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representative of the signer(s) and
Telecommunications Service

**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY
COMPETITIVE SUPPLIER OF TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICE**

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada

1150 E. William Street
Carson City, NV 89701-3109
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In the matter of the Application of Blockchains Communications LLC)
)
)
d/b/a _____)
)
_____ for a Certificate of Public)
Convenience and Necessity to operate as a competitive supplier)
Of telecommunication service within the State of Nevada.)
)

NOTE AND INSTRUCTIONS: It is the Applicant's responsibility to comply with all applicable statutes and regulations of the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada ("Commission"). The exhibits included herewith are intended to provide the Commission information required by the applicable sections of the Nevada Administrative Code ("NAC") Chapters 703 and 704 (containing the Rules of Practice and Procedure before the Commission.)

Pursuant to NAC 703.162, a draft public notice must be filed with this Application. A form of the draft public notice is included with this Application, which may either be filled in, or retyped, if it is in substantially the same format and provides the required information. The Application must be filed with a fee of \$200. The Application and filing fee may be mailed to the Assistant Commission Secretary, Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, 1150 E. William St., Carson City, NV 89701, or filed with the Commission electronically. Information related to registration for using the electronic filing system may be found on the Commission's website at <http://puc.nv.gov>.

Upon receipt, the Application will be reviewed for legal completeness and compliance with the applicable provisions of the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS") and the NAC. Upon acceptance of the filing, the Commission will publicly notice the Application pursuant to NAC 703.160. The public notice will allow approximately two weeks for public comment following the publication date. If the Applicant meets all procedural requirements, processing of the Application can usually be completed within 45 to 60 days. In the event that interventions are filed or discovery is required, a hearing date may be set to complete the investigation.

APPLICATION

Applicant, Blockchains Communications LLC

respectfully requests permission to obtain a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPC") to operate as a competitive supplier of telecommunication service in Nevada under the provisions of the NRS and the NAC.

In support of its Application, and in accordance with the requirements of NRS 704.330 and NAC 704.7472, the Applicant is submitting the following exhibits and providing required information:

- (a) **Exhibit 1.** A statement of the type of telecommunication service presently being provided by the Applicant, or being proposed to be provided by the Applicant, and a general description of that service. (NAC 704.7472(1)(a))

Telecommunication service may include 1+ service, 800 service, prepaid or post-paid calling card service, local access telecommunication service to business and/or residential customers, data-only service, alternative operator service and operator service to inmate facilities. If the Applicant proposes to provide service using its own facilities, please include a brief description of the facilities.
- (b) **Exhibit 2.** A copy of Applicant's most recent annual financial statements, or if annual financial statements are not available, financial statements of the most recent quarterly period. (NAC 704.7472(1)(b))
- (c) **Exhibit 3.** A copy of the certificate issued by the Secretary of State of the State of Nevada which acknowledges that the provider has filed its Articles of Incorporation with the Secretary of State. (NAC 704.7472(1)(c))

(d) **Exhibit 4.** A statement that (a) the Applicant is exempt from paying a performance bond because it will not offer prepaid service nor require customer deposits or advance payments or, (b) if Applicant will offer prepaid services and require advance payment or deposits, Applicant shall provide proof that a performance bond has been obtained in an amount which is sufficient to cover deposits and advance payments paid by customers. (NAC 704.7472(1)(d))

Forms for providing proof that performance bond(s) have been obtained can be found on the Commission's website. The Applicant must file the **ORIGINAL** performance bond(s) with the Commission.

(e) **Exhibit 5.** A toll-free telephone number that customers will be given for contacting Applicant regarding the establishment of service, complaints, and queries about service and billing, and all other customer service matters. (NAC 704.7472(1)(e))

(f) **Exhibit 6.** A statement of facts sufficient to establish that Applicant possesses the necessary technical capability to provide the proposed service (NAC 704.7472(1)(f).)

(g) **Exhibit 7.** A statement that (a) Applicant is not doing business and does not intend to do business in this state under an assumed or fictitious name, or (b) if Applicant is doing business or intends to do business in this state under an assumed or fictitious name, then the Applicant shall attach as **Exhibit 8**, an Affidavit stating the names of the counties in the state in which Applicant is or intends to do business using an assumed or fictitious name. Additionally, Applicant shall attach as **Exhibit 9**, a copy of each certificate that the supplier has filed or intends to file pursuant to Chapter 602 of the NRS with the county clerk of each county in which the provider is doing business or intends to do business, or a statement that conforms to the requirements of NRS 602.020, if the supplier is not otherwise subject to the provisions of Chapter 602 of the NRS. (NAC 704.7472(1)(g))

(h) **Exhibit 10.** A statement indicating the areas to be served by the Applicant, including an identification of the certificated service areas served by a small-scale provider of last resort (NRS 704.330(7) and NAC 704.7472(h)). This statement and respective requirements are further explained in the template attached to this Application.

