BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Joint) Application No. C-2267 Application of FirsTel, Inc. of) Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and) US West Communications, Inc. of) AMENDMENT APPROVED Denver, Colorado, seeking approval) of the First Amendment to their) interconnection agreement.) Entered: May 31, 2000

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION AND FINDINGS

On April 7, 2000, a joint application was filed by FirsTel, Inc. (FirsTel) of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and US West Communications, Inc. (US West) of Denver, Colorado, seeking approval of the first amendment to their interconnection agreement.

Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, on April 11, 2000. No protests were filed; therefore, this application is processed pursuant to the Commission's Rule of Modified Procedure.

Pursuant to Section 252(a) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the Act), FirsTel and US West entered into an interconnection agreement arrived at through voluntary negotiations. This agreement was approved by the Commission on August 5, 1997, pursuant to Application No. C-1586. In the current application, DSLnet and US West seek to amend the original agreement by adding terms relating to unbundled network elements, in accordance with recent FCC rulings. An executed copy of the amendment is contained within the application.

The amendment does not discriminate against any telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the agreement. Furthermore, the implementation of the amendment is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity.

Section 252(e) of the Act requires this Commission to review negotiated interconnection agreements to ensure they comply with Sections 251 and 252(d) of the Act, as well as all applicable state laws. Using those standards, the amendment filed April 7, 2000, should be approved.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the first amendment to the voluntarily-negotiated interconnection agreement between FirsTel, Inc. and US West Communications, Inc. be, and it is hereby, approved.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the executed amendment filed herein be, and it is hereby, made the official copy on file with the Nebraska Public Service Commission.

 ${\tt MADE}$ AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 31st day of May, 2000.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director

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