BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application) Application No. C-1549 of Western Wireless Corporation) and Aliant Communications, Inc.) GRANTED seeking approval of their volun-) tarily-negotiated interconnection) agreement.) Entered: July 1, 1997

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION AND FINDINGS

On May 23, 1997, Western Wireless Corp. (Western Wireless) and Aliant Communications, Inc. jointly filed an application seeking approval of their voluntarily-negotiated interconnection agreement. Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record on May 29, 1997. AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. filed comments on the Commission's process for approving Western Wireless and Aliant's voluntarily-negotiated interconnection agreement. No protests were received: therefore, this application will be processed pursuant to the Commission's Rule of Modified Procedure.

Pursuant to Section 252(a) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the Act), on April 29, 1997, Aliant and Western Wireless entered into an interconnection agreement arrived at through voluntary negotiations. An executed copy of the voluntarily-negotiated interconnection agreement is contained within the application.

Neither the agreement nor any portion thereof discriminates against any telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the agreement. Furthermore, the implementation of the agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity.

Section 252(e) of the Act mandates this Commission to review negotiated interconnection agreements to ensure they comply with Sections 251 and 252(d) of the Act, as well as all applicable state laws. Using those standards, the agreement filed May 23, 1997, should be approved.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the voluntarily-negotiated interconnection agreement between Western Wireless and Aliant be, and it is hereby, approved.

Application No. C-1549

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MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 1st day of July, 1997.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman (

Executive Director

-ATTEST

//s//Rod Johnson //s//Frank E. Landis

//s//Daniel G. Urwiller