BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, to determine whether to discontinue ported support for grandfathered lines.) Application No. NUSF-110))) ORDER AMENDING CAPTION AND) SEEKING FURTHER COMMENT)
) Entered: November 28, 201

BY THE COMMISSION:

On May 9, 2017, the Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission) opened the above-captioned proceeding to determine whether to discontinue the practice of porting universal service support on lines captured by competitive local exchange carriers (CLECs) in certain CenturyLink out-of-town areas. The history of taking universal service support from an incumbent local exchange carrier and giving that support to a competitive local exchange the started with rules implemented by carrier Communications Commission in its 1997 Universal Service First Report and Order. Initially, pursuant to rules established by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) federal universal service fund support was "ported" away from the underlying ILEC to a competitive eligible telecommunications carrier (CETC) capturing the line. This support was deducted from the ongoing support received by the ILEC and paid to the CETC2. Consistent with those federal regulations, the Commission once determined that Nebraska competitive local exchange carriers designated as NETCs and providing service by leasing Unbundled Network Elements (UNEs) from the ILEC could have universal service support ported for lines captured from the ILEC.

Comments were filed by CenturyLink on June 16, 2017 in support of the Commission's proposal to discontinue ported support. However, it was made known to us that the Commission's caption in the order opening the docket referenced business lines but not residential lines.

We enter today's Order to modify the caption to include residential grandfathered lines. As a result, the Commission will

¹ See Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Report and Order, 12 FCC Rcd 8776 (1997) (Universal Service First Report and Order) (subsequent history omitted).

 $^{^2}$ 47 C.F.R. Section 54.307 of the rules promulgated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) was referred to as the "Identical Support Rule."

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permit additional time for comments on its proposal to discontinue ported support for all grandfathered lines.

Carriers interested in filing comments in response to the proposed discontinuance of support may file said comments on or before December 22, 2017. Persons filing comments must file one (1) paper copy along with an electronic copy of the comments sent to Cullen.Robbins@nebraska.gov and Brandy.Zierott@nebraska.gov. Carriers filing comments previously do not need to re-file their comments but may supplement comments filed.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the above-captioned docket be modified as described above.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that comments responsive to this Order may be filed on or before **December 22, 2017**, as prescribed herein.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 28th day of November, 2017.

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

//s//Frank E. Landis

//s//Tim Schram

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chairman

ATTEST:

Deputy Director