

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Commission,	)	Application No. 911-047/
on its own motion, seeking to	)	PI-168
investigate and establish	)	
standards and guidelines for	)	ORDER OPENING DOCKET AND
Geographic Information Systems	)	SEEKING COMMENT
(GIS) Data necessary for the	)	
provision of Enhanced Wireless	)	
911 Service.	)	Entered: May 4, 2010

BY THE COMMISSION:

The Nebraska Public Service Commission opens the present docket, on its own motion, seeking to investigate and establish standards and guidelines for Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Data necessary for the provision of Enhanced Wireless 911 Service.

On or about May 24, 2004, the Commission released a request for proposal (RFP) with the intent of choosing preferred vendors for the provision of various equipment, software, and services related to the implementation and provision of enhanced wireless 911 services. Included in the RFP, were certain requirements for the creation and maintenance of GIS data for use in the provision of enhanced wireless 911 service. Preferred vendors were chosen based upon their responses to the RFP in an order entered by the Commission in Docket No. 911-011/PI-79 on October 31, 2006, and later amended to include additional vendors on April 4, 2007, May 20, 2008, June 24, 2008, November 13, 2008, and December 9, 2008. Vendors have since been relying upon the specifications contained within the RFP.

The RFP contained limited specifications regarding GIS data. Map files are provided as either MapInfo tables or ESRI shapefiles. Map layers are provided in either Nebraska State Plane Coordinate System NAD 83, feet) or Geographic Coordinate System (lat/lon). The map layers provided include street centerlines (Interstate, US, State, County, Township and Roads); railways; boundaries; areas including but not limited to parks and cemeteries; water features; fire districts; ambulance service boundaries; law enforcement areas; emergency service boundaries; cell tower locations; and cell coverage.

Since the release of the original RFP, significant changes in the funding for enhanced wireless 911 services have been made in Docket No. 911-019/PI-118. Under the permanent funding mechanism adopted on February 23, 2010, the Commission will no longer approve a slate of vendors to provide services related to

the implementation and provision of enhanced wireless 911 services. PSAPs will be responsible for satisfying local and state bidding requirements. It is imperative that the GIS data continue to be developed and maintained in a manner to provide accurate enhanced wireless 911 service.

In order to provide guidance to PSAPs and potential vendors, the Commission finds that present standards should be reviewed and possibly incorporated into a future rule and regulation. Any policies or rules and regulations established must be as vendor and system neutral as is feasible and must be structured to accommodate all PSAPs in the state consistent with their expertise and resources.

Therefore, the Commission seeks comment on the following:

1. Please explain the various formats of GIS data currently used by vendors (e.g. ESRI, MapInfo, etc.). Please include information as to whether a particular format is specific to certain vendors, equipment or software and the benefits and limitations of a certain format. Additionally, please address the backwards and forwards compatibility of any format with all databases.
2. Please provide references to any current industry or national standards related to specifications for the format, maintenance, and accuracy of GIS data that may be helpful to the Commission in developing policies related to the development and maintenance of GIS data for the provision of enhanced wireless 911 service.
3. With respect to the data layers included in the Commission's original RFP, please comment on the usefulness of the various layers. Also, please advise as to any additional data layers that should be created and maintained and explain how the particular layer is necessary to the provision of enhanced wireless 911 service.
4. Please provide input as to the minimum requirements for the updating of existing GIS data including frequency of updates to ensure that the data is accurate.
5. Please provide input as to the Minimum requirements, including frequency, for the uploading of GIS data to the statewide GIS repository.
6. Other issues related to the creation and maintenance of GIS data with respect to the provision of enhanced wireless 911 service.

All interested parties should file comments on the above-listed issues with the Commission **on or before June 18, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.** All parties filing comments should file one original and eight (8) paper copies and email one electronic copy to [brandy.zierott@nebraska.gov](mailto:brandy.zierott@nebraska.gov).

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the above-captioned docket be, and it is hereby, opened seeking to investigate and establish standards and guidelines for Geographic Information Systems Data necessary for the provision of Enhanced Wireless 911 Service.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all interested parties should file comments on the above-listed issues with the Commission **on or before June 18, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.** All parties filing comments should file one original and eight (8) paper copies and email one electronic copy to [brandy.zierott@nebraska.gov](mailto:brandy.zierott@nebraska.gov).

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 4th day of May, 2010.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director