

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition) Application No. C-2971
from residents of the Hildreth)
exchange, served by Citizens)
Telecommunications Company of) DISMISSED
Nebraska, requesting extended)
area service (EAS) to the Wilcox)
exchange, served by Great Plains)
Communications.) Entered: August 26, 2003

BY THE COMMISSION:

On June 20, 2003, the Commission received a petition from the residents of the Hildreth exchange, requesting extended area service (EAS) to the Wilcox 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 .5 calls were made by each Hildreth resident to Wilcox. The second month of data (May 2003) produced an average of .7 calls per customer. The third month (June 2003) produced an average of .7 calls per customer. In none of the three months studied did Hildreth 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 6 percent of Hildreth residents made two or more calls to Wilcox. During months two and three, only 7 percent and 6 percent of Hildreth residents made two or more calls to Wilcox, respectively. Therefore, in none of the three months did 50 percent of Hildreth residents make two or more calls to Wilcox, 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-2971 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