

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the ) Application No. C-3522  
Application of the Hemingford )  
Cooperative Telephone ) GRANTED  
Company, Hemingford, seeking )  
authority to issue long-term )  
indebtedness. ) Entered: February 7, 2006

BY THE COMMISSION:

By application filed December 19, 2005, Hemingford Cooperative Telephone Company, ("Hemingford" or "Applicant"), Hemingford, seeks authority to issue long-term indebtedness. Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, on December 28, 2005. No protests were filed; therefore, this application is processed pursuant to the Commission's Rule of Modified Procedure.

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

Hemingford is certificated as a provider of local exchange services in Nebraska. As of December 31, 2004, Hemingford had 872 access lines in service. Hemingford owns and operates a wholly-owned subsidiary, Mobius Communications Company (Mobius), which provides telecommunications services in Nebraska.

Hemingford requests that the Commission grant approval of the present application pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 75-148, which states in pertinent part,

A common carrier may issue stock, bonds, notes, or other evidence of indebtedness, payable at periods of more than twelve months after the date thereof, when necessary for the acquisition of property, the construction, completion, extension or improvement of facilities, the improvement or maintenance of its service, or the discharge or lawful refunding of its obligations if the common carrier first secures from the Commission an order authorizing such issue and the amount thereof and stating that in the opinion of the Commission the use of the capital to be secured by the issue of such stock, bonds,

notes, or other evidence of indebtedness is reasonably required for the purposes of the carrier.

Applicant requests authority to borrow a total of \$8,000,000 from Heartland Financial USA, Inc. (HTLF) for the purpose of refinancing Applicant's existing long-term indebtedness and to guarantee Mobius Communications Company's (Mobius) issuance of long term indebtedness in the approximate amount of \$16,100,000 to facilitate investment by Mobius in the construction, operation and maintenance of telecommunications systems to provide diversified telecommunications service offerings to residents and businesses located in the Nebraska Panhandle.

Upon review of the evidence, the Commission finds the application to be in the public interest and to be reasonably required for the purposes of Hemingford. The application should be granted.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application No. C-3522 be, and it is hereby, granted.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 7th day of February, 2006.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director