

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska) Application No. C-1415
Public Service Commission, on its)
own motion to investigate US West)
Communications cost studies and to) PROTECTION ORDER
establish rates for interconnection,) GRANTED
unbundled elements, transport and)
termination , and resale services.) Entered: October 29, 1996

OPINION AND FINDINGS

On September 19, 1996, the Nebraska Public Service Commission ("NPSC"), on its own motion initiated Application C-1415 to investigate US West Communications cost studies and to establish rates for interconnection, unbundled elements, transport and termination, and resale services.

Notice of the filing of the docket was published pursuant to the provisions of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. Notice of the application appeared in the Omaha Daily Record on October 7, 1996.

On October 22, 1996, US West Communications filed a motion with the Commission seeking an order protecting US West's confidential information contained in US West's Cost Studies filed in connection with the above-entitled docket.

All access, review, use and disclosure of the correspondence, documents, data, studies, methodologies or other information or materials designated by a party to this proceeding as proprietary (hereinafter referred to as "Confidential Information") shall be governed by the terms of this order.

It is likely that proprietary and confidential information will be provided in this proceeding, and that, absent the existence of this order, a significant risk of disclosing truly confidential material to parties will exist.

As a result, no confidential information shall be made available to anyone other than the Commission, however, access to any confidential information may be authorized by US West, solely for the purposes of this proceeding, to those persons indicated by any party as being their experts in this matter. Any disputes concerning the above shall be brought before the Commission for a ruling.

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The Commission intends to minimize the amount of "confidential" information so as to maximize the amount of public information. Therefore, any information that is deemed by US West as "confidential" may be made available subject to the above conditions at the Omaha US West offices. All parties that are allowed to examine the confidential material shall sign a protective agreement.

Upon consideration of the motion, and being fully advised, the Commission is of the opinion that US West's request for an order protecting confidential information is fair and reasonable, is in the public interest, and should be granted.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the Motion for Protective Order made by US West pursuant to Application No. C-1415 be, and it is hereby granted.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 29th day of October, 1996.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

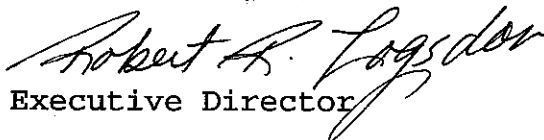


//s//Rod Johnson
//s//Frank E. Landis
//s//James F. Munnelly

Chairman



ATTEST:


Executive Director