

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition of) Application No. C-1653
Residents of the Carroll exchange)
served by Eastern Nebraska Tele-)
phone Company requesting extended) Dismissed
area service to the Laurel ex-)
change served by US West Communi-)
cations, Inc.) Entered: December 9, 1997

BY THE COMMISSION

Comes now the Communications Department of the Nebraska Public Service Commission with the results of the usage study compiled by Eastern Nebraska Telephone Company showing calls made from the Carroll exchange to the Laurel exchange pursuant to Application No. C-1653. The application, filed by the residents of the Carroll exchange, requests authority for extended area service (EAS) from the Carroll exchange in Carroll, Nebraska, to the Laurel exchange in Laurel, Nebraska. Carroll is served by Eastern Nebraska Telephone Company, while Laurel is served by US West Communications, Inc. The application was verified by the Commission staff to have the requisite number of signatures on October 24, 1997. Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska on October 28, 1997.

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

Pursuant to Nebraska Public Service Commission Rule 002.27B2c, Eastern Nebraska Telephone Company filed a point-to-point traffic study showing calling from the Carroll exchange to the Laurel exchange.

The traffic study shows calling from Carroll to Laurel for the three most recent months available. The results show the number of calls made per customer from Carroll to Laurel, as well as the number and percent of customers who made two or more calls per month from Carroll to Laurel.

By Commission Rule 002.27B2c, an application must demonstrate that an average of five (5) or more calls are made per customer per month and that more than fifty percent (50%) of the customers have made at least two (2) calls per month to the petitioned exchange. In the present application, roughly twenty-two percent (22%) of the Carroll subscribers made two (2) or more calls per month to Laurel. Further, there was not an average of five (5) calls per customer, per month. Approximately 1.51 calls were made per customer during this time period. Therefore, the results do not meet the basic requirements set forth in the Commission Rules.

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According to Commission Rule, 002.27B2c, if a petition fails to meet the basic criteria, an application will be dismissed without further action. Further, as Application No. C-1653 failed to pass the usage tests established by the Commission, a subsequent EAS petition may not be resubmitted for twenty-four (24) months, pursuant to Commission Rule 002.27B2d.

After consideration of the application and being fully advised in the premises, the Commission is of the opinion and finds the application should be dismissed for failure to meet the requirements established in Commission Rule 002.27B2c. Further, the Commission finds the residents of the Carroll exchange may not submit a petition for EAS to the Laurel exchange for twenty-four (24) months pursuant to Commission Rule 002.27B2d.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application No. C-1653 be, and it is hereby, dismissed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that an application for extended area service may not be submitted by the Carroll exchange, served by Eastern Nebraska Telephone Company, to the Laurel exchange, served by US West Communications, Inc., for twenty-four (24) months.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 9th day of December, 1997.

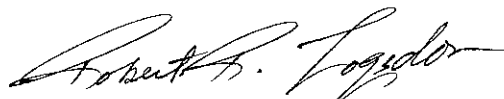
NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

//s//Anne C. Boyle
//s//Lowell C. Johnson
//s//Rod Johnson
//s//Frank E. Landis

Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director