



Agenda Date: 8/21/13
Agenda Item: IVB

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/

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF TW TELECOM)
INC., TW TELECOM HOLDINGS INC., TW TELECOM) ORDER
HOLDINGS II LLC, AND TW TELECOM OF NEW)
JERSEY L.P. FOR AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO)
CERTAIN FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS) DOCKET NO. TF13070628

Parties of Record:

Colleen A. Foley, Esq., Saul Ewing LLP, for Petitioners
Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel

BY THE BOARD:

Petitioners, tw telecom inc., tw telecom holdings ll llc ("holdings-II"), tw telecom holdings inc. ("holdings") and tw telecom of new jersey l.p. ("tw-nj") (together, the "Petitioners," and each a "Petitioner"), filed a Petition with the Board dated July 8, 2013, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-4, N.J.S.A. 48:3-7, N.J.S.A. 48:3-9 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.9, for approval to participate in various debt financing arrangements and capital leases.

tw-nj is a competitive local exchange telephone company operating in the State of New Jersey, subject to the Board's jurisdiction. tw-nj is a subsidiary of holdings-II and holdings. holdings-II is a subsidiary of holdings. holdings, in turn, is a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of tw telecom inc., a publicly traded Delaware corporation with its principal business office located at 10475 Park Meadows Drive, Littleton, Colorado 80124. tw telecom inc. is a leading national provider of managed network services, specializing in business Ethernet, data networking, Converged, IP-based virtual private network, Internet access, voice, including VoIP, and network security services to enterprise organizations, including public sector entities, and carriers throughout the United States, including their global locations.

Petitioners are requesting Board approval to encumber the assets of tw-nj as security for up to \$3.0 billion in long-term indebtedness and capital leases of tw telecom inc. and holdings (and, as applicable their other direct and indirect subsidiaries, including tw-nj). Petitioners state that the requested authority will be used, in part, to refinance various debt issuances previously authorized by the Board in BPU Docket Nos. TF06080601, TF10020159 and TF12050430. Petitioners also request authority for tw-nj to guarantee and assume the obligations of tw telecom inc. and holdings (and, as applicable their other direct and indirect subsidiaries) of up to

\$3.0 billion in long-term indebtedness, and capital leases. The requested authority would cover the execution and delivery of one or more guarantees, pledge and security agreements, and such other agreements as may be required. Petitioners also seek authorization for tw-nj to participate in various financing arrangements related to any restructuring, refinancing and/or financing of any long-term indebtedness of tw telecom inc. and holdings (and, as applicable their other direct and indirect subsidiaries, including tw-nj) covered by authorizations granted herein, so long as the total long-term indebtedness for which tw-nj is a guarantor, or its assets are pledged, does not exceed \$3.0 billion outstanding at any one time. Petitioners request that the Board's authorization to participate in such related financing arrangements shall include refinancing, refunding, renewal, reissuance, redemption, and rollover of any such indebtedness outstanding, the incurrence or issuance of additional long-term indebtedness, and the amendment or revision of any terms or provisions of, or relating to, any long-term indebtedness, as well as the execution of new or additional capital leases.

The funds from the proposed future financings will be used to refinance existing long-term debt obligations and potentially lower cost debt instruments; to refinance existing long-term debt maturities; to finance new capital expenditures and capital leases; to finance the acquisition of other telecommunications companies and/or telecommunications assets; and, to provide for working capital and other general corporate purposes. The proceeds of the proposed future financings may also be used to pay fees and expenses incurred in connection with such arrangements.

Petitioners assert that Board approval of this Petition will serve the public interest because the authorization requested will enable the Petitioners to capture favorable market conditions in a timely and efficient manner, and thereby take advantage of opportunities to reduce their financing costs, obtain more attractive terms and conditions and/or relaxed covenant restrictions, to better leverage Petitioners' financial resources, and to select the financing options most appropriate for the purpose of the debt. Petitioners add that the flexibility afforded by the authorization requested will enable tw telecom inc. to strengthen its financial condition and, in turn, create opportunities to enhance the competitive position of tw-nj in the New Jersey telecommunications marketplace, all of which ultimately will inure to the benefit of New Jersey customers.

The funding providers may be investment banks, financial institutions, private lending institutions, private individuals, and/or other institutions, either individually or a consortium. The funding group may change over the life of the financings.

Portions of the financed funds may be in the form of conventional credit facilities, such as revolving credits; letters of credit; secured or unsecured notes or debentures (including notes convertible into common stock) issued to banks, other types of financial institutions or other investors; or term loans; or capital leases.

