

FILE

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ANGELA F. COLLINS | 202-862-8930 | acollins@cahill.com

November 21, 2017

Via Federal Express

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Attention: Docketing Division
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215-3793

**Re: Case No. 17-2400-TP-ACE
Birch Communications, Inc. Application for Certification as a Competitive
Local Exchange Carrier**

RECEIVED-DOCKETING DIV
2017 NOV 22 AM 10:57
PUCO

Dear Sir or Madam:

Birch Communications, Inc. ("Applicant"), by its attorneys, respectfully submits an original and seven (7) copies of the **PUBLIC VERSION** of its Application for Certification as a Competitive Local Exchange Carrier in the state of Ohio ("Application"), including all requisite exhibits, as well as an original and seven (7) copies of the Motion for Protective Order.

Please note the financial information attached as **Exhibit C** to the Application is proprietary and confidential information and thus is being submitted pursuant to a Motion for Protective Order. Birch respectfully requests the information be accorded confidential treatment and that it not be made a part of the public record or otherwise be made available for public disclosure. The **CONFIDENTIAL VERSION** of the Application is provided in a sealed envelope marked "CONFIDENTIAL – SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER."

Please date stamp the extra copies of the Application and the Motion for Protective Order, and return them in the prepaid enclosed envelope. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



Angela F. Collins
Counsel for Birch Communications, Inc.

Enclosures

This is to certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a case file document delivered in the regular course of business.
Technician mmm Date Processed 11/22/17

FILE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FILING FORM
 (Effective: 10-11-2017)

This form is intended to be used with most types of required filings. It provides check boxes with rule references for the most common types of filings. It does not replace or supersede Commission rules in any way.

In the Matter of the Application of Birch Communications,
 to apply for carrier certification as a competitive local exchange carrier

) TRF Docket No. 90 -
) Case No. 17 - 2400 - **TP - ACE**
) NOTE: Unless you have reserved a Case #, leave the
) "Case No" fields BLANK.

Name of Registrant(s) Birch Communications, Inc.
 DBA(s) of Registrant(s) None
 Address of Registrant(s) 320 Interstate North Parkway SE, Atlanta, GA 30339
 Company Web Address http://www.birch.com
 Regulatory Contact Person(s) Sharyl Fowler Phone 478-475-9800 Fax 478-405-3112
 Regulatory Contact Person's Email Address sharyl.fowler@birch.com
 Contact Person for Annual Report Sharyl Fowler Phone 478-475-9800
 Address (if different from above) 115 Gateway Drive Macon, GA 31210
 Consumer Contact Information Angela Howard Phone 816-300-1428
 Address (if different from above) 2323 Grade Avenue, Suite 925, Kansas City, MO 64108

Motion for protective order included with filing? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Motion for waiver(s) filed affecting this case? ☐ Yes ☒ No [Note: Waivers may toll any automatic timeframe.]

Notes:

Section I and II are Pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code 4901:1-6.

Section III – Carrier to Carrier is Pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-7, and Wireless is Pursuant to Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-6-24.

Section IV – Attestation.

(1) Indicate the Carrier Type and the reason for submitting this form by checking the boxes below.

(2) For requirements for various applications, see the identified section of Ohio Adm.Code Chapter 4901 and/or the supplemental application form noted.

(3) Information regarding the number of copies required by the PUCO may be obtained from the PUCO's website at www.PUCO.ohio.gov under the docketing information system section, by calling the docketing division at 614-466-4095, or by visiting the docketing division at the offices of the PUCO.

(4) An Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC) offering basic local exchange service (BLES) outside its traditional service area should choose CLEC designation when proposing to offer BLES outside its traditional service area or when proposing to make changes to that service.

