



NEW APPLICATION



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January 20, 2017

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Director of Utilities/Docket Control
Docket Control Center
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

ORIGINAL
Arizona Corporation Commission

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APPLICATION TO OFFER DEREGULATED VOICE MAIL SERVICES

Docket Control,

Rio Virgin Telephone Company d/b/a/ Reliance Connects, hereby applies with the Arizona Corporation Commission for authority to offer deregulated Voice Mail services to its customers as it is not essential to providing "basic telephone service."

Please reference A.R.S. Section 40-281(E) which provides: When the commission determines after notice and hearing that any product or service of a telecommunications corporation is neither essential nor integral to the public service rendered by such corporation, it shall declare that such product or service is not subject to regulation by the commission.

As stated above, voice mail services are not essential to the company's regulated basic telephone service. Basic telephone service is provided to both residential and business customers with or without optional voice mail services. The function of voice mail does not transmit or supply telephone service, but allows callers to record their transmitted message and the subscriber or recipient to store and retrieve the recorded message.

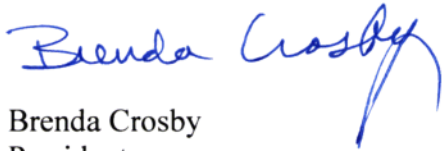
Unregulated voice mail options are provided by independent voice mail providers, such as cellular carriers. Customers can also purchase answering machines rather than buy voice mail services. Due to the variety of available competitive offerings, Rio Virgin Telephone Company wishes to competitively market voice mail service to its customers without the burden of regulation.

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Rio Virgin Telephone respectfully finds this filing supported by the Commission's prior decision to deregulate Qwest's voice mail service in Decision No. 68604 (Docket Number T-01051 B-03-0454) and respectfully asks the Commission to allow it to offer deregulated voice mail service to its customers.

Please call Matt Day at 503-630-8906 for further assistance.

Respectfully submitted on January 20, 2017



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President

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