

Agenda Date: 10/20/10 Agenda Item: IVA

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center, Suite 801 Newark, NJ 07102 www.nj.gov/bpu/

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT APPLICATION OF UNITED TELEPHONE COMPANY OF NEW JERSEY, INC. D/B/A CENTURYLINK AND MANHATTAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY OF NEW JERSEY, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF AN ADOPTION OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT UNDER SECTION 252 OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996

ORDER APPROVING INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

DOCKET NO. TO10080547

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

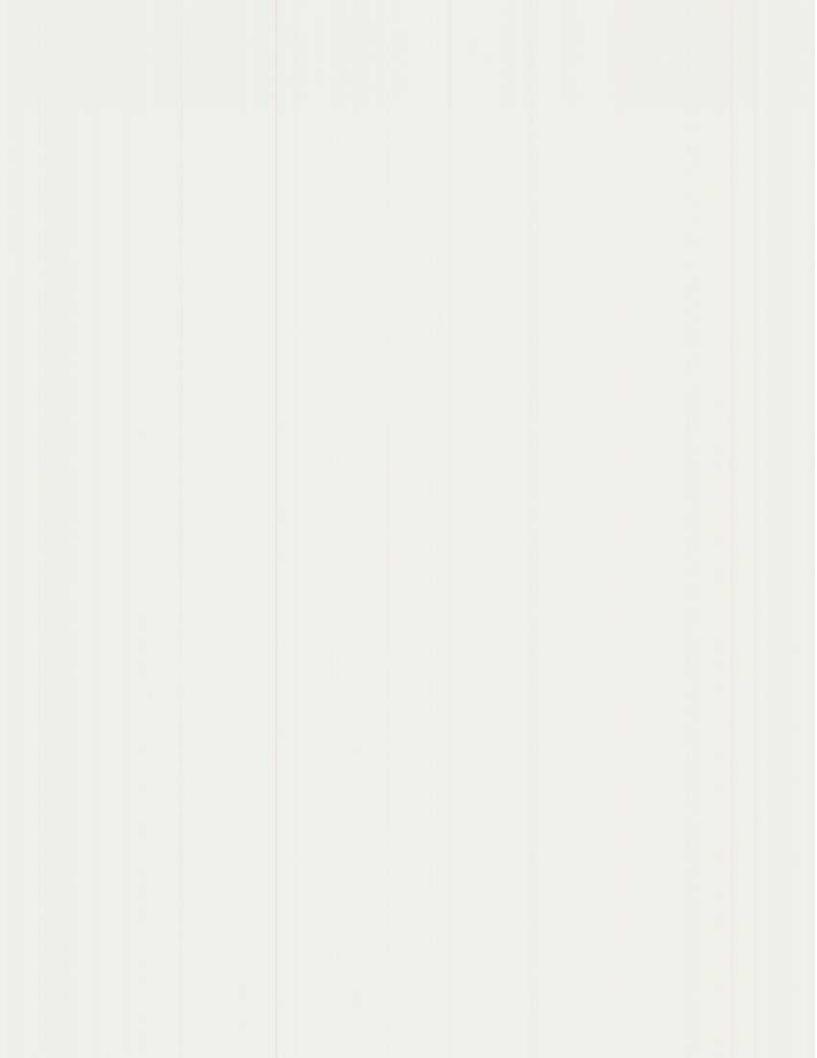
Zsuzsanna E. Benedek, Attorney for United, Harrisburg, PA
David Aronow, Attorney for Manhattan Telecommunications, New York, NY

BY THE BOARD:

By letter dated August 20, 2010, United Telephone Company of New Jersey, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink ("United"), and Manhattan Telecommunications Company of New Jersey, Inc. ("Manhattan Telecommunications"), (individually, a Party, and jointly, the Parties), pursuant to Section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, P.L. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56, (codified in scattered sections of 47 <u>U.S.C.</u> §151 <u>et seq.</u>) (the Act), submitted to the Board of Public Utilities (Board) a joint application (Application) for approval of a negotiated interconnection agreement, titled "Master Resale & Interconnection Agreements for the State of New Jersey" and dated September 1, 2009 (Agreement). United is an incumbent local exchange carrier as defined by the Act with the duty to negotiate interconnection agreements pursuant to Section 252 of the Act. <u>See</u> 47 <u>U.S.C.</u> §251(c) and §251(h)(1).

Manhattan Telecommunications has exercised its rights under Section 252(i) of the Act to opt into an interconnection agreement previously approved by the Board between United and Granite Telecommunications.

The Agreement sets forth the terms, conditions and prices under which United will offer and provide access to unbundled network elements, ancillary services, and wholesale telecommunications services available for resale to Manhattan Telecommunications. The Agreement was in effect until September 25, 2010, and thereafter as noted in the Agreement continues in full force and effect unless terminated as provided in the Agreement.



interconnection agreement with a carrier requesting interconnection, service or network elements. In addition, 47 <u>U.S.C.</u> §252(e)(1) requires approval by the Board of any interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation or arbitration, and further requires the Board to approve or reject the Agreement, with written findings as to any deficiencies. The Act provides that the Board may reject a negotiated agreement only if it finds that: (i) the agreement (or portion thereof) discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement; or (ii) the implementation of such agreement or portion is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. [47 <u>U.S.C.</u> §252(e)(2)(A)].

