BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition) Application No. C-2119
from residents of the Mead)
exchange, served by ALLTEL)
Communications, requesting) DISMISSED
extended area service (EAS) to)
the Fremont exchange, served by)
US West Communications. Inc.) Entered: August 22, 2000

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION AND FINDINGS

On September 1, 1999, the Commission received a petition from the residents of Mead, Nebraska, requesting extended area service (EAS) to Fremont, Nebraska. On September 14, 1999, the Commission verified that the petition contained a sufficient number of signatures. On September 21, 1999, ALLTEL submitted the results of a usage study to the Commission, which indicated that a sufficient amount of traffic exists between Mead and Fremont to warrant further proceedings.

Pursuant to the Commission's Telecommunications Rules and Regulations (Title 291, Chapter 5, Rule 002.27C4), ALLTEL voluntarily filed an Optional Enhanced Area Calling Plan with the Commission in lieu of EAS. An informational meeting was held on August 10, 2000, in Mead to inform the petitioners of the Enhanced Local Calling Area (ELCA) plan agreed to by ALLTEL and US West. Under the ELCA plan, Mead customers are presented with three options: 1) callers may place daytime calls for \$.12 per minute and evening/weekend calls for \$.06 per minute; 2) callers may subscribe to a two hour block of minutes for a monthly charge of \$3.00; or 3) callers may subscribe to a five hour block of minutes for \$12.00. Alternatively, under the proposed EAS rates, all Mead customers would receive unlimited access to Fremont for a monthly fee of \$9.21.

Rule 002.27C6 allows the Commission to proceed with balloting of the exchanges, or to dismiss the petition and require the optional plan be offered. Based on the considerable support for the ELCA plan demonstrated by the residents of Mead at the August 10 informational meeting, the Commission finds that the ELCA plan should be expanded to include Fremont and the EAS petition should be dismissed.

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ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Docket No. C-2119 be, and it is hereby, dismissed.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 22nd day of August, 2000.

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

//s//Frank E. Landis

//s//Daniel G. Urwiller

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ATTEST:

Executive Director

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION