

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application) Application No. C-1586
of Firstel, Inc., Sioux Falls,)
South Dakota, and US West Com-) INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT
munications, Inc., Denver,) APPROVED
Colorado, seeking approval of)
their voluntarily negotiated)
interconnection agreement.) Entered: August 5, 1997

BY THE COMMISSION:

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

On July 1, 1997, Firstel, Inc. (Firstel) and US West Communications, Inc. (US West) jointly filed an application seeking approval of their voluntarily negotiated interconnection agreement. Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record on July 3, 1997. AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. and the Nebraska Independent Telephone Association filed comments on Firstel and US West's interconnection agreement. No protests were filed; 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), Firstel and US West entered into a resale 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 interconnection agreement filed July 1, 1997, should be approved.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the voluntarily negotiated interconnection agreement between Firstel and US West be, and it is hereby, approved.

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IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a final executed interconnection agreement containing original signatures be filed on or before August 15, 1997.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 5th day of August, 1997.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:



//s//Rod Johnson

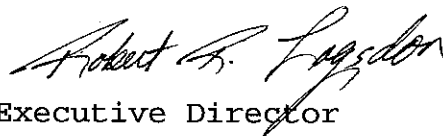
//s//Frank E. Landis

//s//Daniel G. Urwiller

Chairman



ATTEST:



Executive Director