

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska)	Application No. NUSF-1
Public Service Commission, on)	Progression Order No. 20
its own motion, seeking to)	
establish guidelines for)	ORDER
administration of the Nebraska)	
Universal Service Fund.)	Entered: April 21, 2020

BY THE COMMISSION:

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

On May 10, 2000, the Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission) adopted findings in Progression Order No. 12 in the above-captioned docket in relation to the remittance deadlines for carriers with less than \$20,000 in assessable revenue. In that Order, the Commission found that carriers whose annual assessable revenue was less than \$20,000 per year were permitted to remit on a quarterly basis. That finding was codified in the Commission's Nebraska Universal Service Fund (NUSF) Rules and Regulations, title 291 Neb. Admin. Code, Chapter 10, § 003.01B. This rule provides,

003.01B A telecommunications company whose assessable revenue is less than \$20,000 for a given calendar year may remit on a quarterly basis to the NUSF. A company who elects to file on a quarterly basis pursuant to this rule shall notify the Commission in writing prior to switching from a monthly remittance filing basis to a quarterly remittance filing basis.

In light of the Commission's decision in NUSF-111/PI-211, which changed the contribution methodology for residential service from a revenue-based to a connection-based mechanism, the Commission finds that it should likewise update its policy relative to the threshold for quarterly remittances filings in a connection-based environment. For the sake of consistency with the policy adopted in Progression Order No. 12, we find that for carriers who in good faith estimate their annual remittance obligation to the Commission to be less than \$1,400 per year may file remittances on a quarterly basis. Carriers must still notify the Commission of their intent to change from a monthly to a quarterly remittance filer and vice versa as the Commission must initiate that change for the carrier in the remittance system.

Additionally, the Commission's NUSF Rules and Regulations require NUSF Director approval if a telecommunications company's

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revision or adjustment produces a variance of more than ten percent (10%) from originally reported remittance revenues.¹

003.04A Director Approval: If a
telecommunications company's revision or
adjustment produces a variance of more than ten
percent (10%) from originally reported
remittance revenues, said company shall obtain
the written approval of the Director before the
revision or adjustment is filed.

However, with the new connection-based contribution requirements combined with the Commission's new remittance system, the Commission finds it necessary to add a set minimum amount in addition to this remittance adjustment rule. We find that Director approval should be required when remittance adjustments produce a variance of an amount which is greater than 10% and when that amount is greater than \$5,000. The Commission plans to update its rules accordingly during the Commission's next revisions to Chapter 10. In the interim, however, the Commission finds these updates to its remittance policies will provide carriers with the needed clarity.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the findings and conclusions made herein be, and they are hereby, adopted.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska this 21st day of April, 2020.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Rock Johnson
Cystal Hoadley
Tim Schram
Don Wooten

Mary Riddin

Chair

ATTEST:

Michael S. Hyatt
Executive Director

¹ See Title 291 Neb. Admin. Code Chapter 10, § 003.04A.

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