All filings that result in a change to one or more tariff pages require, at a minimum, the following exhibits:

Exhibit	Description:
A	The tariff pages subject to the proposed change(s) as they exist before the change(s).
B	The tariff pages subject to the proposed change(s), reflecting the change, with the change(s) marked in the right margin.
C	A short description of the nature of the change(s), the intent of the change(s), and the customers affected.
D	A copy of the notice provided to customers, along with an affidavit that the notice was provided according to the applicable rule(s).

PUCO

2017 NOV 22 AM 10:57

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Section I – Part I - Common Filings

Carrier Type <input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain below)	For Profit ILEC	Not For Profit ILEC	CLEC
Change terms & conditions of existing BLES	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <u>1-6-14(H)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <u>1-6-14(H)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <u>1-6-14(H)</u> (Auto 30 days)
Introduce non-recurring charge, surcharge, or fee to BLES			<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <u>1-6-14(H)</u> (Auto 30 days)
Introduce or Increase Late Payment	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <u>1-6-14(I)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <u>1-6-14(I)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <u>1-6-14(I)</u> (Auto 30 days)
Revisions to BLES Cap	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA <u>1-6-14(F)</u> (0 day Notice)		
Introduce BLES or expand local service area (calling area)	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA <u>1-6-14(H)</u> (0 day Notice)	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA <u>1-6-14(H)</u> (0 day Notice)	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA <u>1-6-14(H)</u> (0 day Notice)
Notice of no obligation to construct facilities and provide BLES	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA <u>1-6-27(C)</u> (0 day Notice)	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA <u>1-6-27(C)</u> (0 day Notice)	
Change BLES Rates	<input type="checkbox"/> TRF <u>1-6-14(F)</u> (0 day Notice)	<input type="checkbox"/> TRF <u>1-6-14(F)(4)</u> (0 day Notice)	<input type="checkbox"/> TRF <u>1-6-14(G)</u> (0 day Notice)
To obtain BLES pricing flexibility	<input type="checkbox"/> BLS <u>1-6-14(C)(1)(c)</u> (Auto 30 days)		
Change in boundary	<input type="checkbox"/> ACB <u>1-6-32</u> (Auto 14 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ACB <u>1-6-32</u> (Auto 14 days)	
Expand service operation area			<input type="checkbox"/> TRF <u>1-6-08(G)</u> (0 day)
BLES withdrawal			<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA <u>1-6-25(B)</u> (0 day Notice)
Other* (explain)			

Section I – Part II – Customer Notification Offerings Pursuant to Chapter 4901:1-6-7 OAC

Type of Notice	Direct Mail	Bill Insert	Bill Notation	Electronic Mail
<input type="checkbox"/> 15-day Notice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 30-day Notice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Date Notice Sent:				

Section I – Part III –IOS Offerings Pursuant to Chapter 4901:1-6-22 OAC

IOS	Introduce New	Tariff Change	Price Change	Withdraw
<input type="checkbox"/> IOS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section II – Part I – Carrier Certification - Pursuant to Chapter 4901:1-6-08, 09 & 10 OAC

Certification	ILEC (Out of territory)	CLEC	Telecommunications Service Provider Not Offering Local	CESTC	CETC
* See Supplemental form	<input type="checkbox"/> ACE <u>1-6-08</u> * (Auto 30- day)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACE <u>1-6-08</u> *(Auto 30 day)	<input type="checkbox"/> ACE <u>1-6-08</u> *(Auto 30 day)	<input type="checkbox"/> ACE <u>1-6-10</u> (Auto 30 day)	<input type="checkbox"/> UNC <u>1-6-09</u> *(Non-Auto)

*Supplemental Certification forms can be found on the PUCO webpage.

