

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application)	Application No. C-3204
of Sprint Communications, L.P.,)	
Overland Park, Kansas, seeking)	
approval of an amendment to its)	
certificate of public)	HEARING OFFICER ORDER
convenience and necessity to)	REGARDING LATE FILED
provide local exchange)	EXHIBITS
telecommunications service in)	
all exchanges within the State)	
of Nebraska in which Sprint is)	
not currently certificated.)	Entered: January 18, 2005

BY THE HEARING OFFICER:

On January 3, 2005, Sprint Communications, L.P. (Sprint); Southeast Nebraska Telephone Company (SENTCO); Benkelman Telephone Company; Arapahoe Telephone Company; Cozad Telephone Company; Curtis Telephone Company; Diller Telephone Company; Glenwood Telephone Membership Corporation; Keystone-Arthur Telephone Company; Plainview Telephone Company; Wauneta Telephone Company; Hartman Telephone Company; and Mainstay Communications filed post-hearing comments in the present docket. Additionally, Southeast filed a Motion For Leave to Include Late Filed Exhibits in the Record and request for oral argument. On January 7, 2005, Sprint filed a response opposing the motion. Sprint further requested that should the motion be granted, additional exhibits be entered into the record.

Oral argument was held on January 14, 2005. During the oral argument, SENTCO also offered an additional letter for the record.

Sprint's intention to act as an "enabler" to cable companies in providing telephone service presents a unique situation to the Commission. As such, the hearing officer finds that the Commission should have as much information before it regarding the proposed services as is available. The hearing officer further finds that neither party will suffer any prejudice from permitting these documents to be entered into the record.

Although the relevance of the proposed correspondence to the requirements for a CLEC application is questionable, the hearing officer finds that SENTCO's motion should be granted; that the additional correspondence offered by Sprint in its response should be admitted and the additional letter offered by SENTCO during the oral argument should also be admitted. In

considering Sprint's application, the correspondence will be given the weight it deserves.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the hearing officer that SENTCO's motion is granted; that the additional correspondence offered by Sprint in its response is admitted into the record and the additional letter offered by SENTCO during the oral argument is also admitted.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 18th day of January, 2005.

By: _____
Frank E. Landis
Hearing Officer