

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application) Application No. C-1604
of the Nebraska Public Service)
Commission on its own Motion to) Request for Comments
Designate Telecommunications)
Carriers Eligible to Receive)
Federal Universal Service Support.) Entered: August 12, 1997

BY THE COMMISSION:

In keeping with the recommendations of the Nebraska Universal Service Task Force, we initiate this proceeding to designate telecommunications carriers eligible to receive universal service support and to define the service areas for which carriers shall receive support. Pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission Order, Common Carrier Docket CC 96-45, Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (ETCs) must be designated by January 1, 1998. Accordingly, we ask all interested parties to submit comments on the following issues:

1. Should the Commission, consistent with the Nebraska Universal Service Task Force recommendations, designate each LEC operating in the state of Nebraska on February 8, 1996 an ETC, eligible to receive universal service support throughout its service territory as of January 1, 1998.
2. For rural carriers, should the Commission designate service areas as a company's study area?
3. For non-rural carriers, what is the appropriate service area?

Comments to the above questions, and other related information should be submitted to the Commission on or before September 12, 1997. Reply comments will be accepted until September 30, 1997.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that comments on the issues set forth herein are to be submitted on or before September 12, 1997.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that reply comments shall be submitted on or before September 30, 1997.

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MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 12th day of August.

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:



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

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chairman



ATTEST:



Executive Director