

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application) Application No. C-3725
of United States Cellular)
Corporation, Chicago, Illinois,)
seeking designation as an) ORDER GRANTING EXTENSION AND
eligible telecommunications) DECISION ON LATE FILED
carrier pursuant to section) EXHIBIT
214(e)(2) of the Communications)
Act of 1934.)
) Entered: March 27, 2007

BY THE HEARING OFFICER:

On November 21, 2006, United States Cellular Corporation (U.S. Cellular) filed an application seeking designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) pursuant to section 214(e)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934. A Petition for Formal Intervention was timely filed by the Rural Independent Companies (RIC).

A planning conference was held in this matter on January 5, 2007. As a result of the planning conference, several issues were decided. An Order setting a procedural schedule for the filing of documents was issued by the Hearing Officer on January 8, 2007. Copies of the Hearing Officer Order were sent to all parties of record in the above-captioned docket.

A hearing in the above-captioned docket was held on March 26, 2007. The following persons were present at the hearing: for U.S. Cellular, Steven G. Seglin of Crosby Guenzel, LLP and Brooks E. Harlow; for the RIC, James A. Overcash of Woods & Aitken, LLP; and for the Commission, Nichole A. Underhill, staff attorney, M. Gene Hand, Director of Communications, and Jeffrey L. Pursley, Director of the Telecommunications Infrastructure and Public Safety Department. During the hearing, Mr. Seglin requested the admittance of a late-filed exhibit that was designated Exhibit 21. Mr. Overcash objected to the admission of Exhibit 21 on the grounds of timeliness and lack of foundation. The hearing officer reserved judgment on the admissibility of the exhibit to a later date.

After the hearing, the attorneys for the Applicant requested an extension of the deadline to file post hearing briefs contained in the January 8, 2007, Planning Conference Order, from April 16, 2007 to April 23, 2007.

In the January 8, 2007 Planning Conference Order, a deadline for filing exhibits for the March 26, 2007 hearing in the above-captioned docket was set for March 22, 2007. I find that Exhibit 21, offered by the Applicant at the March 26, 2007,

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hearing, was not filed in a timely manner in compliance with the Planning Conference Order of January 8, 2007. Therefore, Exhibit 21 should not be admitted into evidence in the above-captioned docket.

I further find that the Applicant's request for an extension to file post hearing briefs is reasonable and should be granted.

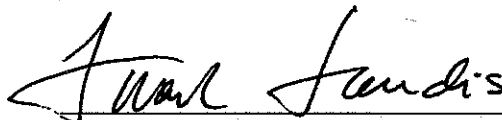
O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Hearing Officer in this matter that the request by U.S. Cellular Corporation to admit Exhibit 21 into evidence be denied and Exhibit 21 be and is hereby not admitted into evidence.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the request by U.S. Cellular Corporation for an extension of the filing deadline for post hearing briefs be granted and the deadline for filing post hearing briefs be and is hereby extended to 5 p.m. CST on April 23, 2007.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 27th day of March, 2007.

BY:



Frank E. Landis
HEARING OFFICER