Section II – Part II – Certificate Status & Procedural

Certificate Status	ILEC	CLEC	Telecommunications Service Provider Not Offering Local
Abandon all Services		<input type="checkbox"/> ABN <u>1-6-26</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ABN <u>1-6-26</u> (Auto 30 days)
Change of Official Name *	<input type="checkbox"/> ACN <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ACN <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> CIO <u>1-6-29(C)</u> (0 day Notice)
Change in Ownership *	<input type="checkbox"/> ACO <u>1-6-29(E)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ACO <u>1-6-29(E)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> CIO <u>1-6-29(C)</u> (0 day Notice)
Merger *	<input type="checkbox"/> AMT <u>1-6-29(E)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> AMT <u>1-6-29(E)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> CIO <u>1-6-29(C)</u> (0 day Notice)
Transfer a Certificate *	<input type="checkbox"/> ATC <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATC <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> CIO <u>1-6-29(C)</u> (0 day Notice)
Transaction for transfer or lease of property, plant or business *	<input type="checkbox"/> ATR <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATR <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> CIO <u>1-6-29(C)</u> (0 day Notice)

*Other exhibits may be required under the applicable rule(s). ACN, ACO, AMT, ATC, ATR and CIO applications see the 4901:1-6-29 Filing Requirements on the PUCO's webpage for a complete list of exhibits.

Section III – Carrier to Carrier (Pursuant to 4901:1-7), and Wireless (Pursuant to 4901:1-6-24)

Carrier to Carrier	ILEC	CLEC
Interconnection agreement, or amendment to an approved agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> NAG <u>1-7-07</u> (Auto 90 day)	<input type="checkbox"/> NAG <u>1-7-07</u> (Auto 90 day)
Request for Arbitration	<input type="checkbox"/> ARB <u>1-7-09</u> (Non-Auto)	<input type="checkbox"/> ARB <u>1-7-09</u> (Non-Auto)
Introduce or change c-t-c service tariffs	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <u>1-7-14</u> (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <u>1-7-14</u> (Auto 30 days)
Request rural carrier exemption, rural carrier suspension or modification	<input type="checkbox"/> UNC <u>1-7-04 or 05</u> (Non-Auto)	
Changes in rates, terms & conditions to Pole Attachment, Conduit Occupancy and Rights-of-Way. (13-579-AU-ORD 11/30/16 Entry)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA <u>1-3-04</u> (Auto 60 days)	
Wireless Providers See <u>4901:1-6-24</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> RCC [Registration & Change in Operations] (0 day)	<input type="checkbox"/> NAG [Interconnection Agreement or Amendment] (Auto 90 days)

Section IV. – Attestation

Registrant hereby attests to its compliance with pertinent entries and orders issued by the Commission.

AFFIDAVIT***Compliance with Commission Rules***

I am an officer/agent of the applicant corporation, Birch Communications, , and am authorized to make this statement on its behalf.
 Gordon P. Williams, Jr. Inc.
 (Name)

Please check ALL that apply:

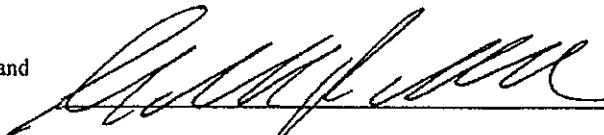
☐ I attest that these tariffs comply with all applicable rules for the State of Ohio. I understand that tariff notification filings do not imply Commission approval and that the Commission's rules, as modified and clarified from time to time, supersede any contradictory provisions in our tariff. We will fully comply with the rules of the State of Ohio and understand that noncompliance can result in various penalties, including the suspension of our certificate to operate within the State of Ohio.

☐ I attest that customer notices accompanying this filing form were sent to affected customers, as specified in Section II, in accordance with Ohio Adm.Code 4901:1-6-7.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on (Date) 11/21/17 at (Location) 320 Interstate North Parkway SE, Atlanta, GA 30339

*Signature and Title



Date

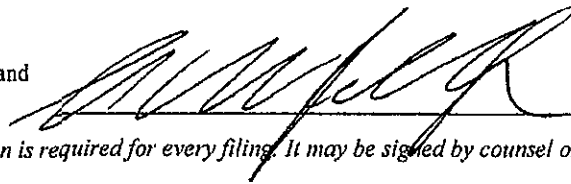
11/21/17

**This affidavit is required for every tariff-affecting filing. It may be signed by counsel or an officer of the applicant, or an authorized agent of the applicant.*

