BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter the Application) Application No. C-2328 of Sprint Communications Company)
L.P., Overland Park, Kansas,)
seeking approval of a voluntarily-)
negotiated interconnection agree-) AGREEMENT APPROVED
ment with Qwest Corporation,)
Denver, Colorado (Previously)
filed as an arbitration.) Entered: November 6, 2001

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION AND FINDINGS

On June 21, 2000, a petition was filed by Sprint Communications Company L.P. (Sprint) of Overland Park, Kansas, seeking arbitration of certain terms, conditions and prices for interconnection and related arrangements from US West Communications, Inc. (n/k/a Qwest Corporation). Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska on June 22, 2000. Qwest responded to Sprint's petition on July 14, 2000. All issues, with the exception of reciprocal compensation (Joint Issues Matrix No. 1), were settled by the parties and dropped from the arbitration. A hearing before the mutually-selected arbitrator was held in Omaha, Nebraska, on October 25, 2000.

The arbitrator filed his final decision with the Commission on December 19, 2000. Subsequent to the arbitrator's decision, the parties requested the opportunity to negotiate the issue further. The Commission was notified that a mutually-acceptable resolution had been reached by the parties. On October 4, 2001, Sprint filed an amended application for approval of its interconnection agreement. It was noted that the agreement was entirely composed of voluntarily-negotiated provisions. Notice of the amended application appeared in The Daily Record on October 4, 2001. 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), Sprint and Qwest entered into an agreement arrived at through voluntary negotiations. An executed copy of the voluntarily-negotiated agreement is contained within the application.

Neither the agreement nor any portion thereof discriminates against any telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the agreement. Furthermore, the implementation of the agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity.

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Section 252(e) of the Act requires this Commission to review negotiated 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 agreement filed October 5, 2001, should be approved.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the voluntarily-negotiated interconnection agreement between Sprint Communications Company, L.P. and Qwest Corporation be, and it is hereby, approved.

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

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 6th day of November, 2001.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Executive Director

//s//Frank E. Landis