BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re Disposition of Property Tax Revenues For Taxable Year 1991 By Certain Affected Telecommunications Companies:	Application Nos. C-931(3) C-931(14) C-931(21) C-931(37)
Benkelman Telephone Company; Eustis Telephone Exchange; Home Telephone Company of Nebraska; and Wauneta Telephone Company.	ORDER APPROVING DISPOSITION Entered: June 30, 1992

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

The Commission on its own motion opened this docket May 14, 1992 as a means of determining whether to approve plans submitted by certain affected telecommunications companies for the disposition of revenues resulting from decreases in personal property taxes for the taxable year 1991. This docket is governed by Neb. Rev. Stat. §86-803(9) (1991 Supp.).

Notice of hearing was sent to the above-named parties May 29, 1992 by the Executive Director and hearings were scheduled for July 7, 1992. The Commission in its order opening this docket ruled that a telephone company's plan for disposition would be approved without a hearing, pursuant to the Commission's modified procedure rule, if (a) there was no dispute as to the amount of revenue calculated for disposition and (b) if the respondent telephone company agreed to dispose of the revenues pursuant to one or more of the alternatives "pre-approved" by the Commission.

BY THE COMMISSION

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

The Commission, being fully advised, finds: Benkelman Telephone Company ("Benkelman"), Eustis Telephone Exchange ("Eustis"), Home Telephone Company of Nebraska ("Home"), and Wauneta Telephone Company ("Wauneta") filed documentation with the Commission stipulating that the revenues subject to disposition by each company will be used in one or more of the following ways:

(1) used to install equipment necessary to provide 911 or E-911 service;
(2) used to implement Phase II of the Frame Relay project;
(3) used to install distance learning or other technology assisted educational systems for secondary and/or primary school districts;
(4) returned to the local governmental subdivision from which

they came;
(5) refunded to the respondent's customers on a pro rata basis; or
(6) used to provide toll route diversity to improve network reliability.

The available revenues from the 1991 taxable year for disposition after various offsets are:

Benkelman - $19,972;
Eustis - $6,783;
Home - $4,112; and
Wauneta - $25,556.[1]

The Communications Department's staff and each company concur with the figure calculated for each company. There being no dispute as to the amount of revenue for disposition and each company agreeing to disposition by one or more of the pre-approved methods, an order should be entered approving the disposition and cancelling the previously scheduled hearings. Further, the revenue subject to this order should be maintained in an interest-bearing account pending its actual disposition. Finally, disposition should be made as soon as is practicable for the alternatives selected.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the July 7, 1992 hearings scheduled for these companies be, and they are hereby, cancelled.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the proposed plans filed by Benkelman Telephone Company, Eustis Telephone Exchange, Home Telephone Company of Nebraska, and Wauneta Telephone Company for disposition of revenues resulting from decreased personal property taxes for the 1991 taxable year be, and they are hereby, approved pursuant to this order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this docket shall remain open and, if the outcome of pending litigation involving the depreci-

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[1] Commission staff accepted certain offsets in arriving at each company's calculation while realizing pending litigation may alter those offsets as they pertain to the depreciation surcharge which is the subject of the litigation. Since the outcome of these lawsuits may result in adjustments to the depreciation surcharge, the docket should remain open and if changes occur (a) a new calculation of the additional revenues should be made and confirmed for each company affected, and (b) respondents should stipulate to the disposition of those additional revenues.

ation surcharge results in adjustments to the depreciation surcharge and consequently to the amount of the offsets used in the calculation of revenues subject to disposition, (a) a new calculation of the additional revenues shall be made and confirmed for each company affected, and (b) respondents shall stipulate to the disposition of those additional revenues.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the revenue subject to this order shall be maintained in an interest-bearing account pending its actual disposition and disposition shall be made as soon as is practicable for the alternatives selected.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 30th day of June, 1992.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chairman

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING

Daniel G. Urwiller

Duane D. Gay

//s//Frank E. Landis, Jr.
//s//James F. Munnelly
//s//Eric Rasmussen

ATTEST:

Executive Director