

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska) Application No. NUSF-48/PI-104
Public Service Commission, on)
its own motion, to investigate)
issues related to providing) ORDER
dedicated universal service)
support for wireless)
telecommunications services.)
) Entered: October 18, 2005
)

BY THE COMMISSION:

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

On August 9, 2005, the Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission) opened the above-captioned docket, on its own motion, to investigate issues related to providing dedicated universal service support for wireless telecommunications services. Notice of the docket was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska on August 11, 2005.

The Commission sought and received written comments regarding the following issues:

1. Services currently receiving support and,
2. Issues related to providing support for wireless telecommunications services including the nature and extent of any support, eligibility, cost recovery related to wireless infrastructure, nature and extent of regulatory oversight of carriers receiving support, and ownership and sharing of supported wireless infrastructure

A hearing on this matter took place on October 3, 2005. Based upon the written comments and testimony received at the hearing, the Commission finds that dedicated universal service support for wireless telecommunications services should be established. Such support should derive from a dedicated program within the existing Nebraska Universal Service Fund. This order does not contemplate the creation of a separate fund, outside of the current NUSF.

The Commission further finds that pursuant to the Commission's authority set forth in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-324 (2004 Cum. Supp.) to issue orders carrying out its responsibilities with respect to the Universal Service Fund, a separate docket should be opened to explore and establish the proper interim procedures and method for determining, allocating

and distributing support; eligibility standards for support, and any other issues related to the provision of the dedicated wireless support. The interim procedures developed in the docket will be incorporated into a rule and regulation docket to the extent necessary to establish appropriate rules and regulations to administer the program going forward.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that dedicated universal service support for wireless telecommunications services shall be provided.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a separate docket shall be initiated to explore and establish the proper interim procedures and method for determining, allocating and distributing support; eligibility standards for support, and any other issues related to the provision of the dedicated wireless support.

IT IS FINALLY ORDERED that the interim procedures be incorporated into a rule and regulation docket to the extent necessary to establish appropriate rules and regulations to administer the program going forward.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 18th day of October, 2005.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director