VERIFICATION

I, , verify that I have utilized the Telecommunications Filing Form for most proceedings provided by the Commission and that all of the information submitted here, and all additional information submitted in connection with this case, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

*Signature and Title



Date

11/21/17

**Verification is required for every filing. It may be signed by counsel or an officer of the applicant, or an authorized agent of the applicant.*

File document electronically as directed in case number 06-900-AU-WVR
 or

Send your completed Application Form, including all required attachments as well as the required number of copies, to:

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
 Attention: Docketing Division
 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215-3793

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
TELECOMMUNICATIONS RETAIL SERVICE OFFERING FORM

For Non-BLES Carriers

Per the Commission's 01/19/2011 "Implementation Order" in Case No. 10-1010-TP-ORD

(Effective: 01/20/2011)

Company Name Birch Communications, Inc.

Company Address 320 Interstate North Parkway SE, Atlanta, GA 30339

Company Web Address http://www.birch.com

Regulatory Contact Person Sharyl Fowler Phone 478-475-9800 Fax 478-405-3112

Regulatory Contact Person's Email Address sharyl.fowler@birch.com

Contact Person for Annual Report Sharyl Fowler Phone 478-475-9800 Fax 478-405-3112

Consumer Contact Information Angela Howard Phone 816-300-1428 Fax _____

TRF Docket No. -TP-TRF

I. Company Type (Check all applicable):

☐ Non-BLES CLEC ☒ IXC ☐ Other (explain) _____

II. Services offered (Check all applicable):

- ☒ Toll services (intrastate)
- ☒ Local Exchange Service (i.e., residential or business bundles)
- ☐ Other (explain) _____

III. Tariffed Provisions/Services (To the extent offered, check all applicable and attach tariff pages):

- ☐ Toll Presubscription
- ☐ Intrastate Special and Switched Access Services to Carriers (facilities-based local carriers only)*
- ☐ N-1-1 Service
- ☐ Pole Attachment and Conduit Occupancy
- ☐ Pay Telephone Access Lines
- ☐ Inmate Operator Service
- ☐ Telephone Relay Service

*Access service tariffs shall be maintained separately and are subject to the Commission's carrier-to-carrier rules found in Chapter 4901:1-7, Ohio Administrative Code.

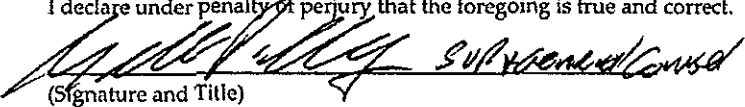
Part IV. – Attestation

Carrier hereby attests to its compliance with pertinent entries and orders issued by the Commission.

I am an officer/agent of the carrier/telephone company, Birch Communications, Inc., and am authorized to make statements on it behalf.
(Name)

I understand that Telephone companies have certain responsibilities to its customers under the Telecommunications Rules (Ohio Adm. Code 4901:1-6). These responsibilities include: warm line service; not committing unfair or deceptive acts and practices; truth in billing requirements; and slamming and preferred carrier freeze requirements. We will comply with the rules of the state of Ohio and understand that non-compliance can result in various penalties, including the suspension of our certificate to operate within the state of Ohio.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.


(Signature and Title)

11-21-2017
(Date)

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION FORM
for CARRIER CERTIFICATION

(Effective: 01/20/2011)

(Pursuant to Case No. 10-1010-TP-ORD)

NOTE: This SUPPLEMENTAL form must be used WITH the
 TELECOMMUNICATIONS FILING FORM for ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS.

In the Matter of the Application of Birch Communications, Inc.
 to apply for carrier certification as a competitive local exchange carrier

Case No. 17 - 2400 - TP - ACE

Name of Registrant(s) Birch Communications, Inc.

