

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska                    ) Application No. NUSF-71  
Public Service Commission, on                    )  
its own motion, seeking to                    )  
investigate remittance variances                ) ORDER CLOSING INVESTIGATION  
and compliance with universal                    )  
service fund requirements and to                )  
make necessary adjustments to                    )  
the high-cost program.                            ) Entered: February 5, 2008

BY THE COMMISSION:

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

On October 10, 2007, the Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission) opened this investigation to conduct a review of remittance filings of telecommunications companies operating in the State of Nebraska; to ensure compliance with rules, regulations and orders; to enable accurate forecasting; and to make any necessary adjustments to the Nebraska Universal Service Fund (NUSF) high-cost program.

In the Order opening this investigation, the Commission observed that remittance amounts received from carriers varied from forecasted remittances in 2007. The NUSF remittances were significantly lower than forecasted. The Commission sent informal data requests to a number of carriers whose remittance statements varied significantly from previous remittance filings.

After reviewing the information provided by the carriers,<sup>1</sup> it appears that a significant variance between forecasted and actual remittances resulted from the implementation of the revised safe harbor provisions by the wireless carriers beginning April, 2007. Other types of discrepancies were also found which will be further investigated on a case-by-case basis through the companies' required audits. From the information supplied by the carriers, the reasons for the variances between actual and forecasted remittances has become apparent. The

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<sup>1</sup> Since no interventions were filed, there was no need for a protective order to govern the limits on the release of data received in response to the Commission's inquiry. The responses to the data requests should be kept under seal to the extent that confidential information was provided to the Commission.

Commission finds there is no further purpose for this investigation. Accordingly, the above-captioned docket should be closed.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the above-captioned investigation be and it is hereby closed.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 5th day of February, 2008.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chair

ATTEST:

Executive Director