(i) **Exhibit 11.** A statement indicating whether the Applicant is providing, or intends to provide local access telecommunication service, for purposes of assessing a legislatively mandated surcharge for the program to provide devices for telecommunication (also known as Telecommunications Display Devices, or TDDs) to persons with impaired speech or hearing, in accordance with NRS 427A.797 and NAC 707.020. A template form for this statement is attached to this Application.

(j) **Exhibit 12.** A draft public notice, pursuant to NAC 703.162. A template form for the draft public notice is attached to this Application.

WHEREFORE, Applicant requests that the Commission enter an order granting the certificate requested.

EXECUTED AT Sparks, Nevada this 21st day of August, 2018
(city and state)

Signature of Attorney for Applicant (if any):

N/A

Signature

Printed Name

Title

Address

City, State, Zip

Telephone

Extension

FAX

Email Address

Signature of Applicant:

Signature

Jeffrey Berns

Printed Name

CEO

Title

610 Waltham Way

Address

Sparks, Nevada 89434

City, State, Zip

(775) 432-0000

Telephone

x206

Extension

(818) 748-8755

FAX

jberns@blockchains.com

Email Address

EXHIBIT 1
Description of Services

Blockchains Communications LLC proposes to provide local exchange and interexchange services throughout the state of Nevada to business and residential customers.

Blockchains Communications LLC will not own any switching or other facilities in Nevada but does utilize facilities and switches located in other portions of its operating territory. Blockchains Communications LLC 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 services in Nevada.

EXHIBIT 2
Financial Statements

Blockchains Communications LLC is a new entity formed on May 11, 2018 and as such, no annual or quarterly financial statements are available.

EXHIBIT 3

Nevada Secretary of State Information for Blockchains Communications LLC

EXHIBIT 4
Performance Bond

Blockchains Communications LLC is exempt from paying a performance bond because it will not offer prepaid service nor require customer deposits or advance payments.

EXHIBIT 5
Toll-Free Number

The telephone number for customer inquiries and complaints is provided by Blockchains Communications LLC on the customer bill. Blockchains Communications LLC's customer service department may be accessed through a toll-free number: (800) 998-6104.

Once services become operational, customer service will be available from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm Pacific Standard Time (Monday-Friday) and 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Pacific (Saturday). End user repair services will be available seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day.

EXHIBIT 6

Technical Capability

Blockchains Communications LLC (“Blockchains Communications”) is wholly-owned by Blockchains, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company. Blockchains, LLC is an innovator in the blockchain space, which, in addition to other acquisitions, recently purchased over 70,000 acres in the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center (“TRIC”), in Storey County, and the adjacent Painted Rock parcel, which is envisioned by the Storey County Master Plan as a residential development. In addition to developing proprietary blockchain applications, Blockchains, LLC will be incubating blockchain-powered ideas, ventures and businesses, and showcasing real-world use cases in TRIC and Painted Rock.

Blockchains Communications seeks to build, operate, and maintain a new fiber optic network to provide telecommunication services to commercial businesses¹ located in TRIC and future residents of the surrounding area. Blockchains Communications has the means and capability to employ, consult, contract, and partner with advisors and third-parties to carry out the demands of merging blockchain technology into the telecommunications industry. Blockchains Communications is already working towards such endeavors with its management team.

Jeffrey Berns, Chief Executive Officer: Jeff, who opted in 2017 to make Northern Nevada home for his family and his businesses, is the founder and visionary behind Blockchains, LLC and Blockchains Communications. Prior to founding Blockchains, LLC, Jeff was a consumer protection attorney at Berns Weiss, LLP, of which he was the Managing Partner. In addition to pursuing high-stakes class action litigation to vindicate the rights of aggrieved consumers, Jeff co-founded the firm’s Virtual Currency Practice Group, which protected the rights of individuals who participated in the virtual currency/blockchain ecosystem.

