

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition of) Application No. C-1156
Residents of the Bushnell exchange)
served by Dalton Telephone Company)
requesting extended area service to) APPLICATION DISMISSED
the Kimball exchange served by the)
United Telephone Company.) Entered: June 25, 1996

BY THE COMMISSION

Comes now the Communications Department of the Nebraska Public Service Commission with the results of the ballot sent by the Dalton Telephone Company and the United Telephone Company to establish extended area service from the Bushnell exchange to the Kimball exchange, pursuant to Application No. C-1156. The application, C-1156, was filed by residents of the Bushnell exchange and was verified by the Commission to have the requisite number of signatures on February 24, 1995.

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

Pursuant to Nebraska Public Service Commission Rule 002.27B2c, Dalton Telephone Company remitted a point-to-point traffic study showing calls made from the Bushnell exchange to the Kimball exchange. The traffic study showed that sufficient calls were placed to process the application.

Pursuant to Commission Rule 002.27B2e, proposed rates were submitted to the Commission. The proposed EAS additive for the Bushnell exchange was \$31.75 for residential subscribers and \$36.50 for business subscribers. United proposed an EAS additive for the Kimball exchange of \$1.10 for Residence 1 Party and 4 Party and \$2.20 for Business, Trunk, Semi Public Paystation and Customer Owned Coin.

Ballots were sent to subscribers in Bushnell on or about May 9, 1996 with responses due no later than June 12, 1996. The Kimball subscribers' ballots were mailed on May 10, 1996 and responses were due June 11, 1996.

The ballots results from the Kimball exchange were received by the Commission on June 21, 1996. Of the 1716 ballots sent, 562 were returned. 211 ballots were in favor of the EAS proposal and 351 ballots indicated opposition to the plan. Four ballots were disqualified. Thus, 12.30% of the eligible Kimball customers voted in favor of the plan. This does not meet the benchmark required by Commission Rule 002.27B3b(3).

The Dalton exchange ballots were received by the Commission on June 21, 1996. Of the 204 ballots sent, 150 were

Application No. C-1156

PAGE TWO

returned. 13 ballots were in favor of the EAS proposal and 137 ballots indicated opposition to the plan. Therefore, 6.37% of the eligible Bushnell customers voted in favor of the plan. This also does not meet the benchmark required by Commission Rule 002.27B3b(3).

Since less than 50% of the Kimball and Bushnell subscribers were in favor of the EAS proposal, pursuant to Rule 002.27B3b(3), the EAS plan will not go into effect. Further, by Commission Rule 002.27B3b, the customer survey for EAS need not be taken more than once in any twenty-four (24) month period.

After consideration of the application and being fully advised in the premises, the Commission is of the opinion and finds Application C-1156 should be dismissed for failure to meet the requirements established in Commission Rule 002.27B3.

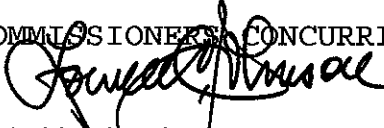
O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application C-1156 be, and it is hereby dismissed.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 25th day of June, 1996.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:


//s//Rod Johnson
//s//Frank E. Landis
//s//James F. Munnelly
//s//Daniel G. Urwiller

Chairman

ATTEST:



Executive Director