

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application of) Application No. C-1128
the Nebraska Public Service Commis-) Progression Order No. 4
sion on its own motion to conduct) (Dialing Parity)
an investigation into the effects)
of local competition on the) ORDER INSTITUTING
telecommunications industry in) INVESTIGATION
Nebraska.)
) Entered: January 28, 1997

BY THE COMMISSION

On July 16, 1996, the Commission issued Progression Order No. 2 in the above-cited proceeding. The Order requested interested parties to comment on both telephone dialing parity and equal access. The Commission has reviewed those comments and finds that additional comments are needed on both dialing parity and intraLATA equal access. Therefore, this further investigation is opened so that effective rules concerning both matters can be drafted.

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. 51.213, all local exchange carriers (LECs) must file a plan for providing intraLATA dialing parity with their respective state commission. This plan must be approved by either the state commission or the FCC prior to implementation. In addition, 47 C.F.R. 51.211 permits state commissions to establish a deadline earlier than February 8, 1999 for all LECs to provide intraLATA and interLATA dialing parity.

Comments and recommendations to this investigation are sought from all interested persons on the issues set forth below. Comments shall be submitted on or before February 28, 1997.

ISSUES FOR COMMENT

1. Based on the FCC's dialing parity order (Order 96-333), should the Commission mirror the FCC's guidelines or should there be additional state requirements for intraLATA dialing parity?
2. (a) When should intraLATA dialing parity plans be submitted to the Commission?

(b) What types of information should be included in each plan beyond the minimum FCC requirements? (For example; relevant costs and cost recovery mechanisms, methods of customer notification, schedules, format, and an appropriate time line to make the transition to parity, etc.)
3. When a decision has been reached on behalf of a LEC to offering intraLATA equal access what end user notification procedures are appropriate to permit customers a choice to select a provider of long distance services. (i.e. balloting, allocation, or other notification and

presubscription procedures).

(a) What notification procedures are needed when a LEC simultaneously provides interLATA and intraLATA dialing parity.

(b) What notification procedures are needed when a LEC offers intraLATA equal access in a wire center already providing interLATA dialing parity?

4. Should specific consumer protection or anti-competitive policies/procedures be adopted by the Commission?

5. (a) What non-recurring charges should apply when customers select a long distance carrier or change presubscribed carriers? Should there be a "Grace Period" where customers may make a change to another long distance carrier without incurring a PIC change charge?

(b) If customers are offered free presubscription, what time frame is appropriate?

(c) For end users who do not select an intraLATA interexchange carrier, what policy is appropriate for assigning them to carriers?

6. (a) What types of conversion costs are appropriate for recovery?

(b) How should they be recovered and over what period?

7. Should different practices apply to existing customers and new customers with regard to the provision of intraLATA dialing parity?

8. (a) Related to the dialing parity issue, how should directory assistance services, directory listings, 0-, and 00-calls (operator assistance) be handled?

(b) What types of calls, including 1+, NPA+555+1212 calls, should be subject to intraLATA presubscription and should be handled by the customer's chosen intraLATA provider?

9. (a) If customers or carriers request the ability to have casual dialing available on an "as requested" basis, what issues and procedures need to be developed to ensure fair and equal treatment to all customers and carriers?

(b) If this service is put in place, how should costs associated with upgrades to the network be recovered by the carrier?

(c) If only interLATA carriers have the ability to implement casual dialing, should LEC's institute blocking (namely refuse to perform switch translations and routing of casual calls) until there is interLATA relief for USWC?

10. If presubscription should apply to coin phones, when should this program be made effective in Nebraska and would exceptions be permitted for this class of service?

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that comments and recommendations on the issues set forth herein may be submitted by all interested parties.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all comments be submitted on or before February 28, 1996.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 28th day of January, 1997.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director

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