

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application)	Application No. C-1791
of Aliant Midwest, Inc., Lincoln,)	
Nebraska, seeking Designation as an)	
Eligible Telecommunications Carrier)	REQUEST FOR DATA
that may Receive Universal Service)	
Support.)	

Comes now, M. Gene Hand, Director of the Communications Department of the Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission), serving the applicant in the above-captioned matter with a request for data.

On May 4, 1998, Aliant Midwest, Inc. (Aliant Midwest) of Lincoln, Nebraska, filed an application with the Commission requesting that it be designated an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) and thus become eligible to receive universal service support under Section 254 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Act).

The staff issues this request for data to obtain further information in regard to whether Aliant Midwest meets the minimum statutory requirements to be eligible for designation as an ETC.

To be designated an ETC, the carrier must meet the criteria set forth in 47 U.S.C. 214(e). In relevant part, Section 214(e) provides that a carrier seeking ETC status must:

(A) offer the services that are supported by Federal universal service support mechanisms under section 254(c) either using its own facilities or a combination of its own facilities and resale of another carrier's services (including the services offered by another eligible telecommunications carrier); and

(B) advertise the availability of such services and the charges therefore using media of general distribution.

The services supported by federal universal service support mechanisms are set forth in 47 C.F.R. 54.101 as follows:

1. Voice grade access to the public switched network;
2. Local usage;
3. Dual tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent;
4. Single-party service or its functional equivalent;
5. Access to emergency services;
6. Access to operator services;

7. Access to interexchange service;
8. Access to directory assistance; and
9. Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers.

To assist the Commission in processing Aliant Midwest's application, the applicant is directed to submit supportive evidence or other data to the following requests no later than June 3, 1998:

1. Provide evidence that the services supported by federal universal service support mechanisms, as listed above, are presently being offered.

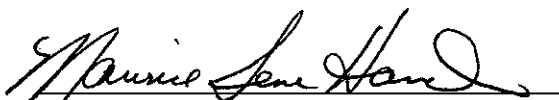
2. Provide a detailed description of the facilities owned by the applicant that are currently being utilized to provide local exchange service in Nebraska.

3. Submit a detailed description of the services that the applicant provides using the facilities described in Item 2 above.

4. Describe how the applicant advertises the availability of, and charges for, the services provided.

5. Provide evidence that the applicant currently has local exchange customers that are receiving the types of services that are supported by federal universal support mechanisms.

Dated: May 20, 1998



Maurice Gene Hand
Director, Communications Department
Nebraska Public Service Commission



John A. Doyle, Jr., #20592
Legal Counsel, Communications Department
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