

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska                    ) Application No. NUSF-69.12  
Public Service Commission,                    )  
on its own Motion, seeking to                )  
implement policies and procedures            )  
related to providing dedicated                ) Reimbursement Order  
universal service support for                 )  
wireless telecommunications                 )  
services: N.E. Colorado Cellular,            )  
Inc., d/b/a Viaero Wireless.                 ) Entered: January 26, 2016

BY THE COMMISSION:

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

By Petition filed June 1, 2012, N.E. Colorado Cellular Inc. d/b/a Viaero Wireless (Viaero), sought support from the Nebraska Universal Service Fund (NUSF) dedicated wireless program. Notice of the application appeared in the Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska on June 7, 2012. The Commission allocated \$5 million for the calendar funding year in which this Petition was filed. On July 6, 2012, United States Cellular Corporation (US Cellular) filed a Petition seeking Formal Intervention. The Petition of Formal Intervention was granted by the Commission on July 17, 2012. A public hearing on the application was held on December 4, 2012 in Lincoln, Nebraska in conjunction with Docket No. NUSF-69.11.

On January 15, 2013, the Commission approved reimbursement up to the estimated construction costs contained in the application for the ten approved sites in the amount of **\$3,703,984** or the **actual cost** of construction for the ten tower sites approved whichever was lower. The Nebraska Telecommunications Infrastructure and Public Safety Department (NTIPS Department) staff has reviewed the invoices filed by Viaero.

The reimbursement request for the Harrisburg West, Chadron South, Mullen North, and Keystone locations exceeded the estimated costs contained in the application. However, the reimbursement request for the construction of the remaining towers was lower than the estimated costs contained in the application. Viaero seeks an order from the Commission to permit the NTIPS Department to reimburse Viaero for the full amount of the Harrisburg West, Chadron South, Mullen North, and Keystone locations which are \$316,334.39, \$403,291.19, \$414,808.79, and \$377,388.14 respectively. In its application, Viaero estimated its construction costs to be \$305,189.73 for the Harrisburg West

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site. Viaero is seeking approval for the additional \$11,144.66 using the amounts unused for the other approved tower sites. Viaero estimated its construction costs to be \$370,987.23 for its Chadron South site. Viaero seeks reimbursement for the additional \$32,303.96 using authorized amounts not used for other tower sites. Viaero estimated its construction costs to be \$369,148.45 for the Mullen North site. Viaero is seeking approval for the additional \$45,660.34 using the amounts unused for the other approved tower sites. Viaero estimated its construction costs to be \$369,148.45 for the Keystone site. Viaero is seeking approval for the additional \$8,239.69 using the amounts unused for the other approved tower sites.

Given that the amount of reimbursement sought is reasonable based on the NTIPS Department staff's review of the invoices and taking into consideration the fact that the reimbursement request for the six other tower sites was lower than the estimates provided in the application, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that the reimbursement request for the Harrisburg West, Chadron South, Mullen North, and Keystone tower sites should be granted. The NTIPS Department staff is permitted to reimburse Viaero for the Harrisburg West, Chadron South, Mullen North, and Keystone locations for the amount matching the invoices provided by Viaero.


O R D E R

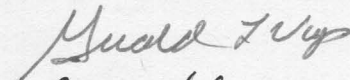
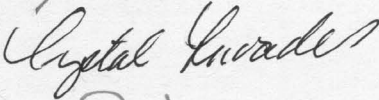
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the Order entered on January 15, 2013, is modified as provided herein.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 26th day of January, 2016.

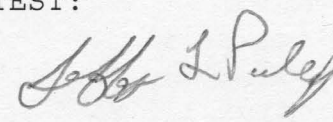
NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director

//s//Frank E. Landis  
//s//Tim Schram