



**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Board of Public Utilities**  
**Two Gateway Center**  
**Newark, NJ 07102**  
**[www.nj.gov/bpu/](http://www.nj.gov/bpu/)**

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF BELLERUD )  
COMMUNICATIONS, LLC FOR APPROVAL )  
TO PROVIDE LOCAL EXCHANGE )  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES )  
THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY )

ORDER  
  
DOCKET NO. TE10040259

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

Lance J. M. Steinhart, P. C. Alpharetta, GA. - for Petitioner  
Kenneth Saffren, Esq., Saffren & Weinberg, Jenkintown, PA. – for Petitioner

**BY THE BOARD:**

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-1 et seq. and Section 253 of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 U.S.C. §151 et seq., and by letter dated April 5, 2010, Bellerud Communications, LLC ("Petitioner" or "Bellerud") filed a Petition with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board") requesting authority to provide both resold and facilities-based Unbundled Network Element ("UNE") competitive local exchange telecommunications services throughout the State of New Jersey.

Petitioner has submitted its financial information under seal and has filed a Motion for Confidentiality along with a sworn affidavit with substantiation for confidential treatment in accordance with the Board's rules for determining confidentiality, N.J.A.C. 14:1-12 et seq. and in compliance with the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.

Bellerud is a limited liability company organized under the laws of the State of Texas and is a wholly owned subsidiary of Bellerud Acquisition Group, LLC with principal offices located at 401-B West Montgomery Street, Willis, Texas 77378. Petitioner has submitted copies of its Articles of Amendment to the Article of Organization from the State of Texas and its New Jersey Certificate of Authority to Operate as a Foreign Limited Liability Company.

Petitioner is currently authorized to provide local and/or interexchange telecommunications services in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Indiana, Kentucky, North Dakota, South Carolina and Texas and is in the process of obtaining such authority throughout most of the United States.

Petitioner has filed a Resale Acknowledgement Letter to provide resold local exchange and interexchange telecommunications services in the State of New Jersey; however, to date it has not commenced providing any telecommunications services. Petitioner has not commenced negotiations to enter into an interconnection agreement with any Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers.

Petitioner will initially resell and/or provide Local Exchange Services utilizing UNE to its end user customers and as market conditions warrant may augment its service offerings to include some facilities-based services. Petitioner will combine switchless resale, leasing of local loops in conjunction with company owned switching, and/or purchasing UNE from Verizon – New Jersey and other carriers. Petitioner also plans to provide basic telephone exchange, data, internet, digital subscriber line, access, call waiting and forwarding, speed dialing, distinctive ringing, three-way calling, operator services like 911 and E911, directory listing, third party calling arrangement, local calling and per use services such as call return and redial services to both residential and business customers throughout the State of New Jersey.

Petitioner states that it has not been denied authority to provide telecommunications services, its authority has not been revoked in any jurisdiction and it has not been the subject of any civil or criminal proceedings.

Petitioner requests a waiver of N.J.S.A. 48:3-7.8 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-4.3, which require that books and records be kept within the State of New Jersey and be maintained in accordance with the Uniform System of Accounts (“USOA”), respectively. Petitioner, instead, requests permission to maintain its books and records in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and to keep all books, records, documents and other writings incident to the conduct of Petitioner’s business in the State of New Jersey at Petitioner’s corporate offices located in Willis, Texas.

## **DISCUSSION**

On February 8, 1996, the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, P.L. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56, codified in scattered sections of 47 U.S.C. §151 et seq., was signed into law, removing barriers to competition by providing that “[n]o State or local statute or regulation, or other State or local legal requirement, may prohibit or have the effect of prohibiting the ability of any entity to provide any interstate or intrastate telecommunications service.” 47 U.S.C. §253(a).

Any grant of authority is subject to the right of the Board as the state regulatory authority to impose requirements necessary to protect the public safety and welfare, ensure the continued quality of telecommunications services, and safeguard the rights of consumers. 47 U.S.C. §253(c).

