

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

IN RE:	September 11, 2014	)	
		)	
APPLICATION OF CAMPUS COMMUNICATIONS GROUP,		)	DOCKET NO.
INC. FOR AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE COMPETING LOCAL		)	14-00053
EXCHANGE AND INTEREXCHANGE SERVICE		)	
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INITIAL ORDER GRANTING CERTIFICATE OF  
PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

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This matter came before the Hearing Officer of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (“Authority” or “TRA”) at a Hearing held on August 26, 2014 to consider the *Application of Campus Communications Group, Inc. for Certificate to Provide Competing Intrastate and Local Exchange Telecommunications Services* (the “*Application*”) filed by Campus Communications Group, Inc., (“CCG” or “Applicant”) on May 14, 2014. In its *Application*, CCG seeks a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (“CCN”) for authority to provide competing local exchange and interexchange telecommunications services in Tennessee.

**LEGAL STANDARD**

CCG’s *Application* was considered in light of the criteria for granting a CCN as set forth in Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-201 (Supp. 2012), which provides, in pertinent part:

(a) No public utility shall establish or begin the construction of, or operate any line, plant, or system, or route in or into a municipality or other territory already receiving a like service from another public utility, or establish service therein, without first having obtained from the authority, after written application and hearing, a certificate that the present or future public convenience and necessity require or will require such construction, establishment, and operation, and no person or corporation not at the time a public utility shall commence the construction of any plant, line, system or route to be operated as a public utility, or the operation of which would constitute the same, or the owner or operator thereof, a public utility as defined by law, without having first obtained, in like manner, a similar certificate . . .

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(c) After notice to the incumbent local exchange telephone company and other interested parties and following a hearing, the authority shall grant a certificate of convenience and necessity to a competing telecommunications service provider if after examining the evidence presented, the authority finds:

(1) The applicant has demonstrated that it will adhere to all applicable commission policies, rules and orders; and

(2) The applicant possesses sufficient managerial, financial, and technical abilities to provide the applied for services.

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Furthermore, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-5-112 (2004), a competing telecommunications provider is required to file with the Authority: (1) a plan containing the provider's plan for purchasing goods and services from small and minority-owned telecommunications businesses; and (2) information on programs that might provide technical assistance to such businesses.

### **HEARING ON THE MERITS**

Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-204 (2004), public notice of the Hearing in this matter was issued by the Hearing Officer on August 12, 2014. No persons sought intervention prior to or during the Hearing. Mr. William Clavey, Vice President of Finance for CCG, appeared personally during the Hearing, ratified his sworn pre-filed testimony that had been filed in the docket file with the *Application* and was subject to examination by the Hearing Officer.

### **I. CCG'S QUALIFICATIONS**

1. CCG is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Delaware and was licensed to transact business in Tennessee by the Secretary of State on March 27, 2014.

2. The registered agent for CCG is Corporation Service Company located at 2908

Poston Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee 37203. The corporate office of CCG is located at 206 North Randolph Street, Suite 200, Champaign, Illinois 61824. The telephone number is (217) 353-3022.

3. The *Application* and information in the record indicate that CCG has the requisite technical and managerial ability to provide competitive access services and transport telecommunications services within the State of Tennessee. Specifically, CCG's senior management team possesses extensive business, technical, operational and regulatory experience.

4. CCG has the necessary capital and financial ability to provide the services it proposes to offer.

5. CCG has represented that it will adhere to all applicable statutes, policies, rules and orders of the Authority.

## **II. PROPOSED SERVICES**

CCG proposes to offer a broad variety of local exchange services, including Internet access and voice over internet protocol ("VoIP") to business customers, through its own installed fiber. CCG does not anticipate offering services to residential customers in the future.

CCG's initial service offerings for business customers will be comparable to that currently offered by the incumbent local exchange providers. CCG will offer its services throughout the state of Tennessee with a switch located in Bloomington, Illinois and with a redundant link established in Chicago, Illinois.

Furthermore, CCG will also offer basic access line service, direct inward dial ("DID") services, optional calling features, directory assistance, directory services, and operator services, as well as services required under TRA Rules.

### **III. PERMITTING COMPETITION TO SERVE THE PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY**

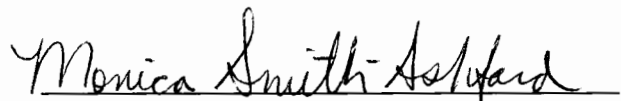
CCG's *Application* and its proposed services would inure to the benefit of the present and future public convenience by permitting competition in the telecommunications services markets in the State and fostering the development of an efficient, technologically advanced statewide system of telecommunications services.

### **IV. SMALL AND MINORITY-OWNED TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUSINESS PARTICIPATION PLAN AND BUSINESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

CCG has filed a satisfactory small and minority-owned telecommunications business participation plan, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-5-112 (2004) and the Authority's Rules.

### **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

1. The *Application of Campus Communications Group, Inc. for Certificate to Provide Competing Intrastate and Local Exchange Telecommunications Services* is approved.
2. Any party aggrieved by the Hearing Officer's decision in this matter may file a petition for reconsideration within fifteen days from the date of this Order.
3. This Initial Order shall become a Final Order of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority, if no petition for reconsideration or appeal of this Order is filed prior to the expiration of the fifteen-day appeal period.

  
Monica Smith-Ashford, Hearing Officer