The Board's review of the Agreement and the record in this matter indicates that the Agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity, and that the Agreement does not discriminate against telecommunications carriers not parties to the Agreement. Therefore, the Board FINDS that the Agreement meets the standards set forth in the Act, and HEREBY APPROVES the Agreement as presented by the Parties. This approval should not be construed as preapproval of any future petitions for rate recovery of costs incurred pursuant to the Agreement, nor shall the Board be bound by any provisions within the Agreement including provisions regarding the confidentiality of information.

The Board notes that amendments or modifications to Board approved interconnection agreements are subject to Board review and approval. No agreement shall be read, nor does the Board believe the Parties to the Agreement intend that it be read, to limit the authority of the Board under Section 252(e) of the Act to review interconnection agreements. Accordingly, until and unless otherwise provided by the Board, subsequent amendments or modifications to the Agreement approved herein shall be subject to review and approval by the Board.

DATED /0/20/10

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:

LEE A. SOLOMON PRESIDENT

JEANNE M. FOX COMMISSIONER

NICHOLAS ASSELTA COMMISSIONER

II 1

ATTEST:

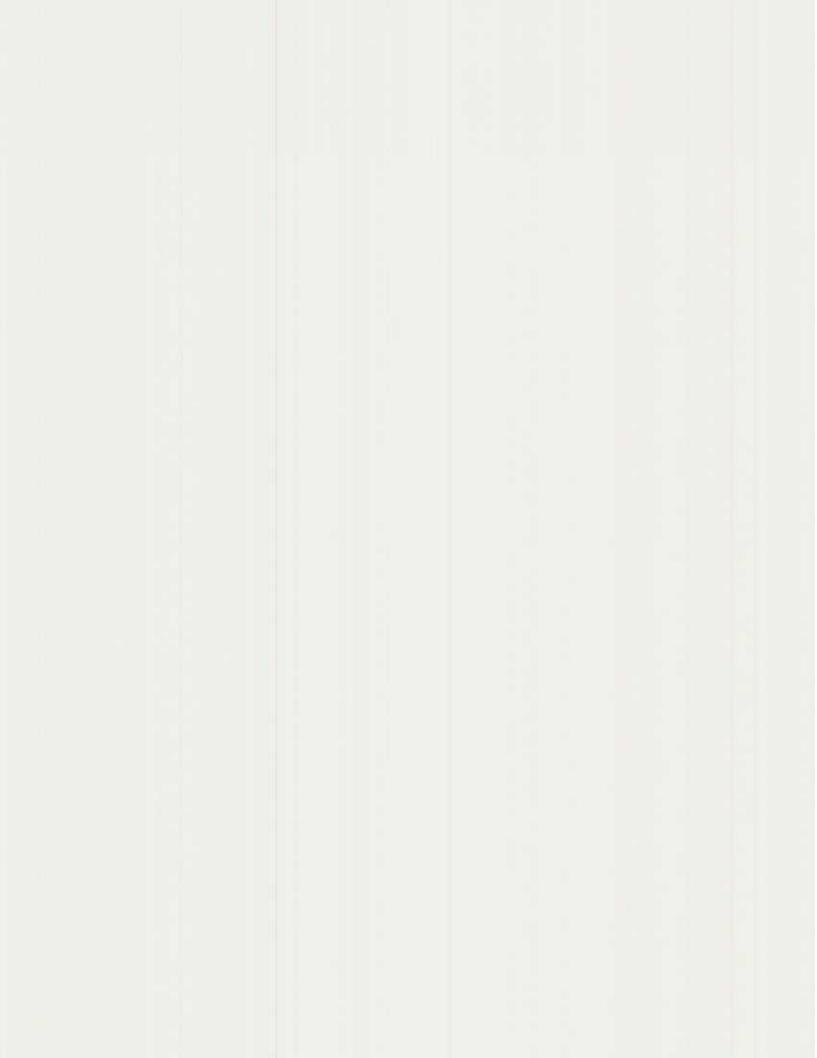
KRISTI IZZO SECRETARY JØSÉPH L. FIORDALISO

COMMISSIONER

ELIZABETH RANDALL

HEREBY CERTIFY that the wiffind document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public

Utilities



SERVICE LIST

Docket No. TO10080547

Zsuzsanna E. Benedek United Telephone Company d/b/a CenturyLink 240 North Third Street, Suite 201 Harrisburg, PA 17101

Jimarli Figueiredo
Board of Public Utilities
Division of Telecommunications
Two Gateway Center
Newark, NJ 07102

Ronald K. Chen, Ratepayer Advocate Christopher White, Esq. Maria Novas-Ruiz, Esq. Division of Ratepayer Advocate 31 Clinton Street, 11th Floor P.O. Box 46005 Newark, NJ 07101

Alex Moreau, D.A.G.
Department of Law & Public Safety
124 Halsey Street, 5th Floor
Newark, NJ 07102

David Aronow Manhattan Telecommunications 44Wall Street, 6th floor New York, NY 10005