Gary Bayer, Network Operations: Prior to joining Blockchains Communications, Gary oversaw the development of Switch’s \$30 million infrastructure project, which was nationally recognized for connecting Switch’s TRIC location with its Las Vegas Supernap Headquarters. Gary has also worked for Zayo Group, which partnered with Verizon on a \$95 million project to upgrade the fiber-optic infrastructure and equipment, and develop cell site activations, in the San Francisco area. He also was responsible for the development of a \$500 million fiber optic network with Level-3 Communications/Century Link at a 100,000 square-foot Berkley-based data center.

Lee Weiss, General Counsel: Lee co-founded the Berns Weiss Virtual Currency Practice Group and has been named a New York Super Lawyer each year from 2014 through 2018.

¹ TRIC has more than 100 established businesses in the center.

Lee and his legal team at Blockchains, LLC are experienced in managing complex business transactions in the technology space.

Jojo Myers Campos, State Broadband Development Manager for the Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation, and Technology: Jojo is a former Frontier Communications Regional Manager and is instrumental in advising Blockchains Communications on the setup, service, deployment, and technical operations of telecommunications networks.

Joe Freddoso, COO of Mighty River, LLC: As the leader of North Carolina's Research and Education Network, Joe, who has provided support for Blockchains Communications in connection with this application, spent years leading the effort to build a statewide fiber network that met the high bandwidth needs of institution, education, research, government, and healthcare customers.

In addition to the foregoing team, Blockchains, LLC, has hired and/or contracted with and continues to search for qualified talent in the following fields: Data Center Technicians, Fiber Engineers, Infrastructure Technicians, Infrastructure Director, Information Technology Directors, and Civil and Mechanical Engineers.

Potential Projects

Verizon Wireless and Blockchains Communications have engaged in significant discussions concerning a cell tower that Verizon is seeking to construct on Blockchains LLC's property. The tower will contain telecommunications equipment, which will provide a wireless solution that aligns with Blockchains Communications' efforts on, and commitment to, transforming the telecommunications industry. The parties are currently in negotiations (See Exhibit 10(d) for map and location of proposed tower).

Blockchains Communications is also engaged in discussions to obtain Transport Bandwidth and ISP services from several providers, including AT&T. Upon completion of the fiber ring construction, Blockchains Communications will have the ability to offer fully managed lit services at the 1G, 10G, and possibly 40G, level, transforming the entire data communications landscape for the companies that operate at TRIC.

EXHIBIT 7
Assumed Name

Blockchains Communications LLC does not intend to do business in the state of Nevada under an assumed or fictitious name.

EXHIBIT 8
Affidavit Relating to Fictitious Name Use

Not applicable.

EXHIBIT 9
**Certificate(s) Filed, or to be Filed, With County Clerk(s) Pursuant to NRS
Chapter 602**

Not applicable.

EXHIBIT 10

AREAS TO BE SERVED, INCLUDING CERTIFICATED AREAS SERVED BY SMALL-SCALE PROVIDERS OF LAST RESORT

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada

1150 E. William Street
Carson City, NV 89701-3109
Ph: (775) 684-6101 / Fax: (775) 684-6110



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Las Vegas, NV 89148-7674
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Pursuant to NAC 704.7472(h), the Applicant must indicate the areas to be served and identify any certificated service areas served by small-scale providers of last resort (as defined by NRS 704.023) where the applicant intends to provide service.

- A. Please generally describe the area(s) of Nevada in which the Applicant intends to provide service (i.e. Las Vegas, Reno, Carson City, Elko, etc.).

Applicant intends to provide service to the state of Nevada with a focus on Storey County.

- B. Please indicate in which, if any, certificated service areas served by small-scale providers of last resort the Applicant will be providing service. (A map delineating the service territories for all Nevada providers of last resort can be found on the Nevada Telecommunications Association at http://nevteclassn.org/Images/NTA_Map_2015_Version1.pdf.)

- Citizens Telecommunications Company of Nevada d/b/a Frontier Communications of Nevada
- Oregon – Idaho Utilities, Inc. d/b/a Humboldt Telephone Company
- Rural Telephone Company
- Beehive Telephone Co., Inc., Nevada
- C.C. Communications
- Filer Mutual Telephone Company
- CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink
- Lincoln County Telephone System, Inc.
- Rio Virgin Telephone Company d/b/a Reliance Connects
- Moapa Valley Telephone Company

EXHIBIT 10(a)
Proposed Service Area
Storey County (Highlighted with Yellow Border)

