

SECRETARY'S RECORD, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of Nebraska) Application No. C-5395/DC-100
Public Service Commission)
Communications Department, on) COMPLAINT DISMISSED, IN PART
its own motion, regarding the)
2021 Annual Report filings.) Entered: June 28, 2022

BY THE COMMISSION:

By original complaint dated May 10, 2022, the Communications Department (Department) of the Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission) initiated this docket requesting the Commission to administratively fine and/or revoke the operating authority of various interexchange and local exchange telecommunications companies for failure to file their 2021 annual reports pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-159. All such companies who had not filed annual reports with the Commission, who had filed incomplete annual reports, or who had not paid fines for filing their annual reports after the April 30th deadline were named as respondents in this docket. A copy of the Complaint and the Order to Show Cause was mailed to each defendant via certified United States mail.

The respondents named in the complaint are interexchange (IXC) and local exchange (LEC) telecommunications companies generally regulated by the Commission, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 75-101 *et. seq.* and §§ 86-101 *et. seq.* Respondents are also governed by 291 Neb. Admin. Code, Chapter 5, of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. Each of the respondents was required to file a complete annual report and payment with the Commission before April 30th, 2022 but failed to do so despite repeated communications from Commission staff.

The companies listed below have signed a stipulation with the Department wherein each defendant admits to filing its report late and has paid an administrative fine, in accordance with the Commission's Annual Report Fining Policy. The Department has requested that the Commission dismiss from the departmental complaint the following companies:

LCR Telecommunications, LLC
Bluestem Network, LLC

The Commission finds that the signed stipulations are satisfactory and therefore the above-listed respondents should be dismissed from the Complaint. Each such respondent to be dismissed from the Complaint pursuant to this Order is hereby advised that

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this Commission will not tolerate similar behavior in 2023 regarding the filing of the company's 2022 annual report. If reports are not received by the Commission on or before April 30, 2023, the option of resolving the complaint through a stipulation will be closely scrutinized. All companies that have agreed to such a stipulation, and who file their 2022 annual report after the statutory deadline, will be considered a willful violator and will be subject to additional penalties and/or administrative sanctions.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the above-listed companies be, and are hereby, dismissed from the departmental complaint in Application No. C-5395/DC-100.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any respondent who subsequently files a satisfactory annual report may execute a stipulation with the department similar to that offered to the above-named company in an effort to obtain dismissal.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 28th day of June, 2022.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Cystal Keadler
Mary Keadler
Tim Schram

Don Watson
Chair

ATTEST:

Thomas W. Golden
Executive Director