DBA(s) of Registrant(s) None

Address of Registrant(s) 320 Interstate North Parkway SE, Atlanta, GA 30339

Motion for protective order included with filing? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Motion for waiver(s) filed affecting this case? ☐ Yes ☒ No [Note: waiver(s) tolls any automatic timeframe]

List of Required Exhibits

Tariffs: (Include all that apply)

☐ Interexchange Tariff

☐ Local Tariff

☐ CESTC Tariff

☐ Carrier-to-Carrier (Access) Tariff

Description of Services

☐ Service provisioned via Resale

☒ Service provisioned via Facilities

☒ Both Resold and Facilities-based

☒ Description of Proposed Services

☐ Statement about the provision of
CTS services

☒ Description of the general
geographic area served

☒ Explanation of how the proposed
services in the proposed market
area are in the public interest.

☒ Description of the class of customers (e.g., residence, business) that the
applicant intends to serve

Business Requirements

Evidence of Registration with:

☐ Ohio Department of Taxation

☒ Ohio Secretary of State¹ &
Certificate of Good Standing

Documentation attesting to the applicant's financial viability, including the following:

- ☒ An executive Summary describing the applicant's current financial condition, liquidity, and capital resources. Describe internally generated sources of cash and external funds available to support the applicant's operations that are the subject of this certification application.
- ☒ Copy of financial statements (actual and pro forma income statement and a balance sheet). Indicate if financial statements are based on a certain geographical area(s) or information in other jurisdictions
- ☒ Documentation to support the applicant's cash and funding sources.

Documentation attesting to the applicant's managerial ability and corporate structure, including the following:

- ☒ Documentation attesting to the applicant's technical and managerial expertise relative to the proposed service offering(s) and proposed service area
- ☒ List of names, addresses, and phone numbers of officers and directors, or partners.
- ☒ Documentation indicating the applicant's corporate structure and ownership
- ☒ Information regarding any similar operations in other states.

If this company has been previously certified in the State of Ohio, include that certification number _____

- ☒ Verification that the applicant will follow federal communications commission (FCC) accounting requirements, if applicable.

¹ Certification from Ohio Secretary of State (domestic or foreign corporation, authorized use of fictitious name, etc.), and Certificate of Good Standing is required.

Documentation attesting to the applicant's proposed interactions with other Carriers

- ☒ Explanation as to whether rates are derived through (check all applicable):
- ☒ interconnection agreement ☒ retail tariffs ☒ resale tariffs
- ☒ Explanation as to which service areas company currently has an approved interconnection or resale agreement.
- ☒ A notarized affidavit accompanied by bona fide letters requesting negotiation pursuant to Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and a proposed timeline for construction, interconnection, and offering of services to end users.

Documentation attesting to the applicant's proposed interactions with Customers

- ☒ A sample copy of the customer bill and disconnection notice the applicant plans to utilize.
- ☐ Provide a copy of any customer application form required in order to establish residential service, if applicable.
- ☒ For CLECs, List of Ohio ILEC Exchanges the applicant intends to serve
(Use spreadsheet from: http://www.puc.state.oh.us/puco/forms/form.cfm?doc_id=357)
- ☐ If Mirroring the entire ILEC local service areas, tariffs may incorporate by reference. If not mirroring the entire ILEC local exchange areas, the CLEC shall specifically define its local service areas in the tariff.

Affidavit

I am an authorized representative of the applicant corporation Gordon P. Williams, Jr.
(Name)

and I am authorized to make this statement on its behalf. I attest that I have utilized the Telecommunications Supplemental Application Form for Carrier Certification provided by the Commission, and that all of the information submitted here, and all additional information submitted in connection with this case, is true and correct.

Executed on November 21, 2017 at 320 Fairview Ave, SE, Hickory, GA 30139

[Signature]
(Signature and Title)

November 21, 2017
(Date)

EXHIBITS TO APPLICATION OF BIRCH COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

Birch Communications, Inc. ("Birch" or "Applicant") provides the following information and Exhibits to its Application.

