Handong Cheng Chief Executive Officer ChinaNet Online Holdings, Inc. No. 9 South Min Zhuang Road Haidian District Beijing, PRC 100195

> Re: ChinaNet Online Holdings, Inc. Amendment No. 2 to Registration Statement on Form S-3 Filed September 16, 2019 File No. 333-228061

Dear Mr. Cheng:

We have reviewed your amended registration statement and have the following comments. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure.

Please respond to this letter by amending your registration statement and providing the requested information. If you do not believe our comments apply to your facts and circumstances or do not believe an amendment is appropriate, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing any amendment to your registration statement and the information you provide in response to these comments, we may have additional comments. Unless we note otherwise, our references to prior comments are to comments in our November 29, 2018 letter.

Amendment No. 2 to Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed September 16, 2019 General

1. We note your response to prior comment 1. We continue to believe your February 2018  $\,$ 

agreement with a third-party for the development of your blockchain-powered platform

should be filed as a material agreement. In this regard, the agreement contemplates the  $\,$ 

payment of \$4.94 million to the third-party, \$3.72M of which you have paid to date.

Accordingly, please file this agreement as an exhibit. See Item 601(b)(10) of Regulation S-K.

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2. We note your responses to prior comments 4 and 5, including your statement that you are

still in the early stages of research and development of your blockchain-powered platform

and that you do not believe the platform is material to your business at this time. In light

of your prior public statements that you are transitioning your business to focus  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) +$ 

on blockchain-powered solutions, we believe additional disclosure concerning your  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) +$ 

 $\bar{\text{block}}\text{chain-powered}$  platform is appropriate to the extent you continue to pursue

such solutions. Accordingly, please revise your disclosure to clarify whether the

 $\label{lockchain-powered} blockchain-powered\ platform\ is\ currently\ commercially\ available\ and\ whether\ it\ has$ 

generated any revenues. If your blockchain-powered platform is still under development,

please revise to disclose the platform's current stage of development, including a timeline

of when you anticipate the commercial launch of the platform and a

summary of material remaining development costs. Additionally, please ensure your revised

addresses the following:

 $\hbox{ Please clearly describe how your platform will operate and how users will benefit }$ 

from your blockchain-powered platform, including specific

examples that highlight

how and why a user will use your platform and the tokens generated by your  $\,$ 

platform.

Your response indicates that your blockchain-powered platform is being built on the  $\,$ 

Ethereum blockchain, a third-party blockchain. Please disclose this and discuss risks

and challenges related the fact your platform will be dependent

on another

disclosure

blockchain.

Your response indicates that your blockchain-powered platform will generate tokens

 $\,$  that may be used as payment for services you render or products available on the

 $\,$  platform. Please revise to disclose examples of how a platform user will earn,

generate or receive a token and what types of services and products a user may

acquire with this token. Additionally, please revise to disclose:

(1) the material terms

 $\,$  and characteristics of this token; (2) the process by which the distribution of this

token will occur; and (3) the risks of holding the token, such as the threat of  $\boldsymbol{a}$ 

cybersecurity breach.

3. We note your response to prior comment 6 and the risk factor on page 20 of your Form

 $\,$  10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018 concerning the regulation of blockchain

technology and digital assets in China. Please revise your next amendment to discuss all  $\,$ 

other regulations that may have a material effect on your blockchain-powered platform,

such as the Cyberspace Administration of China's Regulations on the Management of

Blockchain Information Services that appear to have gone into effect on February 15,

2019.

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Information Incorporated by Reference, page 11

4. We note your response to prior comment 3. However, it appears the most recent

amendment fails to specifically incorporate by reference certain filings, including your  $% \left( 1\right) =\left\{ 1\right\} =\left$ 

Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018 and your Form 10-Qs for the

quarterly periods ended March 31, 2019 and June 30, 2019. Please revise. Also, please

incorporate by reference all Item  $8.01\ \text{Form }8\text{-Ks}$  filed since December  $31,\ 2018.\ \text{See}$ 

Item 12(a) of Form S-3.

Exhibits

5. Please file as an exhibit a consent from your independent registered public accounting

firm with your next amendment.

Please contact Mitchell Austin, Staff Attorney, at (202) 551-3574 or Matthew Crispino,

Staff Attorney, at (202) 551-3456 with any questions.

Corporation Finance

Sincerely, Division of

Office of

Technology cc: Tahra Wright, Esq.