

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition of) Application No. NUSF-77
the Nebraska Telecommunications) Progression Order No. 2
Association for Investigation)
and Review of Processes and) ORDER SEEKING REPLY COMMENTS
Procedures Regarding the NUSF.)
) Entered: March 15, 2011

BY THE COMMISSION:

On January 14, 2010, the Nebraska Telecommunications Association (NTA) filed a petition for investigation and review of the Nebraska Universal Service Fund (NUSF) processes and procedures. On March 8, 2010 the Commission held a planning conference to discuss a timeline for submission and development of issues to be considered for possible inclusion in this investigation. The Commission requested that a listing of issues be filed by interested parties. Those issues were discussed at a workshop held on June 24, 2010. The issues of many of the commenters focused on establishing a program within the NUSF that would support broadband deployment in Nebraska. The Commission sought comments on how a broadband pilot program could be structured.

In comments filed on January 18, 2011, Windstream Nebraska Inc., Windstream Systems of the Midwest Inc., and Windstream of the Midwest Inc., (collectively "Windstream") requested that the Commission bifurcate this proceeding and seek comments on its proposal to eliminate or alter the earnings test used by the Commission. Comments responsive to this proposal were filed by interested parties on February 28, 2011. Upon review of the comments submitted, the Commission finds that Reply Comments should be solicited as well.

The Commission hereby gives interested parties an opportunity to reply to comments submitted on Windstream's proposals for elimination or modification of the NUSF earnings test. Reply comments must be filed on or before **March 29, 2011**. Commenters should file one (1) paper copy and one (1) electronic copy of their reply comments with the Commission. Electronic copies should be sent to Brandy.Zierott@Nebraska.gov. An electronic copy of the reply comments must also be served on all other interested parties on the Commission's service list.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that reply comments may be filed on or before **March 29, 2011** as provided above.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 15th day of March, 2011.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director