(1) Tariff

At this time, Birch plans to provide bundled service offerings to large business customers in Ohio. As a result, Birch will post a price list on its website at www.birch.com. Birch plans to file a proposed switched access tariff under separate cover.

(2) **Exhibit A** contains a description of proposed services, description of the general geographic area to be served, and a description of the class of customers that Applicant intends to serve.

(3) **Exhibit B** contains an explanation of how the proposed services in the proposed market area are in the public interest.

(4) Ohio Secretary of State

Birch is in the process of registering with the Ohio Secretary of State, and will supplement this Application once its certificate is received.

(5) **Exhibit C** contains Birch's financial statements, which have been filed pursuant to a Motion for Protective Order.

(6) **Exhibit D** contains documentation attesting to the applicant's technical and managerial expertise.

(7) **Exhibit E** contains documentation attesting to the applicant's proposed interactions with other carriers.

(8) **Exhibit F** contains documentation attesting to the applicant's proposed interactions with customers.

Exhibit A

Applicant proposes to provide resold and facilities-based local exchange and interexchange services to large business customers in Ohio. Applicant's basic voice offering includes unlimited local calling, unlimited intrastate long distance, nationwide long distance calling, caller ID, and call waiting. Applicant will utilize a mix of its own facilities, unbundled network elements ("UNEs") or UNE-replacement services from incumbent local exchange carriers ("ILECs"), and other ILEC-provided services to provide local exchange and interexchange services in Ohio.

Exhibit B

Birch maintains that the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity is in the public interest. Birch's provision of local exchange and interexchange service will ensure the universal availability and accessibility of high-quality, affordable telecommunications services to business subscribers. Approval of Birch's request for certification increases competitive options, and price competition drives prices downward. Birch's entry into the Ohio market will serve the public interest and universal service goals by making available an alternative provider, thereby stimulating intrastate competition, reducing cost to consumers, and creating competitor incentives to innovate. Grant of this Application will enhance competition, generate the benefits that result from competition, and result in a more efficient, innovative, technologically advanced, and diversified telecommunications industry in Ohio.

Exhibit C

Birch's financial statements are being filed pursuant to a Motion for Protective Order.

Exhibit D

Birch is a Georgia corporation. Birch has offered telecommunications services for more than 20 years. Birch and its affiliates are currently certificated to provide telecommunications services in the District of Columbia and all 50 states. Birch's affiliate, Birch Telecom of the Great Lakes, Inc., currently is authorized to provide local exchange and interexchange services in Ohio, and Birch's affiliate, Tempo Telecom, LLC, currently provides wireless services in Ohio and is authorized as an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC"). Applicant itself is currently authorized to provide telecommunications services in the 9-state BellSouth region (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee), Arkansas, Montana, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

Applicant is a well-established communications service provider with decades of experience operating in the U.S. communications market. The financial, technical, and managerial qualifications of Applicant is a matter of record for the Commission, which has reviewed its respective qualifications to operate on previous occasions in connection with its wholly owned subsidiaries Birch Telecom of the Great Lakes, Inc. and Tempo Telecom, LLC.

Birch is not subject to Federal Communications Commission accounting requirements. Birch is wholly owned by Birch Communications Holdings, Inc. The following are the major stockholders in Birch Communications Holdings, Inc.

- (1) R. Kirby Godsey, a U.S. citizen, owns 24% of Birch Communications Holdings, Inc.
- (2) Holcombe T. Green, Jr., a U.S. citizen, owns 62% of Birch Communications Holdings, Inc. Mr. Green also holds another 3.5% of Birch Communications Holdings, Inc. as the Trustee of various annuity trusts.

