

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application) Application No. C-1445
of Meridian Telecom Corporation,)
of Woodstock, Georgia, seeking)
authority to operate as a resale) GRANTED
common carrier of telecommunication)
services within the state of)
Nebraska.) Entered: February 27, 1997

APPEARANCES:

For the Applicant:
None

For the Commission Staff:
Hal Hasselbalch, Staff Attorney
300 The Atrium
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

BY THE COMMISSION:

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

By application filed November 19, 1996, Meridian Telecom Corporation, of Woodstock, Georgia, seeks authority to provide intraLATA and interLATA resold telecommunications services within the state of Nebraska. Notice of the application was published in the Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, on November 20, 1996, pursuant to the rules of the Commission. No protests were filed. Hearing on the application was held by video communication on January 13, 1997.

Applicant produced one witness, Stephen Scheerer, who testified: He is president of the applicant. Meridian is authorized to do business in twelve states and is attempting to become certificated in every state except Alaska. Its target market is non-profit organizations, labor unions and other "affinity groups" which it proposes to reach through direct marketing. A copy of its sales materials is shown in Exhibit 1. Applicant maintains an 800 number to receive customer complaints. Meridian requires a signed letter of agency before service is provided. Applicant offers a royalty or donation to the affinity groups who subscribe to its services. Billing will be handled by BLM, a billing agency.

Interexchange reseller applications are subject to Commission jurisdiction under Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 75-604 and 86-805 and Title 291 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations, Chapter 5, Rule 003.12. From examination of the application filed herein and the testimony adduced at the hearing, the Commission finds applicant has provided all the information required

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by the Commission, possesses adequate financial resources to provide the proposed service, and possesses adequate technical competency to provide the proposed service. The application should be granted.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED BY THE Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application Number C-1445 be, and it is hereby, granted and Meridian Telecom Corporation, of Woodstock, Georgia, is hereby authorized to operate as a resale carrier of intrastate interexchange intraLATA and interLATA telecommunications services within the state of Nebraska.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the applicant shall file, in accordance with the applicable statutes on or before April 30th of each year, an annual report with this Commission consisting of (a) a copy of any report filed with the Federal Communications Commission, (b) a copy of any annual report to stockholders, (c) a copy of the latest Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, (d) a balance sheet and income statement for the previous year of operation and (e) for the State of Nebraska on a combined interstate-intrastate basis, the investment in telephone plant and equipment located within the state, accumulated depreciation thereon, operating revenues, operating expenses, and taxes.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that applicant file its current tariff prior to offering service pursuant to the certificate granted in this order.

IT IS FINALLY 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.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 27th day of February, 1997.

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Ann C. Boyle

Chairman

John D. Johnson

//s//Rod Johnson
//s//Frank E. Landis
//s//Daniel G. Urwiller

ATTEST:

Executive Director

Robert S. Fogel