BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

| In the Matter of the Petition |) | Application No | . C- | -168 | 36 |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------------|------|------|------|
| from residents of Western exchange, |) | . . | _ | | |
| requesting extended area service |) | DISMISSED | | | |
| (EAS) to the Fairbury exchange, both |) | | | | |
| served by Aliant Communications |) | | | | |
| Company. |) | Entered: Novem | ber | 3. | 1998 |

BY THE COMMISSION

This application, filed by the residents of the Western exchange, requesting extended area service (EAS) to the Fairbury exchange, both served by Aliant Communications Company (Aliant).

The application was verified by the Commission staff to have the requisite number of signatures on November 18, 1997. Notice of the application was published in <u>The Daily Record</u>, Omaha, Nebraska, on November 19, 1997.

OPINION AND FINDINGS

On August 26, 1998, Aliant filed with the Commission revised pages to its tariff to expand Aliant's Enhanced Local Calling Area (ELCA) plan to include plans whereby a customer may purchase a two-hour block of time for \$3.00 per month and a five-hour block of time for \$12.00 per month for calls within such customer's Enhanced Local Calling Area. As a result, neither usage studies nor an EAS additive were calculated by Aliant as required by the filing of an EAS petition.

A public informational meeting was held on October 7, 1998, in Fairbury, Nebraska, to discuss this docket and to gather public input. Public comments overwhelmingly supported Aliant's expanded ELCA plans as the most economical and desirable alternative to meet the Tobias subscribers' calling needs to the Geneva Exchange.

Based upon Commission Rule 002.27C and the overwhelming support of the extended ELCA plan, the Commission is of the opinion that C-1686 should be dismissed.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application No. C-1686 be, and it is hereby, dismissed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Aliant shall implement its expanded ELCA for the Western exchange as soon as reasonably feasible following the date of this order.

Application No. C-1686

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MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 3rd day of November, 1998.

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ATTEST:

Executive Director

//s//Lowell C. Johnson //s//Frank E. Landis //s//Daniel G. Urwiller