

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska	) Application No. NUSF-25
Public Service Commission, on	)
its own motion, seeking to establish	) PROGRESSION ORDER #1
guidelines for the purpose	)
of certifying the use of federal	)
universal service support.	) Entered: August 21,
2001	

BY THE COMMISSION:

1. On July 24, 2001, the Commission opened this docket to seek comment on how it should verify that all federal high-cost support will be used for its intended purpose in compliance with 47 C.F.R. § 54.314. Parties wishing to provide comments were permitted to do so on or before August 10, 2001.

2. Four parties submitted comments: United Telephone Company of the West d/b/a Sprint, TCA, Inc. - Telecom Consulting Associates, Citizens Telephone Company of Nebraska, and an association of rural independent companies<sup>1</sup>. Each party proposed that verification could be achieved by self-certification to the Commission.

O P I N I O N   A N D   F I N D I N G S

The Commission finds that a self-certification process would be sufficient to verify that all federal high-cost support will be used for its intended purpose in compliance with 47 C.F.R. § 54.314. Each rural ILEC (and/or ETC within the service area) should certify that it intends to use any federal universal service support only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and/or service for which the support is intended in accordance with section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, as amended. Such certification should be in the form of an affidavit signed by a corporate officer and duly notarized. The Commission reserves the right to independently verify the accuracy of such certification.

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<sup>1</sup> Arlington Telephone Company, Blair Telephone Company, Cambridge Telephone Company, Clarks Telecommunications Co., Consolidated Telephone Co., Consolidated Telco Inc., Curtis Telephone Co., Eastern Nebraska Telephone Co., Great Plains Communications, Inc., Hartington Telecommunications Co., Inc., Hershey Cooperative Telephone Co., Inc., Hooper Telephone Company, K&M Telephone Co., Nebcom, Inc., Nebraska Central Telephone Co., Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co., Pierce Telephone Co., Rock County Telephone Co., Southeast Nebraska Telephone Co., Stanton Telephone Co., Inc., and Three River Telco.

5. The Commission also finds that it should issue a subsequent decision in this proceeding approving any affidavit certifications that have been properly completed and timely filed.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that all affected carriers file a notarized copy of an affidavit certifying whether federal high cost support is being used consistent with section 254(e) on or before September 14, 2001.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 21st day of August, 2001.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

*Paul Johnson*

*Gerald A. Vap*

*Anne C. Boyle*

*Frank E. Landis*

//s//Frank E. Landis

*Frank Landis*  
Chairman

ATTEST:

*A. S. Pollack*  
Executive Director