

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska) Application No. C-4459/PI-185
Public Service Commission, on)
its own motion, to investigate)
and monitor compliance with) ORDER CLOSING DOCKET
federally mandated)
intercarrier compensation)
reform.) Entered: May 25, 2021

BY THE COMMISSION:

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

On November 18, 2011, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released a Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking¹ ("USF/ICC Transformation Order") and therein adopted an intercarrier compensation framework for both intrastate and interstate telecommunications traffic which will transition to a bill and keep regime. As a part of the transition to bill and keep, the FCC's USF/ICC Transformation Order required carriers to reduce access rates in several steps. In its USF/ICC Transformation Order, the FCC assigned state commissions with the responsibility to facilitate the implementation of changes to intrastate access rates and to ensure carrier compliance with the Report and Order.

The Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission) opened the above-captioned docket on May 5, 2020, to establish an efficient process by which the Commission could review the large number of simultaneous access filings and at the same time assist carriers in complying with the FCC's new rules.

According to Paragraph 801 of the USF/ICC Transformation Order, carriers were required to adjust, over a period of several years, many of their switched access charges effective on July 1 of each of those years. In turn, the Commission required that each year, all rate-of-return carriers and competitive local exchange carriers demonstrate that they were transitioning their

¹ See *Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket No. 10-90 et al., Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 26 F.C.C.R. 17663, 26 FCC Rcd 17663 (rel. Nov. 18, 2011) (Report and Order) pets. for review pending, *Direct Commc'ns Cedar Valley, LLC v FCC*, No. 11-9581 (10th Cir. filed Dec. 18, 2011) (and consolidated cases).

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access rates as required by the FCC. That rate transition has been completed.²

Accordingly, with the end of the transition period, the Commission finds that the investigation in Application No. C-4459/PI-185 should be closed.




O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the above-captioned docket shall be and is hereby closed.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 25th day of May, 2021.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:


Chair

ATTEST:


Executive Director

² See *In the Matter of Material to be Filed in Support of 2021 Annual Access Tariff Filings*, ORDER, WC Docket No. 21-148 (May 14, 2021) at para. 3.