In considering this Petition, the Board recognizes its obligation not to prohibit entry into intrastate telecommunications markets of qualified applicants. 47 U.S.C. §253(a). The Board also considers the New Jersey State Legislature's declaration that it is the policy of the State to provide diversity in the supply of telecommunications services and the Legislature's findings that "competition will promote efficiency, reduce regulatory delay, and foster productivity and innovation" and "produce a wider selection of services at competitive market-based prices." N.J.S.A. 48:2-21.16(a)(4); N.J.S.A. 48:2-21.16(b)(1) and (3).

Therefore, having reviewed Bellerud's Petition and the information supplied in support thereof, the Board FINDS that the Petitioner is in compliance with the Board's filing requirements to provide telecommunications services in New Jersey. Accordingly, the Board HEREBY AUTHORIZES the Petitioner to provide local exchange telecommunications services throughout the State of New Jersey. The Board notes that the Petitioner will not be permitted to provide telecommunications services until a tariff is filed with the Board. Additionally, Petitioner is not relieved from its responsibility to file an Annual Report and a Statement of Gross Intrastate Revenues from Operations form for the preceding calendar year.

Furthermore, the Board FINDS that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 48:2-59 and 48:2-60 and N.J.S.A. 52:27EE-52 the Petitioner is subject to an annual assessment by both the Board and the Division of Rate Counsel, respectively.

The Board HEREBY ORDERS

- 1) Petitioner shall file its tariff with the Board
- 2) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-16(2)(b) and N.J.A.C. 14:3-6.3, Petitioner shall file an annual report as of December 31 of each year, which is due on or before March 31 of the following year. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-16.3, if Petitioner fails to file an annual report by the due date, Petitioner shall be subject to a penalty of \$5.00 for each day thereafter until such report is filed.
- 3) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-62, Petitioner shall file a statement of gross intrastate revenues from operations form (AR3-1) as of December 31 of each year, which is due on or before June 1 of the following year.

On or before February 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, the Petitioner will receive from the Division of Audits an annual report package and a statement of gross intrastate revenues from operations form for the preceding calendar year. The purpose of these documents is to report the Petitioner's financial information and gross intrastate revenues from operations as of December 31 of each year. The annual report and a statement of gross intrastate revenues from operations form are due on or before March 31 and June 1 of the following year, respectively. If Petitioner does not receive these documents, it is Petitioner's responsibility to obtain them from the Board. It is also the Petitioner's responsibility to ensure timely filing of these reports.

Regarding the Petitioner's request for waivers of the Board rules, the Board FINDS that the Petitioner has demonstrated good cause why the Board should grant relief from its requirements that the Petitioner maintains its books and records in accordance with USOA and within New Jersey. Therefore, subject to the Petitioner's continuing responsibility to provide the Board books and records upon 48 hours notice, and in the manner requested, and to pay to the Board

all expenses or charges incurred by the Board for any investigation or examination of these books and records, the Board APPROVES the Petitioner's request for the exemptions from maintaining its books and records in accordance with USOA and in New Jersey.

DATED: 8/4/10

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
BY:



LEE A. SOLOMON  
PRESIDENT



JEANNE M. FOX  
COMMISSIONER



JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO  
COMMISSIONER



NICHOLAS ASSELTA  
COMMISSIONER



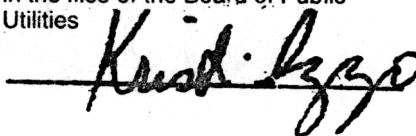
ELIZABETH RANDALL  
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



KRISTI IZZO  
SECRETARY

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public Utilities



IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF BELLERUD COMMUNICATIONS, LLC FOR  
AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE LOCAL EXCHANGE TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
SERVICES IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DOCKET NO. TE10040259

SERVICE LIST

1. Petitioner's Contact Person:

Rene Bellerud  
General Manager and  
Regulatory Contact  
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4. Public Advocate:

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Director, Division of Rate Counsel  
Department of Public Advocate  
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2. Petitioner's Attorney:

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3. Board's Staff:

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