

**BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

In the Matter of the Application for an change	)	Case No.18-1175-TP-CIO
in operation for Network Billing Systems,	)	90-9386-TP-TRF
LLC, Birch Communications, LLC, Birch	)	90-9432-TP-TRF
Telecom of the Great Lakes, LLC and Tempo	)	90-9134-TP-TRF
Telecom, LLC	)	13-1527-TP-UNC
	)	

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**REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION  
SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF  
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO**

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Network Billing Systems, LLC (NBS), Birch Communications, LLC (BCL), Birch Telecom of the Great Lakes, LLC (BTGL) and Tempo Telecom, LLC (Tempo and with NBS, BCL and BTGL, the Applicants) filed this application for approval of a *pro forma* change to their corporate ownership structure. NBS, BCL, and BTGL are authorized to provide local exchange and/or intrastate interexchange telecommunications services in Ohio pursuant to certificates numbers 90-9386, 90-9432, and 90-9134 respectively. Tempo was designated as a competitive eligible telecommunications carrier (CETC) to offer low-income wireless Lifeline only telecommunications service, in Case No. 13-1527-TP-UNC.

The Applicants requests Commission approval of an intra-company transfer of ownership due to the insertion of a wholly owned subsidiary, GG Telecom Investors, LLC, in the vertical ownership chain between the primary shareholders and the Applicants. Upon completion of this transaction Birch Telecom of the Great Lakes and Tempo will be a wholly owned indirect subsidiaries and Network Billings Systems, LLC and Birch Communications, LLC will be majority owned indirect subsidiaries of GG Telecom Investors, LLC; and the primary shareholders will be 100% owners of GG Telecom Investors, LLC.

The Applicants are telephone companies not providing BLES and filed all the required forms and attachments. Since this change in operation is completely transparent, no customer notice is required. As such the Applicants did not provide a copy of a customer notice. Therefore, Staff finds that the application, as filed, meets all the requirements set forth in Rule 29 of the Telephone Company Procedures and Standards.

In conclusion, Staff finds the Applicants' application, as filed, does not appear to be unjust or unreasonable; therefore, Staff recommends that this application be permitted to remain in effect.

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities**

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**Case No(s). 18-1175-TP-CIO, 90-9386-TP-TRF, 90-9432-TP-TRF, 90-9134-TP-TRF, 13-1527-TP-UNC**

Summary: Staff Review and Recommendation electronically filed by Jason Well on behalf of  
PUCO Staff