

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application of     ) Application No. C-3308  
Dorothy J. Towle and Southeast     )  
Nebraska Telephone Company, Falls     )  
City, seeking approval of a change     ) GRANTED  
of controlling interest in     )  
Southeast Nebraska Telephone     )  
Company.     ) Entered: January 4, 2005

BY THE COMMISSION:

On November 24, 2004, Dorothy J. Towle (Applicant) and Southeast Nebraska Telephone Company (SENTCO), Falls City, filed a joint application for approval of the change in controlling interest in SENTCO. Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska on November 30, 2004. No protests or formal interventions were filed; therefore, this application is processed pursuant to the Commission's Rule of Modified Procedure, Rule 18.03.

O P I N I O N   A N D   F I N D I N G S

Prior to September 20, 2004, Edwin S. Towle, III, was the holder of 100 percent of the outstanding shares of SENTCO. On September 20, 2004, Mr. Towle died causing the shares to become property of the Estate of Edwin S. Towle, III. In accordance with the terms of Mr. Towle's Last Will and Testament, all of his shares were bequeathed to Mr. Towle's widow, the Applicant. Presently, the Personal Representative of the Estate of Edwin S. Towle, III, desires to distribute the shares to the Applicant.

The change in the ownership of SENTCO will not cause any change in the manner or method of the operation of SENTCO. The transfer of ownership assures continuity of management and allows SENTCO to remain a local, family owned company.

Upon consideration of the application, the rules of the Commission, and being fully informed, the Commission is of the opinion and finds the transfer of the controlling interest in SENTCO is consistent with the public interest and does not unduly restrict competition. Therefore, the Application should be granted.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application C-3308 be, and it is hereby granted and the transfer of 100% of the outstanding shares of Southeast Nebraska Telephone Company from the Estate of Edwin J. Towle, III, to Dorothy J. Towle is hereby approved.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 4th day of January, 2005.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director