BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Joint)	Application No. C-2466
Application of Bell Atlantic)	
Communications, Inc., d/b/a)	
Verizon Long Distance and Verizon)	GRANTED
Select Services, Inc. of Irving,)	
Texas, seeking authority to)	
transfer distamers)	Entered. February 21, 2001

BY THE COMMISSION:

By joint application filed January 2, 2001, Bell Atlantic Communications, Inc., d/b/a Verizon Long Distance (VLD) and Verizon Select Services, Inc. (VSSI) of Irving, Texas, seek authority to transfer customers. Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, on January 3, 2001. No protests were filed; therefore, this application is processed pursuant to the Commission's Rule of Modified Procedure.

OPINION AND FINDINGS

Bell Atlantic Communications was granted authority by this Commission to provide interexchange telecommunications in Nebraska on September 29, 1999, pursuant to Application No. C-2103. On August 15, 2000, pursuant to Application No. C-2335, this Commission approved the addition of the trade name Verizon Long Distance.

GTE Card Services, Inc. received its original authorization to provide interexchange telecommunications in Nebraska on August 14, 1995, pursuant to Application No. C-1191. After several subsequent applications for approval of a name change (see Application Nos. C-1422, C-1664 and C-2365), GTE Card Services, Inc. eventually became known as VSSI.

Both VLD and VSSI provide a wide variety of interexchange telecommunications services in Nebraska. Because of the overlapping of services provided by these two affiliates of Verizon Communications, Inc., the companies desire to streamline their operations in Nebraska and consolidate consumer and small business long distance operations in VLD, allowing VSSI to focus on a different segment of consumers. Thus, VLD and VSSI request Commission approval of the transfer of certain long distance customers in Nebraska from VSSI to VLD. Following this transaction, residence and general business long distance customers will be served by VLD. VSSI will still operate in Nebraska and nothing in this order serves as a cancellation of VSSI's certificate of operating authority.

VSSI has notified affected customers and advised them of the following: the pending change of their carrier selection to VLD; that there will be no change in the customer service available to them; that there are no charges associated with the change to VLD; that they will continue to receive service at the same rates as they currently receive; and that they have the option of selecting a different carrier if they desire. VSSI's customers were provided with a toll-free number to call for additional information regarding the change in carrier. Customers will also receive confirmation of the change following the transfer. The FCC has approved a waiver of federal slamming rules in connection with this transfer.

Upon consideration of the application, we find that the proposed transfer of certain customers from VSSI to VLD is in the public interest and should be approved. The transfer will be made in a seamless manner with little or no disruption to customers. VSSI and VLD have kept their customers well-informed of their choices regarding the transfer and customers should not experience any disruption of service. The operational efficiencies to be experienced by VSSI and VLD following the transfer will allow them to continue providing quality service to their customers. In light of the above reasons, the application should be approved.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application No. C-2466 be, and it is hereby, granted.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 21st day of February, 2001.

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NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISS TONERS CONCURRING

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//s//Frank E. Landis

//s//Daniel G. Urwiller

ATTEST:

Executive Director