

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application	)	Application No. C-4318
of Southeast Nebraska	)	
Communications, Inc., Falls	)	
City, seeking approval to issue	)	
long-term indebtedness in	)	GRANTED
connection with Rural Utilities	)	
Service Loan Grant under the	)	
Broadband Initiative Grant	)	
Program.	)	Entered: December 14, 2010

BY THE COMMISSION:

On November 4, 2010, an application was filed by Southeast Nebraska Communications, Inc. ("Southeast" or "Applicant"), Falls City, Nebraska, seeking approval to issue long-term indebtedness in connection with Rural Utilities Service Loan Grant under the Broadband Initiative Grant Program. Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, on November 10, 2010. 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

Southeast is a Nebraska corporation with its principal office located in Falls City, Nebraska. Southeast has been certified by the Commission as a local exchange carrier to offer and provide telecommunications services at the Falls City and the Tri-Cities exchanges in Nebraska. As of December 31, 2009, Southeast had 3,265 access lines in service.

Southeast 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.

Southeast seeks authority to borrow \$3,396,895 from the Rural Utilities Service of the United States Department of Agriculture ("RUS") for the purpose of financing a portion of the construction of a broadband infrastructure project consisting of a fiber-to-the-premises network extending high-speed broadband services to the rural portions of the Falls City and Tri-Cities exchanges. Remaining costs of the project will be funded by a grant awarded to Southeast by the RUS. Disbursement of funds by the RUS will be made at a date or dates following this Commission's approval of this issuance of indebtedness.

Based upon the above information, the Commission finds the application to be in the public interest and to be reasonably required for the purposes of Southeast Nebraska Communications, Inc. Therefore, the application should be granted.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application No. C-4318 be, and is hereby, granted.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2010.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Deputy Director

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Application No. C-4318

Page 2

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.

Southeast seeks authority to borrow \$3,396,895 from the Rural Utilities Service of the United States Department of Agriculture ("RUS") for the purpose of financing a portion of the construction of a broadband infrastructure project consisting of a fiber-to-the-premises network extending high-speed broadband services to the rural portions of the Falls City and Tri-Cities exchanges. Remaining costs of the project will be funded by a grant awarded to Southeast by the RUS. Disbursement of funds by the RUS will be made at a date or dates following this Commission's approval of this issuance of indebtedness.

Based upon the above information, the Commission finds the application to be in the public interest and to be reasonably required for the purposes of Southeast Nebraska Communications, Inc. Therefore, the application should be granted.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application No. C-4318 be, and is hereby, granted.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2010.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

*Red Johnson*

*Rene Boyle*

*Tim Schram*

//s// Frank E. Landis  
//s// Gerald L. Vap

Chairman

*Gerald L. Vap*

ATTEST:

*John Bucala*

Deputy Director