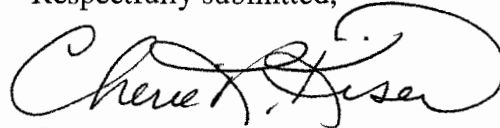
No. As explained in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Application, the proposed financing transaction will have no effect on the Applicants' Tennessee operations. There will be no transfer of certificates, authorizations, assets, or customers as a result of the Applicants' participation in the proposed financing transaction.

4) Will there be a change in the rates or terms and conditions of service as a result of the Applicants' participation in the proposed debt financing transaction?

No. As explained in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Application, the proposed financing transaction will have no effect on the Applicants' Tennessee operations. There will be no change in the rates or terms and conditions of service as a result of the Applicants' participation in the proposed financing transaction.

Please date stamp the extra copy of this letter and return it in the enclosed envelope. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chérie R. Kiser". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Chérie R. Kiser
Angela F. Collins

Counsel for Birch Telecom of the South,
Inc. and Birch Communications, Inc.

cc: Carlos Black (via electronic mail)
Jerry Kettles, (via electronic mail)
Christopher Bunce, Birch