

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the) Application No. C-4913
Application of Clarks)
Telecommunications Company,) ORDER
Clarks, Nebraska seeking a)
residential rate increase.) Entered: June 22, 2017

BY THE COMMISSION

OPINION AND FINDINGS

On or about April 6, 2017, Clarks Telephone Company ("Clarks" or "Applicant"), of Clarks, Nebraska, filed an application to increase its residential basic local exchange rates from \$17.50 to \$20.00. Notice appeared in The Daily Record, Omaha, on April 10, 2017. Notice was provided as required by Section 86-141(2) and Neb Admin Code Tit. 291 Ch. 5 § 002.33 to all subscribers who would be affected by the proposed rate adjustment. Such notice was provided on March 30, 2017.

On June 19, 2017, the Director of the Communications Department and Clarks entered into a joint stipulation. The parties stipulated that the proposed rate increase is fair, just, and reasonable as required by Neb. Rev. Stat. §86-147. The parties noted the residential rate is consistent with or near the approved benchmark range of \$17.95 to \$19.95 established in NUSF-50.¹ The parties also noted that Clarks has not increased its basic local exchange rates since 2001. The stipulating parties agreed a hearing was not necessary unless enough petitions were received to require a hearing.

Based on the foregoing information, the Commission finds that the stipulation should be approved. The Commission further finds the proposed rate should become effective July 1, 2017, absent the requisite number of petitions required to trigger a Commission hearing.

¹ See *In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its Own Motion To Make Adjustments To The Universal Service Fund Mechanism Established In NUSF-26*, Docket NUSF-50, Order (December 19, 2006) at para. 17.

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ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the stipulated agreement between Clarks Telecommunications Company and the Communications Department shall be and it is hereby approved.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED the proposed rate shall become effective July 1, 2017, unless the requisite number of petitions are filed which will trigger a hearing.

ENTERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 22nd day of June, 2017.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Mary Reddis

Pat Hulse

//s//Frank E. Landis
//s//Tim Schram

Tim Schram

Chairman

ATTEST:

Shane Knutson

Deputy Director