

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application	)	Application No. C-1129
of Great Plains Communications,	)	
Inc. of Blair, Nebraska and	)	
Petersburg Telephone Company of	)	
Petersburg, Nebraska seeking au-	)	
thority to purchase all the stock	)	GRANTED
of the Petersburg Telephone Com-	)	
pany by Great Plains Communica-	)	
tions, Inc. and issuance of a	)	
Certificate of Convenience and	)	
Necessity.	)	Entered: January 24, 1995

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

By application, filed November 29, 1994, Great Plains Communications Inc., (Great Plains) of Blair, Nebraska and Petersburg Telephone Company, (Petersburg), of Petersburg, Nebraska jointly seek approval for Great Plains to purchase all the stock of Petersburg. Further, the application requests the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. Notice of the application was published in the Omaha Daily Record on November 29, 1994. A hearing on the matter was held in Petersburg, Nebraska on January 12, 1995.

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

Great Plains Communications and the Petersburg Telephone Company are local exchange carriers operating in Nebraska and are subject to the Commission's general regulation of common carriers.

Petersburg operates in Boone County, Nebraska, and services approximately 440 access lines. Great Plains offers telecommunications service statewide in 57 communities, with its principal office located in Blair, Nebraska. Great Plains services approximately 25,900 access lines. The average sized exchange served by Great Plains is similar to the size of Petersburg, roughly 400 access lines.

Through the application and exhibits, Great Plains has demonstrated it is technologically and financially capable of providing service to the subscribers of Petersburg. All Great Plains' exchanges are served with digital switches and the company employs approximately 135 employees. Great Plains provides cable television, as well as telephone service, in some of its exchanges. At this time, Petersburg would not receive cable service from Great Plains.

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Great Plains has also demonstrated a commitment to become involved with the communities it serves. For example, Great Plains offers scholarships for students and awards grants to schools for teacher training and computer equipment. The company additionally provides its exchanges with economic development assistance.

The present application requests approval of a stock purchase only. A merger of the companies is not being sought at this time. Great Plains testified no significant changes in operations, rates or services will take place during 1995. The employees of Petersburg Telephone Company will remain in Petersburg during 1995. By the end of 1996, Great Plains plans to install a new digital switch in Petersburg. This switch will allow the customers equal access and some additional custom calling features.

Upon consideration of the application, testimony and exhibits, and being fully advised, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that the transfer of stock from The Petersburg Telephone Company of Petersburg, Nebraska to Great Plains Communications, Inc., of Blair Nebraska is approved and thereby, Great Plains is granted a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to operate the Petersburg Telephone Company.

## O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application No. C-1129 be, and it is hereby granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this order be, and it is hereby made the Commission's official certificate of authority to furnish the service authorized herein as a common carrier.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Great Plains Communications, Inc. file a tariff with the Commission for service provided in the Petersburg exchange within thirty days.

IT IS FINALLY ORDERED that Great Plains Communications, Inc. provide the Commission with a closing balance sheet after the transaction has been completed.

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MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 24th day of  
January, 1995.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

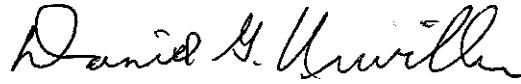


//s//Rod Johnson

//s//Frank E. Landis

//s//James F. Munnelly

//s//Daniel G. Urwiller



Chairman

ATTEST:



Deputy Director

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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