

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska)	Application No. NUSF-2
Public Service Commission, on)	Progression Order #6
its own motion, seeking to)	
establish guidelines for the)	
administration of the Nebraska)	
Lifeline Program.)	
)	
In the Matter of the Nebraska)	Application No. C-1645
Public Service Commission, on)	Progression Order #2
its own motion, seeking to)	
establish a Lifeline and Link-Up)	ORDER SEEKING COMMENTS
Plan for the State of Nebraska.)	
)	Entered: March 4, 2003

BY THE COMMISSION:

1. On May 8, 1997, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released its Report and Order on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, FCC Order No. 97-157 (Order) restructuring both the Link-Up and Lifeline programs. On October 15, 1997, the Commission opened docket C-1645 to establish and revise the Lifeline and Link-Up programs in Nebraska in accordance with the FCC's Order.

2. On December 2, 1997, in Docket No. C-1645, the Commission entered an order which approved the creation of the Nebraska Lifeline and Link-Up Assistance Plan. The Commission subsequently requested comments on its Lifeline program and entered an order modifying its December 2, 1997 Order and entering a new order with respect to its toll limitation requirements. Subsequently, the Nebraska Legislature authorized the creation of the Nebraska Universal Service Fund (ANUSF@) and charged the Commission with maximizing the federal lifeline support for qualified Nebraska telephone subscribers. The Commission opened docket NUSF-2 on March 16, 1999, for the purpose of administering the Nebraska Lifeline Program.

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

3. The Commission has received an abundant amount of feedback from the public, other state agencies and the industry indicating that the name of the Lifeline and Link-Up Assistance Plan can be easily confused with personal emergency medical alarm systems also commonly referred to as "Lifeline". Therefore, in an effort to fully maximize the participation level of the Lifeline and Link-Up Assistance Plan, the Commission proposes that the program name be changed to the "Nebraska Telephone Assistance Program" or "NTAP".

The Commission hereby seeks comments on the following questions:

1. Would the name change from the Lifeline and Link-Up Assistance Plan to the Nebraska Telephone Assistance Program or NTAP be in compliance with Neb. Rev. Stat. 86-329?
2. Does the Commission otherwise lack the authority to change the name of the Lifeline and Link-Up Assistance Plan?
3. If the Commission would change the name of the Lifeline and Link-Up Assistance Plan, is there a name more suitable than the "Nebraska Telephone Assistance Program" or "NTAP"?

Interested parties may file written comments on or before April 4, 2003 on the questions and comment on issues germane to the questions contained in this Order. Parties filing written comments should file one (1) original, five (5) paper copies and one (1) electronic copy in Word or WordPerfect.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that interested parties file comments on or before April 4, 2003, in the manner prescribed above.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 4th day of March, 2003.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chair

ATTEST:

Executive Director