

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application       ) Application No. C-1889  
of GCC License Corporation, Issa-       )  
quah, Washington, seeking designa-       ) PROCEDURAL  
tion as an Eligible Telecommunica-       ) PROGRESSION ORDER  
tion Carrier that may receive       )  
universal service support.       ) Entered: March 9, 1999

BY THE COMMISSION:

By application filed August 31, 1998, GCC License Corporation (Applicant or Western Wireless), Issaquah, Washington, requests that it be designated an eligible telecommunication carrier (ETC) making the applicant eligible for federal and state universal service support under Section 214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Applicant seeks designation as an ETC within the following counties of Nebraska: Adams, Antelope, Arthur, Blaine, Boone, Boyd, Brown, Buffalo, Burt, Butler, Cass, Cedar, Chase, Cherry, Clay, Colfax, Cuming, Custer, Dakota, Dawson, Dixon, Dodge, Dundy, Fillmore, Franklin, Frontier, Furnas, Gage, Garfield, Gosper, Grant, Greeley, Hall, Hamilton, Harlan, Hayes, Hitchcock, Holt, Hooker, Howard, Jefferson, Johnson, Kearney, Keith, Keya Paha, Knox, Lancaster, Lincoln, Logan, Loup, Madison, McPherson, Merrick, Nance, Nemaha, Nuckolls, Otoe, Pawnee, Perkins, Phelps, Pierce, Platte, Polk, Red Willow, Richardson, Rock, Saline, Saunders, Seward, and Sherman (the Counties).

Petitions for formal intervention were received from Timothy F. Clare representing Arapahoe Telephone Company, Benkelman Telephone Company, Cozad Telephone Company, Diller Telephone Company, Hemmingford Cooperative Telephone Company, Henderson Cooperative Telephone Company, and Wauneta Telephone Company; from Steve Cole representing Curtis Telephone Company; from Charles Hastings representing the Glenwood Telephone Membership Corporation; from Richard Johnson for Charles Steese representing US West Communications, Inc.; and from Kelly Dahl representing Arapahoe Telephone Company, Arlington Telephone Company, the Blair Telephone Company, Cambridge Telephone Company, Clarks Telecommunications Co., Consolidated Telco, Inc., Consolidated Telephone Company, Eastern Nebraska Telephone Company, Great Plains Communications, Hamilton Telecommunications, Hartington Telecommunications Co.,

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Inc., Hershey Cooperative Telephone Company, Hooper Telephone Company, K&M Telephone Company, NebCom, Inc., Nebraska Central Telephone Company, Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company, Pierce Telephone Company, Inc., Rock County Telephone Company, Southeast Nebraska Telephone Company, and Stanton Telecom, Inc.

On March 2, 1999, a prehearing conference was held in the Commission Hearing Room. Present were Steve Seglin representing the applicant, Kelly Dahl, and Tim Clare. Participating via telephone conference were Todd Lundy, who will be hereinafter representing US West Communications, Inc.; and Mark Ayotte and Gene DeJordy representing the applicant. For the Commission, Commissioners Lowell Johnson, Frank Landis, and Staff Attorney Michael Loeffler were present.

Pursuant to the information received by the Commission in the prehearing conference, the following procedure and deadlines should be adopted:

#### P R O C E D U R A L    O R D E R

##### Deadlines

Deadline for Prefiled Testimony by Applicant - April 6, 1999  
Prefiled Testimony by Intervenor - June 7, 1999  
Prefiled Rebuttal by Applicant - June 21, 1999  
Prehearing Motions - June 30, 1999

##### Discovery

Mr. Lundy, Mr. Dahl and Mr. Clare are each limited to 25 interrogatories, including subparts, which may be served upon the applicant.

Applicant may serve 25 interrogatories upon each of the identified counsel representing intervenors as listed in the preceding paragraph.

Interrogatories must be responded to within 15 business days unless additional time has been requested and granted by the Commission.

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A copy of all interrogatories and responses shall be filed with the Commission. In all matters, parties shall be served according to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission.

#### Filing of Documents

In addition to the filing of hard copies of documents, parties should make electronic filings whenever possible. The Commission specifically requests that electronic filing be made of all briefs, comments, discovery documents, and the like. General correspondence between the parties need not be filed in an electronic format.

All electronically-filed documents using word processing software are to be filed using WordPerfect 5.0. Electronic filings should be made on 3.5 inch IBM formatted diskettes.

#### Ex Parte

The hearing will be held using a quasi-judicial format. Accordingly, ex parte provisions pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-914 will be in effect.

#### Scheduling of Hearing

The hearing will be conducted within a reasonable time following the deadline for, and following a review of, the information and briefs filed with the Commission and the disposal of all pre-hearing motions filed prior to June 30, 1999. In any event, however, the hearing will not be conducted during the last two weeks of July.

To facilitate the Commission's consideration of the designated service area, the Commission orders each local exchange carrier filing as an intervenor to file with the Commission a statement stating forth the following information: (1) Name of company; (2) Name of each local exchange in which the company is certified to provide local service in Nebraska. For each intervenor who is a "rural telephone company" under 47 U.S.C. § 153(47), the listing shall include each local exchange which is within its study area; and, (3) A listing of each Nebraska county or counties in which each local exchange is located either in whole or in part. The

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service area information shall be filed with the Commission and a copy served on applicant by March 23, 1999.

O R D E R



IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the above procedure and deadlines be adopted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that each local exchange carrier filing as an intervenor shall supply to the Commission the information set forth above by March 23, 1999.

MADE AND ENTERED in Lincoln, Nebraska, on this 9th day of March, 1999.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

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

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director