

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application) Application No. C-2172/PI-34
of the Public Service Commission,)
on its own motion, to seek) ORDER OPENING DOCKET
comment on the establishment and) AND SEEKING COMMENT
implementation of de-averaged rates)
for unbundled network elements)
(UNEs)pursuant to the Rules of the)
Federal Communications Commission)
section 51.507(f).) Entered: December 7, 1999

BY THE COMMISSION:

On May 7, 1999, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) stayed the effectiveness of section 51.507(f) of its rules which would have enacted a deaveraging rule in the pricing of unbundled network elements (UNEs). At that time, the FCC stated that the stay would remain in effect until six months after the FCC released its order in CC Docket No. 96-45 finalizing and ordering implementation of high-cost universal service support for non-rural local exchange carriers.

On November 2, 1999, the FCC released its order in CC Docket No. 96-45. In that order, the FCC indicated that it would be lifting the stay of the effectiveness of section 51.507(f) of its rules on May 1, 2000. Before or at that time states will be required to establish different rates for interconnection and UNEs in no fewer than three geographic areas.

This docket is therefore opened to open an investigation into, and to seek comment concerning the issues and decisions the Commission faces in complying with the rule once the stay is lifted. The Commission seeks comments from interested parties in all areas relating to such deaveraged rate zones including, but not limited to: the appropriate number of rate zones, definition of rate zones, price structuring within each proposed rate zone, and other issues consequential to compliance with the FCC rule.

The Commission is aware that comments received will directly effect its decisions in Docket No. C-1415 and Docket No. C-1416, commonly referred to as the cost study dockets. The Commission is also concerned about the limited time between now and the required implementation of the deaveraging rule on May 1, 2000. Consequently, the Commission intends to seek a short period of time for the acceptance of initial comments while giving interested parties a chance to respond via reply comments.

The Commission finds that initial comments shall be filed no later than the end of the business day on Wednesday, December 29, 1999. The Commission will then accept reply comments from interested parties after the December 29 deadline and on or before

January 14, 2000, at 5:00 p.m.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that an investigation be commenced on the issues and decisions necessary for the implementation of geographic deaveraging pursuant to FCC rule 51.507(f).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all interested parties are invited to comment on issues, concerns and recommendations in the implementation of geographic de-averaging. Initial comments are due no later than Wednesday, December 29, 1999, at 5:00 p.m. Parties filing comments shall do so by filing five hard copies and one electronic copy on diskette in WordPerfect 5.0 or later format. Filings will not be accepted via facsimile.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that reply comments may be filed after December 29, 1999, and on or before January 14, 2000, at 5:00 p.m. Parties commenting shall file five hard copies and one electronic copy on diskette in WordPerfect 5.0 or later format. Filings will not be accepted via facsimile.

MADE AND ENTERED in Lincoln, Nebraska, on this 7th day of December, 1999.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.daneprairie.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.