The interest rate will be the market rate for similar financings and will be determined when each financing is finalized. As is typical in bond transactions, some transactions may be at fixed interest rates. Other transactions may have interest rates composed of two components: a base rate and a margin rate or a fixed rate. Any such base rate could be defined as the base or prime rate charged by a specified major bank for loans of similar size with similar maturities or as an adjusted federal funds rate. Eurodollar loans would be based on a specified London Interbank Rate. Some, and perhaps all, of the loans to tw telecom inc. and holdings are expected to be secured by a guarantee and pledge of the stock, interests and assets of each operating subsidiary and the parent company, tw telecom inc. In some cases, tw telecom inc.

and/or holdings and their direct and indirect subsidiaries may provide guarantees or may be a borrower or co-borrower. The security documents will contain appropriate provisions indicating that exercise of certain rights may be subject to obtaining prior regulatory approval.

Petitioners assert that the requested financing authority will strengthen Petitioners' ability to compete and expand in the highly competitive local exchange market for telecommunications customers in New Jersey by giving Petitioners access to greater financial resources, which will allow tw-nj to better respond to competitive pressures in the telecommunications market. Petitioners further assert that the requested financing flexibility is critical given the continued turbulence in the world financial markets. Petitioners believe the ability to respond quickly to favorable market conditions and the flexibility to enter into different types of debt financing arrangements is vital given the current financial markets. Moreover, obtaining prior regulatory approvals will save Petitioners the time and expense of obtaining individual approvals. On an overall corporate basis, this represents a significant savings to the Petitioners. Petitioners also note that this is a more efficient use of the Board's regulatory resources.

Petitioners' participation in the capital leases and financing arrangements described herein will not involve a transfer of authorizations, assets or customers of tw-nj. Petitioners' participation will be transparent to customers in New Jersey. Petitioners will continue to provide services to New Jersey customers with no changes in the rates or terms and conditions of service as currently provided.

The Division of Rate Counsel has reviewed this matter and by letter dated July 30 2013 does not object to the approval of the Petition.

After review, the Board **FINDS** that the authority requested is consistent with applicable law and the Board **HEREBY AUTHORIZES** Petitioners to participate in the financing arrangements described herein. The Board **FURTHER AUTHORIZES** tw telecom of new jersey l.p. and its direct and indirect corporate parents, tw telecom inc., tw telecom holdings llc and tw telecom holdings inc., to encumber, to guarantee and/or to pledge the assets of tw telecom of new jersey l.p. as security for up to \$3.0 billion in long-term debt and capital leases.

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 Petitioners.
2. Petitioners shall semi-annually file statements for the amounts, use of the amounts and use of the credit facilities pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:3-9 and N.J.A.C. 14:1-5.9. Furthermore, Petitioners shall report to the Board and Rate Counsel any financing transactions entered into pursuant to the approval contained in this Order upon completion of the transaction.
3. This Order shall not be construed as directly or indirectly fixing, for any purpose whatsoever, any value of the tangible or intangible assets now owned or hereafter to be owned by Petitioners.
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 shall not constitute automatic transfer of tw-nj's assets. Board approval must be sought pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:1-1 et seq. where applicable.


5. The interest rates for any new term loans or bonds shall be no greater than the market at the time of execution, and tw telecom will advise the Board if its rate will be greater than six percent (6%) higher than the LIBOR rate, or a comparable rate if the LIBOR is unavailable, applicable at the time the new term loan is executed, and the interest rate for any bond shall be no greater than six percent (6%) higher than the current interest rate applicable to the 5 3/8% bonds due in 2022.
6. The total long-term indebtedness for which tw telecom of new jersey l.p. is a guarantor, or its assets are pledged or encumbered, may not exceed \$3.0 billion outstanding at any one time.
7. Board approval must be sought by Petitioners for any guarantees or security of any term loans or additional notes that cannot be issued pursuant to the foregoing conditions.
8. The authority granted in this Order shall become null and void and of no effect with respect to any portion which is not exercised on or before December 31, 2016.

This Order shall be effective on August 31, 2013.

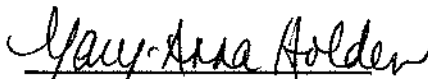
DATED: 8/21/13

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:

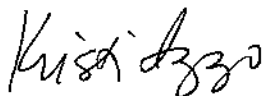

ROBERT M. HANNA
PRESIDENT


JEANNE M. FOX
COMMISSIONER

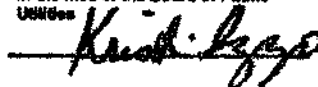

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO
COMMISSIONER


MARY-ANNA HOLDEN
COMMISSIONER


DIANNE SOLOMON
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 tw telecom INC., tw telecom holdings INC., tw telecom holdings II LLC, And tw telecom Of New Jersey L.P. For Authority To Enter Into Certain Financing Arrangements
Docket No. TF13070628**

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