BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application) Application No. C-1461
of Tel-Save, Inc. d/b/a Group)
Network Services of New Hope, Penn-) MOTION TO DISMISS DENIED
sylvania, seeking authority to do)
business under the name The Phone) :
Company of New Hope.) Entered February 18, 1997

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION AND FINDINGS

On December 16, 1996, an application was filed by Tel-Save, Inc. d/b/a Group Network Services (Tel-Save) of New Hope, Pennsylvania, seeking authority to do business under the name The Phone Company of New Hope. Notice of the application was published in <u>The Daily Record</u> on December 18, 1996. On January 16, 1997 Aliant Communications Co. (Aliant) and the Nebraska Independent Telephone Association (NITA) filed a Petition for Formal Intervention.

On January 15, 1997, the applicant's consultant requested the Commission amend its application to reflect that it would operate as "TPC" in LATA 958. On February 4, 1997, Aliant notified the Commission that it would withdraw its Petition for Formal Intervention after the Commission accepted the amended application.

On January 27, 1997, the applicant submitted a Motion to Deny the Petition of Formal Intervention filed by the NITA. On February 10, 1997, the Commission held an oral argument on the Motion.

The Commission has determined that the participation of the NITA is beneficial and that the NITA has an interest in the proceeding. Under Rules of Commission Procedure, Section 15, any person who has an interest in the proceeding can file for Formal Intervention. The NITA represents numerous local telephone companies in Nebraska and Tel-Save is seeking authority to conduct business as The Telephone Company of New Hope in service areas of the NITA members. Therefore, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that the participation of the NITA in this proceeding is appropriate and that the motion filed by the applicant should be denied.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the motion filed by Tel-Save, Inc. of New Hope, Pennsylvania to deny the petition of formal intervention is denied.

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MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 18th day of February, 1997.

COMMISSIONERS CONCORRING:

Chairman

ATTEST

Executive Director

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

//s//Frank E. Landis

//s//Daniel G. Urwiller