

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Joint)	Application No. C-5167/NUSF-120
Application of Sodtown)	
Telephone Company, Ravenna,)	
Nebraska, and Sodtown)	
Communications, Inc.,)	ORDER GRANTING APPLICATION,
Lincoln, Nebraska, seeking)	IN PART
approval of a transfer of)	
control, and seeking Eligible)	
Telecommunications Carrier)	
Status for Sodtown)	
Communications, Inc.)	Entered: October 6, 2020

BY THE COMMISSION:

On August 28, 2020, an application was filed by Sodtown Telephone Company, of Ravenna, Nebraska ("STC"), seeking approval of a transfer of control to Sodtown Communications, Inc. ("Sodtown"), Lincoln, Nebraska. The application also sought ETC status for Sodtown Communications, Inc. Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, on September 4, 2020.

No protests were filed with regard to the transfer of control; therefore, this portion of the application is processed pursuant to the Commission's Rule of Modified Procedure. The docket will remain open for the purpose of the ETC application, which continues to be reviewed and will be addressed at a later date.

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

Description of the Parties:

Sodtown Telephone Company ("STC") is a Nebraska corporation with its principal office located in Ravenna, Nebraska. STC is a local exchange carrier, providing telecommunications services. STC seeks to cease doing business.

Sodtown Communications, Inc. ("Sodtown") is a Nebraska corporation with its principal office located in Lincoln, Nebraska. STC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Consolidated Companies, Inc., a Nebraska corporation which operates as a holding company for subsidiaries providing local exchange and interexchange service within Nebraska.

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Description of the Transaction:

STC and Sodtoun have entered into an asset purchase agreement, providing for the sale of all of STC's assets. Pursuant to the transaction, Sodtoun will acquire all of STC's operating assets, including its single exchange. Sodtoun will then own, operate, and manage this exchange.

Sodtoun states that it has no present intention to increase the basic local exchange rates within the exchange, and will continue to provide the same products and services to customers as are currently available, without interruption or changes in rates, terms, or conditions of service. Sodtoun further states that it is committed to building fiber to all households within its service area.

Based on the evidence, we find the application to be fair and reasonable and in the public interest. The application should be granted.

O R D E R





IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the transfer of control requested in Application No. C-5167/NUSF-120 be, and it is hereby, granted.


IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this docket shall remain open, and the ETC designation requested in this Application will remain under advisement, until further order of the Commission.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 6th day of October, 2020.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:


Chair

ATTEST:


Executive Director