Directors & Officers of Birch

R. Kirby Godsey – Chairman of the Board and Director: Dr. Godsey served as President and CEO of Mercer University for 27 years before being named Chancellor in 2006 by the Board of Trustees. Dr. Godsey earned his undergraduate degree in history and religion from Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. He holds Master of Divinity and Doctor of Theology degrees from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and a Master of Arts in Philosophy from the University of Alabama. In 1969, he earned a Ph.D. in Philosophy from Tulane University. The University of South Carolina, Averett College and Samford University have all awarded him honorary degrees.

Holcombe T. Green, Jr. – Director: Mr. Green has over thirty years of experience investing in and growing market-leading public and private businesses. As an entrepreneur, Holcombe founded Green Capital Investors, a private equity investment management firm and served as the Chairman, Board Member or Chief Executive Officer of many of Green Capital's portfolio companies. Mr. Green received his BA from Yale University and his J.D. from the University of Virginia.

James P. O'Brien – Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer: O'Brien has direct oversight of Birch IT, Cloud, Engineering, and Product Development as well as operations groups consisting of Order Assurance, Customer Care, Margin Assurance, and Field Operations. O'Brien is a 20+year communications operations executive and has served in several executive positions at notable CLECs including Deltacom –now EarthLink– and ICG Communications. O'Brien comes to Birch from Rise Broadband where he most recently served as Senior Vice President of Customer Operations and led all Network and Field Operations, Customer Care, Contact Center and Technical Support groups.

Kevin M. Dotts – Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer: Birch announced the appointment of Kevin Dotts as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer on February 7, 2017. Dotts oversees all financial operations and investor relations, and corporate sourcing for the company. Dotts is an expert in driving key corporate growth initiatives across multiple high-tech industries with over 30 years of experience. Before joining Birch, Kevin served as Chief Financial Officer of Internap, a Cloud, Hosting, and Colocation business. Before Internap, Kevin was Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer at Culligan International in Chicago and EarthLink in Atlanta. Kevin started his career with financial leadership roles in various domestic and international divisions of GE. Dotts holds a Bachelor of Science in Finance and Computer Systems Management from Drexel University. He is based out of the company's Atlanta Operations Center.

Gordon P. Williams, Jr. – Senior Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel: Gordon "Chuck" Williams is responsible for all legal affairs, including corporate governance, legal operations, litigation and regulatory compliance at the company. Williams brings 30+ years of legal leadership experience to Birch. He is a Martindale-Hubbell AV- Preeminent® rated attorney with demonstrated expertise in strategic planning and execution to build sustainable enterprise value, and he has served as Counsel to public and private global companies both in a General Counsel role and in private practice. Williams has extensive experience in the

communications industry with previous roles at Broadwing Communications, Wayport and MCI. Most recently, he served as a partner at Culhane Meadows, PLLC. Williams is a graduate of the University of Richmond with a bachelor's degree in Psychology and holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Richmond's School of Law. He is based at the Atlanta Operations Center.

Michelle H. Ansley – Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer, Human Resources: Michelle Ansley is responsible for the management of Human Resources activities and oversight of facility management for all Birch locations. Ms. Ansley began her career in technology and transitioned into Human Resources via Learning and Development and Change Management. Prior to joining Birch in 2014, she served as Vice President of Human Resources at ASAP Solutions, LLC; Senior Vice President of Shared Services at Prommis Solutions, LLC; and held various human resources, learning and development, technical and program management positions at IBM. Ms. Ansley holds a Bachelor's of Business Administration from Kennesaw State University and a Masters in Business Administration from Georgia State University.

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Exhibit E

Birch holds interconnection agreements and commercial agreements with various incumbent local exchange carriers (“ILECs”) that govern other portions of its operating territory. Birch’s affiliate, Birch Telecom of the Great Lakes, Inc., holds interconnection agreements with AT&T Ohio. Birch expects that it will utilize its existing agreements, or enter into new agreements as necessary.

Exhibit F

Birch provides a sample customer invoice. Birch intends to serve statewide at this time, and therefore does not provide the List of Ohio ILEC Exchanges.