

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application)	Application No. C-1077
of United Telephone Company of the)	
West to modify its exchange boundary)	
maps for the LaGrange and Gering)	GRANTED
exchanges and to grandfather certain)	
customers who wish to be served out)	
of the LaGrange exchange.)	Entered: July 12, 1994

BY THE COMMISSION

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

United Telephone Company of the West (United), Overland Park, Kansas filed this application May 17, 1994. The applicant seeks to revise the boundary between the LaGrange, Wyoming and Gering, Nebraska exchanges. Further, the application requests that certain customers who wish to continue receiving local telephone service from the LaGrange exchange be permitted to do so. Notice of the application was filed in the Omaha Daily Record, May 20, 1994. No protests to the application were received.

United is a local exchange carrier operating generally in the state's western panhandle and is subject to the Commission's general regulation of common carriers. This application is governed specifically by Neb. Rev. Stats. Sec. 75-604 to 75-615 (1990 Reissue). These statutes establish that if the telephone company or companies affected by the proposed boundary exchange do not object to the application (as is obviously the case here), the application may be processed by modified procedure without a hearing. We therefore consider this matter under that format.

In support of the application, United filed two maps (Exhibits A and B). Exhibit A is captioned as Map No. 6 and identifies the Gering exchange territory in detail. Exhibit B depicts the LaGrange exchange, and is referenced to as Section 17. The maps show the boundary line re-drawn to reflect the Nebraska portion of the LaGrange exchange as part of the Gering exchange.

United was granted the authority in C-1042 to serve territory not previously certificated to any local exchange company ("LEC"). The Commission amended United's certificate of public convenience and necessity to authorize United to serve as a LEC for a portion of western Nebraska. The territory referenced to in the above-caption has been served by United for many years, and the application is not in competition with another LEC, nor is it an invasion of another LEC's service area.

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United will provide customers in this area the option of remaining in the LaGrange exchange or shifting to the Gering exchange. The proposal to "grandfather" existing customers applies only to customers who have established service as of February 17, 1994. This option will expire once the service for these customers is changed, removed or significantly modified. Customers taking service in the area after February 17, 1994 will be served through the Gering exchange.

Upon consideration of the application, the exhibits, and being fully advised, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that the boundary between the Gering and LaGrange exchanges should be re-drawn as described above. The application should be approved.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application No. C-1077 be and it is hereby granted to and United Telephone Company of the West is authorized to modify the boundary between its LaGrange, Wyoming exchange and its Gering, Nebraska exchange as specified in attached Exhibits A and B.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that customers who wish to continue receiving local telephone service from the LaGrange exchange shall be "grandfathered" until their service is changed, removed or significantly modified.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that revised maps reflecting this change be filed with the Commission.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 12th day of July, 1994.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING

Daniel G. Unrille

//s//Duane D. Gay
//s//Rod Johnson
//s//Frank E. Landis
//s//James F. Munnelly

John S. Smith
Chairman

ATTEST:

John R. Smith
Executive Director