BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application of) Application No. C-2112/
the Commission, on its own motion,) PI-30
to conduct an investigation into)
specific areas of concern in the) ORDER OPENING DOCKET
provisioning of payphones in the)
state of Nebraska.) Entered: August 31, 1999

BY THE COMMISSION:

On July 27, 1999, this Commission closed Docket No. C-1519. That docket was initially opened in response to the joint petition of MCI and AT&T to determine the degree of compliance of Nebraska local exchange carriers (LECs) with orders issued by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on the provisioning of payphones. Subsequently, the docket was expanded to include other technological and pricing issues affecting the provisioning of payphones.

In closing Docket No. C-1519, the Commission accepted the stipulation filed by the parties as a result of the joint petition. The Commission declined to make specific findings in the payphone technical and pricing issues. The Commission did, however, order that another docket be opened to make a more thorough investigation into those areas.

This docket is, therefore, opened to investigate the following areas:

- Minimum technical requirements for payphones including, but not limited to, technical requirements such as standard information tones (SIT tones), fast busy tones, secondary dial tones, and cut-off-on-disconnect tones. The Commission shall determine the nature of current regulations, compliance by LECs with minimal technical requirements, and the need for further rulemaking to ensure that minimal technical requirements are met. The Commission shall also gather information regarding the average and incremental costs associated with the provisioning of these requirements.
- Pricing issues. The Commission shall investigate whether prices for payphone services are appropriate and costbased. The Commission shall gather information regarding the pricing of lines and services in surrounding states and determine whether costs charged to those who provide payphones are appropriate.
- 3) Other issues. The Commission reserves the right to include any other issues which may be uncovered in its investigation under this docket.

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ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that an investigation be commenced on the above listed issues.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all local exchange carriers which provide payphone service, either directly or through interconnection, and all other payphone providers be made a party to this docket.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Commission issue findings as well as any reasonable recommendations at the conclusion of this investigation.

MADE AND ENTERED in Lincoln, Nebraska on this 31st day of August, 1999.

ATTEST

Executive Director

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

//s//Lowell C. Johnson

//s//Frank E. Landis

//s//Daniel G. Urwiller