

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition) Application No. C-2970
from residents of the Wilcox)
exchange, served by Great Plains)
Communications, requesting) DISMISSED
extended area service (EAS) to)
the Hildreth exchange, served by)
Citizens Telecommunications)
Company of Nebraska.) Entered: August 26, 2003

BY THE COMMISSION:

On June 20, 2003, the Commission received a petition from the residents of the Wilcox exchange, requesting extended area service (EAS) to the Hildreth exchange. On June 20, 2003, the Commission verified that the petition contained a sufficient number of signatures. As required by Rule 002.27C3 of the Commission Telecommunications Rules and Regulations, Title 291, Chapter 5, a point-to-point usage study was commenced to determine if a community of interest exists.

Rule 002.27C3 sets forth two criteria which must be satisfied, based on data from the most recent three-month period, for an EAS petition to proceed: 1) an average of five or more calls per customer per month must be made to the petitioned exchange, and 2) more than 50 percent of the customers must make two or more calls per month to the petitioned exchange.

The results of the usage study indicate that no such community of interest exists. During the first month studied (April 2003), an average of nine calls were made by each Wilcox resident to Hildreth. The second month of data (May 2003) produced an average of six calls per customer. The third month (June 2003) produced an average of two calls per customer. In only two of the three months studied did Wilcox residents make an average of five or more calls per month per customer, therefore, the first criteria established by the Commission's rules was not satisfied.

In addition, the usage study indicates the second criteria was also not fulfilled. During the first month, only 39 percent of Wilcox residents made two or more calls to Hildreth. During months two and three, only 33 percent and 21 percent of Wilcox residents made two or more calls to Hildreth, respectively. Therefore, in none of the three months did 50 percent of Wilcox residents make two or more calls to Hildreth, as required by the rule.

Pursuant to Rule 002.27C3, failure to satisfy these two criteria requires dismissal of the petition.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application No. C-2970 be, and it is hereby, dismissed.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 26th day of August, 2003.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chair

ATTEST:

Executive Director