

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition of) Application No. C-1700
Residents of the Emerson exchange,)
served by US West Communications,)
Inc., requesting Extended Area) Dismissed
Service (EAS) to the Hubbard)
exchange, served by the Northeast)
Nebraska Telephone Company.) Entered: July 7, 1998

BY THE COMMISSION

Comes now the Communications Department of the Nebraska Public Service Commission with the results of a usage study, representing all of the interexchange carriers currently serving the Emerson exchange of US West Communications, Inc. (US West), showing calls made from the Emerson exchange to the Hubbard exchange. Application C-1700, filed by the residents of the Emerson exchange, requests authority for Extended Area Service (EAS) from the Emerson exchange in Emerson, Nebraska, to the Hubbard exchange in Hubbard, Nebraska. The Emerson exchange is served by US West and the Hubbard exchange is served by the Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company. The application was verified by the Commission staff to have the requisite number of signatures on November 17, 1997. Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, on December 7, 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, the Commission obtained point-to-point traffic studies from all interexchange carriers that serve Emerson. The traffic studies show calling from the Emerson exchange to the Hubbard exchange.

The traffic studies show calls made from Emerson to Hubbard for the three most recent months available. The results show the number of calls made per customer from Emerson to Hubbard, as well as the number and percent of customers who made two or more calls per month from Emerson to Hubbard.

By Commission Rule 002.27B2c, an application must demonstrate that an average of five or more calls are made per customer, per month and that more than 50 percent of the customers have made at least two calls per month to the petitioned exchange. In the present application, there was not an average of five calls per customer, per month. Approximately 1.51 calls were made per customer during this time period. Further, roughly eight percent of the Emerson subscribers made two or more calls per month to Hubbard. 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-1700 failed to pass the usage tests established by the Commission, a subsequent EAS petition may not be resubmitted for twenty-four 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 Emerson exchange may not submit a petition for EAS to the Hubbard exchange for twenty-four months pursuant to Commission Rule 002.27B2d.

O R D E R

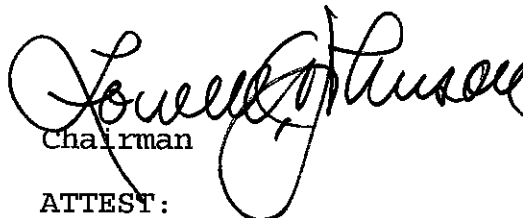
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application No. C-1700 be, and it is hereby, dismissed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that an application for Extended Area Service may not be submitted by the Emerson exchange, served by US West Communications, to the Hubbard exchange, served by Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company, for twenty-four months.

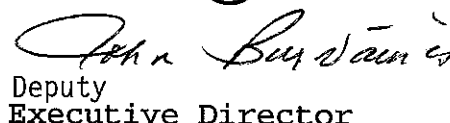
MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 7th day of July, 1998.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:



 Chairman

ATTEST:



 Deputy
 Executive Director

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