



U.S. Department of Justice

National Security Division

Foreign Investment Review Staff

By E-File

Washington, D.C. 20004

December 23, 2015

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW, Room TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Request to Modify International 214 Authorization for Birch Telecom, Inc.
(ITC-MOD-20151111-00259)**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The U.S. Department of Justice, with the concurrence of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (“collectively, “the Agencies”), respectfully responds to the December 7, 2015 inquiry from the Federal Communications Commission (“Commission”) requesting the Agencies non-objection to the removal of the condition on Birch Telecom, Inc.’s international 214 authorization (File No. ITC-214-19990701-00441) requiring that it comply with the March 25, 2006 Letter of Assurance (LOA) that Birch Telecom entered into with the Agencies. In reliance upon the assertion that Birch Telecom is now 100% U.S. owned, the Agencies confirm that they have no objection to the removal of the condition that the carrier comply with certain national security, law enforcement, and public safety commitments.

Thank you for your consideration and coordination.

Regards,

/S/ Richard C. Sofield

Richard C. Sofield

Director, Foreign Investment Review Staff

National Security Division

U.S. Department of Justice

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