Agenda Date:11/30/11 Agenda Item: IVC



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350 www.nj.gov/bpu/

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IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF RNK, INC. FOR APPROVAL TO UNDERTAKE DEBT FINANCING)	ORDER		
))	DOCKET NO.TF11090587		

Parties of Record:

Michael Tenore, Vice President Regulatory Affairs/Interim General Counsel Stefanie A. Brand, Director, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel

BY THE BOARD:

On September 28, 2011, RNK, Inc, a Massachusetts corporation, ("RNK" or "Petitioner"), filed a petition with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board") pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-7 and 48:3-9 requesting approval to provide a guarantee, to permit a pledge of stock and grant a security interest in its assets in connection with certain loans under a loan and security agreement (the "Loan Agreement") entered into by RNK and its parent company, Wave2Wave Communications, Inc. ("Wave2Wave"). RNK will act as a co-borrower under the Loan Agreement and will pledge all of its assets as security for the debt

RNK is a full-service network communications service provider that offers a variety of origination and termination products, services, and customized network solutions. RNK was granted authorization by the Board on October 5, 2004, in Docket No. TE04080753, to provide local exchange and interexchange services.

Wave2Wave, a Delaware corporation, is the parent company of RNK, Wave2Wave VolP Communications, LLC, Wave2Wave Data Communications, LLC and Wave2Wave Mid-West Region Communications, LLC.

¹ RNK is also the parent of RNK VA LLC, a Virginia limited liability company with authority to provide facilities-based and resale competitive local exchange and interexchange access telecommunications services in Virginia.

On August 25, 2011 RNK and Wave2Wave (collectively, "Borrowers") entered into the Loan Agreement, which will allow the Borrowers to obtain \$3 Million with an over subscription option of an additional \$2 Million for a potential total of \$5 Million in loans from Veritas High Yield Fund, LLC ("Lender'). The amounts loaned to the Borrowers pursuant to the Loan Agreement are secured by all assets of the Borrowers. There are no intercompany transactions to accompany this transaction. The Borrowers are jointly and severally liable for the debt, and will jointly and severally secure the debt. RNK's obligations under the Loan Agreement do not attach unless and until RNK obtains necessary regulatory approvals.

The purposes of this transaction is to payoff a portion of existing indebtedness, and provide ongoing financing to the Borrowers for working capital upon more favorable terms. Any accounting for the transaction will reflect the debt repayment and financing.

Petitioner states that the financing will allow RNK to strengthen its ability to compete in the market for telecommunications services in New Jersey by giving RNK access to greater financial resources. Petitioner further states that these resources will enable it to introduce innovative products and services, and to respond better to the competitive telecommunications environment. RNK asserts that the proposed transaction will not result in any changes to its rates or services.

The Division of Rate Counsel has reviewed this matter and by letter dated November 16, 2011 does not object the Board's approval this petition.

After review, the Board <u>FINDS</u> that the proposed transaction is consistent with the applicable law and is not contrary to the public interest, and therefore <u>HEREBY AUTHORIZES</u> Petitioner to participate in the financing arrangements described herein.

This Order is issued subject to the following provisions:

- 1. This Order shall not affect or in any way limit the exercise of the authority of the Board or the State of New Jersey in any future petition or in any proceeding regarding rates, costs of service, franchises, service, financing, accounting, capitalization, depreciation or any other matters affecting the Petitioner.
- 2. The Petitioner shall notify the Board, within five business days, of any material changes in the Loan Agreement and shall provide complete details of such transactions including any anticipated effects upon service in New Jersey.
- 3. The Petitioner shall notify the Board of any material default on the terms of the Loan Agreement within five business days of such occurrence.
- 4. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the documents executed pursuant to the financing transactions or other supporting documents, a default or assignment under such agreement does not constitute an automatic transfer of the Petitioner's assets. Board approval must be sought pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:1-1 where applicable.

5. This order shall not be construed as directly or indirectly fixing for any purpose whatsoever any value of tangible or intangible assets now owned or hereafter to be owned by the Petitioner.

DATED: 11/30/11

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

BY:

LEE A. SOLOMON **PRESIDENT**

OMMISSIONER

ÓSEPH L. FIORDALISO COMMISSIONER

NICHOLAS ASSELTA 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

In the Matter of the Petition of RNK, Inc. for Approval to Undertake Debt Financing

Docket No. TF11090587

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