BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Commission,)	Application No. NUSF-4
on its own motion, seeking to)	
determine the level of the fund)	
necessary to carry out the)	PROGRESSION ORDER NO. 9
Nebraska Telecommunications	,	PROGRESSION ORDER NO. 3
Universal Service Fund Act)	
beginning July 1, 2004.)	
)	Entered: March 23, 2004

BY THE COMMISSION:

On March 11, 1999, the Nebraska State Legislature passed Legislative Bill 514, which was subsequently signed into law by the Governor on March 18, 1999. This legislative bill was titled the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund Act and is codified in §§ 86-316 through 86-329 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-328 requires that:

Annually the Commission shall hold a public hearing to determine the level of the fund necessary to carry out the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund Act.

OPINION AND FINDINGS

Accordingly, the Commission sets a public hearing for May 11, 2004, at 1:30 p.m. in the Commission Hearing Room. The purpose of said hearing is to determine the level of the Nebraska Universal Service Fund ("NUSF") necessary to carry out the requirements of the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund Act for the Fiscal year July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005.

As required by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-328 the Commission shall publish notice of this hearing in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the state for two consecutive weeks before the hearing.

After this hearing, the Commission shall determine the necessary amount of the NUSF for the fiscal year July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005, including a reasonable reserve. The Commission will continue to set the level of the fund, inter alia, in order to keep at least ninety six percent of Nebraska households subscribed to basic local exchange service.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that a public hearing shall be held on May 11, 2004, at 1:30 p.m. in the Commission Hearing Room, 300 The Atrium, 1200 "N" Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, to determine the level of the Nebraska Universal Service Fund necessary to carry out the requirements of the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund Act for the fiscal year July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2004.

MADE AND ENTERED in Lincoln, Nebraska on this 23rd day of March, 2004.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chair

ATTEST:

Executive Director