



DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

ORGANIZATION
FOR THE PROMOTION
AND ADVANCEMENT
OF SMALL
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
COMPANIES

OPASTCO

August 21, 1997

Mr. William F. Caton
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Room 222
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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AUG 22 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: OPASTCO nomination of Phillip C. Nelson to the
Universal Service Advisory Committee, CC Docket 96-45

Dear Mr. Caton:

The Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of Small Telecommunications Companies (OPASTCO) nominates Phillip C. Nelson for a seat on the Universal Service Advisory Committee, in accordance with the Commission's Public Notice, DA 97-1649, released August 1, 1997, in CC Docket 96-45. Please find attached Mr. Nelson's curriculum vitae and letter of commitment to the ideals of the committee.

Phillip Nelson has worked on behalf of small telephone companies and their communities for many years. He was an OPASTCO board member for six years, and volunteered time and resources to the association's Ad Hoc Toll Rate Deaveraging Study, which analyzed the effects of deaveraging on high cost service areas. He also was a member of the NECA average schedule task force. Through other volunteer work, Phillip also has over 27 years of experience working toward improving the economic vitality, education, and health care in rural communities, and he has been recognized by three separate organizations for his achievements in economic development.

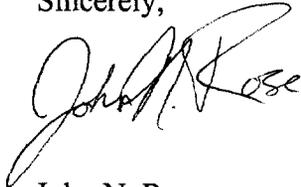
OPASTCO is a national trade association of more than 490 independently owned and operated telephone companies serving rural areas of the United States. Its members, which include both commercial companies and cooperatives, together serve over two million customers.

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OPASTCO strongly recommends that you name Phillip Nelson to the Universal Service Advisory Committee. His record of service to the telecommunications industry and his commitment to the ideals of this committee demonstrate that he has the attributes that will serve the Universal Service Advisory Committee well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John N. Rose". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" and last name "Rose" clearly legible.

John N. Rose
President

Phillip C. Nelson

1001 12th Street, Aurora, NE 68818
Phone 402/694-5101; Facsimile 402/694-2848
e-mail: phil@hamilton.net

Curriculum Vitae

Telecommunications Company Operations Experience

President **1976 to present**

Hamilton Telephone Company

Hamilton Telephone Company (HTC) is an independent telephone company in rural Nebraska, with 6,020 access lines. Since joining HTC in 1967, responsibilities have included outside plant, central office technician, operations manager, general manager, vice president and president.

President **1988 to present**

Nedelco, Inc.

Nedelco, Inc. is a family holding company and the parent company for Hamilton Telephone Company, Aurora Telemarketing and Hamilton Telephone Long Distance. Nedelco's additional operating business lines include: Hamilton.net, an Internet Service Provider, Nebraska Relay Service for the hearing impaired, and the Idaho Relay Service for the hearing impaired.

President **1986 to present**

Aurora Telemarketing

President **1997 to present**

Hamilton Telephone Long Distance

Founding President **1988 to 1991**

Nebraska Cellular Telephone Company

President **1968 to present**

Mid-State Community TV, Inc.

Mid-State Community TV, Inc. provides cable TV service in seven communities to 2,100 subscribers.

Access and Universal Service Experience

Member **1988 to 1991**

National Exchange Carrier Association - Average Schedule Task Force

Represented the Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of Small Telecommunications Companies (OPASTCO).

-more-

Committee Member 1993 to 1996
Ad Hoc Toll Rate Deaveraging Study
OPASTCO

Telecommunications Associations

Board Member 1991 to 1997
OPASTCO

Committee participation has included: Legislative and Regulatory Conference, Ad Hoc Toll Rate Deaveraging Study and Nominating Committees.

President 1980/1981 and 1993/1994
Board Member 1972 to present

Nebraska Telephone Association

Committee participation has included: chair and member of the Legislative, Regulatory, Public Relations and Nominating Committees, and member of the Budget Committee.

Founding President 1996 to present
Nebraska Information Networks

Participated in founding the organization to help Nebraska's small, rural telephone companies leverage their assets.

Chairman 1989
Trustee 1984 to present
United States Telephone Association Insurance Trust

Chairman 1989
Trustee 1987 to present
United States Telephone Association Group Safety Trust

United States Telephone Association 1981 to 1983
Committee participation included: Advanced Services Planning Committee.

Telecommunications and Other Organizations

Board and Executive Committee Member 1997 to present
21st Century Telesis

21st Century Telesis provides personal communications services and is located in Newport Beach, California

Telecommunications and Other Organizations, cont'd

Board of Trustees Nebraska Council of Economic Education Educating children about the economy	1996 to present
Board Member Farmers State Bank Located in Aurora, Nebraska	1993 to present
President Edgerton Educational Foundation and Explorit Center An educational and learning center, located in Aurora, Nebraska	1991 to present
President Board Member Aurora Development Corporation Promoting economic development in Aurora, Nebraska	1982 1970 to 1988
Ambassador Nebraska Department of Economic Development Diplomats Promoting economic development in Nebraska	1974 to present
Board of Trustees Memorial Foundation A governing body for the local hospital, Memorial Hospital, located in Aurora, Nebraska	1970 to present
Board of Trustees Central Community College Foundation A governing body for Central Community College, located in Grand Island, Nebraska	1989 to 1994
<u>Awards</u>	
Rural Development Achievement Award Fund for Rural and Education Development	1997
Champion of Small Business University of Nebraska at Omaha	1994
Outstanding Industry Award Nebraska Department of Economic Development Diplomats	1991

Phillip C. Nelson, page 4

Other Experience

Producer/Director
WPSX-TV Pennsylvania State University
State College, Pennsylvania

1965 to 1967

Production
KUON-TV University of Nebraska
Lincoln, Nebraska

1957 to 1959, 1962 to 1965

Signal Corps
U.S. Army
Fort Huachuca, Arizona

1965 to 1967

Education

Bachelor of Arts Degree, Speech
University of Nebraska
Lincoln, Nebraska

1965

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Re: Universal Service Administrator Advisory Committee - Statement of Commitment

Dear Mr. Caton:

In making a commitment to actively participate to achieve the objectives of the Universal Service Administrator Advisory Committee, I am extending the same commitment my company, Hamilton Telephone Company historically has made in our service area.

In the last 20 years, Hamilton Telephone Company has:

1. Provided service levels that in all cases have exceeded Nebraska Public Service Commission standards, while maintaining both local service and access rates, which are among the lowest in the state.
2. Installed digital switching in 1981, fiber optics in 1984, cable television service in 1968, 911 service in 1972 and toll free Internet access in 1995.
3. Provided our local school, library and hospital with cable television, paging, answering service, Internet access, nurses call systems, and classroom ethernet wiring at reduced prices or at no charge.

I believe that policy that creates pockets of have-nots is in no one's best interest. A system of universal support mechanisms with uniform application and administration is the best, if not the only, way to avoid creating those pockets.

In summary, I am committed to actively participate in good faith in the objectives of the Universal Service Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phillip C. Nelson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P".

Phillip C. Nelson
President
Hamilton Telephone Company