BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition from residents of the Pilger exchange, served by Qwest Corporation, requesting extended area service to the Wisner exchange, served by Great Plains Communications.	)	Application No. C-2704 DISMISSED Entered: May 7, 2002

BY THE COMMISSION:

On March 12, 2002, the Commission received a petition from the residents of Pilger exchange, served by Qwest Corporation, requesting extended area service (EAS) to the Wisner exchange, served by Great Plains Communications. On March 14, 2002, the Commission verified that the petition contained a sufficient number of signatures. As required by Rule 002.27C3 of the Commission Telecommunications Rules and Regulations, Title 291, Chapter 5, a point-to-point usage study was commenced to determine if a community of interest exists.

Rule 002.27C3 sets forth two criteria which must be satisfied, based on data from the most recent three-month period, for an EAS petition to proceed: 1) an average of five or more calls per customer per month must be made to the petitioned exchange, and 2) more than 50 percent of the customers must make two or more calls per month to the petitioned exchange.

The results of the usage study indicate that no such community of interest exists. During the first month studied (December 2001), an average of 1.7 calls was made by each Pilger resident to Wisner. The second month of data (January 2002) produced an average of 1.5 calls per customer. The third month (February 2002) produced an average of 1.7 calls per customer. In none of the three months studied did Pilger residents make an average of five or more calls per month per customer, therefore, the first criteria established by the Commission's rules is not satisfied.

In addition, the usage study indicates the second criteria was also not fulfilled. During the first month, only 17.3 percent of Pilger residents made two or more calls to Wisner. During months two and three, only 15.1 percent and 16.1 percent of Pilger residents made two or more calls to Wisner, respectively. Therefore, in none of the three months did 50 percent of Pilger residents make two or more calls to Wisner, as required by the rule.

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Pursuant to Rule 002.27C3, failure to satisfy these two criteria requires dismissal of the petition.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Application No. C-2704 be, and it is hereby, dismissed.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 7th day of May, 2002.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chair

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

//s//Anne C. Boyle
//s//Frank E. Landis

ATTEST:

Executive Director

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