

Farmers Co-Operative Telephone Co.

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Ph. 319-476-7800 FAX 319-476-7911

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FCC MAIL

December 11, 1997

Office of the Secretary
CC Docket No 96-45
Federal Communications Commission
Room 222
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Secretary:

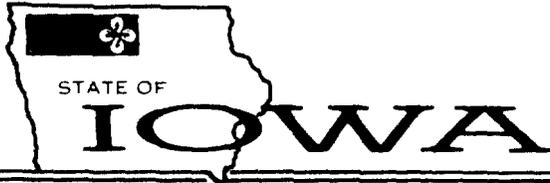
Enclosed is a copy of the order from the Iowa Utilities Board on "designating eligible carriers".

Sincerely,



Richard R. Baker
Manager

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TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR

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IOWA UTILITIES BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

UNIVERSAL SERVICE--ELIGIBLE CARRIERS

Docket No. IOWA ADMIN. CODE 199-39.2(4) (1997)

"ORDER GRANTING WAIVERS AND DESIGNATING ELEGIBLE CARRIERS"

Issued December 3, 1997

Parties Served:

Robert F. Holz, Jr.
Davis, Brown, Koehn,
Shors & Roberts, P. C.
The Financial Center
666 Walnut Street
Suite 2500
Des Moines, IA 50309-3993

Sheryl Todd
Federal Communications Commission
Universal Service Branch
CC Docket No. 96-45
8th Floor
2100 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

James R. Maret
Consumer Advocate
Department of Justice
Consumer Advocate Division
Lucas State Office Building
Des Moines, IA 50319

Office of the Secretary
CC Docket No. 96-45
Federal Communications Commission
Room 222
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Interested Parties:

J. Kent Jerome
Iowa Telecommunications Association
1601 22nd Street, Suite 209
West Des Moines, IA 50265

Copies also sent to each local exchange carrier listed on Attachment 1

Universal Service Administrative
Company
100 South Jefferson Road
Whippany, NJ 07981

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing document has been served upon all parties of record in this proceeding in accordance with the requirements of the rules of the Iowa Utilities Board.

Dated December 3, 1997
Shelley L Lewis

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STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:
UNIVERSAL SERVICE--ELIGIBLE
CARRIERS

DOCKET NO. IOWA ADMIN.
CODE 199-39.2(4)
(1997)

**ORDER GRANTING WAIVERS AND
DESIGNATING ELIGIBLE CARRIERS**

(Issued December 3, 1997)

On September 5, 1997, the Utilities Board (Board) adopted emergency rules in Docket No. RMU-97-9 pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Universal Service Fund (USF) rules adopted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in CC Docket No. 96-45. The rules adopted by the Board provide standards under which Iowa carriers can be designated as eligible telecommunications carriers. A carrier receiving the Board's designation is eligible to receive federal universal service support. Eligible carriers must offer the services supported by the USF using their own facilities or a combination of their own facilities and resale, advertise the availability of the supported services, and offer these services throughout their designated service area.

The eligible carrier applications filed with the Board fell into three broad categories. The first group of applicants consisted chiefly of members of the Iowa Telephone Association (ITA) apart from GTE Midwest Incorporated (GTE). The

second category was one competitive local exchange carrier (CLEC), Heart of Iowa Communications Cooperative (Heart of Iowa). The only member of the third category was GTE. Each local exchange carrier in each category is identified on a five-page table appended to this order, identified as Attachment 1.

No objections were filed regarding any of the applications. All of the applicants satisfy the requirements of IOWA ADMIN. CODE 199-39.2(3) (1997), with the exceptions discussed below.

The first group of applicants stated they lack facilities to implement toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers. The applicants contended substantial new investments will be necessary to comply and they sought Board waiver of the toll limitation requirement. Board rule 39.2(2), based upon 47 C.F.R. § 54.101(c), gives the Board authority to grant additional time to complete network upgrades to provide the service if the applicant can show it cannot provide the service owing to exceptional circumstances. The Board agrees the toll limitation requirement should be waived until this technology is reasonably available and the Board has issued an order directing a statewide implementation schedule for toll limitation service.

Heart of Iowa, the only applicant in the second category, requested the same waiver for the same reasons as the applicants in the first group. Heart of Iowa also stated concerns about prison calls and toll limitation being a subscriber function

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rather than a carrier function. These additional concerns conflict with policy determinations already made by the FCC. The Board is unable to alter these policy determinations. However, the Board will grant a toll limitation waiver for the same reasons a waiver was granted to applicants in the first group.

GTE, the sole applicant in the third category, asked for waiver of the toll limitation requirement, the requirement to provide access to 911 service, and the requirement to provide single-party service. GTE based its toll limitation waiver request upon the same grounds as the other applicants and states it will be able to make the service available when its seven-year facilities upgrade program is completed on December 31, 1998. GTE also stated it will be able to provide access to 911 service and single-party service by December 31, 1998. The Board will grant GTE the same toll limitation waiver given to the applicants in the first two groups because it is not clear the toll limitation technology will be available by the date GTE expects. The Board, consistent with the GTE network upgrade program previously filed with the Board, will grant the requested waiver for providing access to 911 service and for providing single-party service until December 31, 1998.

Eligible telecommunications carrier status will be granted to all of the applicants. The designated service area for each applicant will be its service territory under its current certificate of public convenience and necessity. Future

developments in the federal universal service program may require the Board to revise the service area designations.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. Eligible telecommunications carrier status is granted to each local exchange carrier listed in Groups A, B, and C, on a five-page table appended to this order, identified as Attachment 1. The designated service area for each listed local exchange carrier shall be the carrier's service territory established in its certificate of public convenience and necessity.

2. Waiver of the IOWA ADMIN. CODE 199-39.2(1)"g" (1997) requirement to provide toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers is granted to each local exchange carrier listed in Groups A, B, and C, on Attachment 1 until the technology becomes reasonably available and the Board has issued an order directing a statewide implementation schedule.

3. Waiver of the IOWA ADMIN. CODE 199-39.2(1)"d" (1997) requirement to provide single-party service or its functional equivalent and of the IOWA ADMIN. CODE 199-39.2(1)"e" (1997) requirement to provide access to emergency services is granted to GTE Midwest Incorporated until December 31, 1998.

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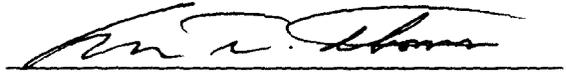
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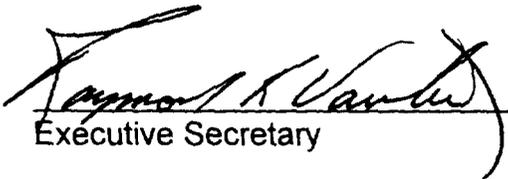
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4. The Executive Secretary to the Board shall mail copies of this order to the applicants, the Universal Service Administrative Company, the FCC Universal Service Branch, and the FCC Office of the Secretary.

UTILITIES BOARD



ATTEST:



Executive Secretary



Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 3rd day of December, 1997.

Name	Name of Company	Mailing Address	City & State
Group A			
Jerald Bieker, Mgr.	Defiance Telephone Company Inc.	P.O. Box 399	Defiance, IA 51527
Howard Hunt, Mgr.	Dixon Telephone Company	P.O. Box 10	Dixon, IA 52745
William Blakley, Mgr.	Dumont Telephone Company	P.O. Box 349	Dumont, IA 50625-0349
Douglas McConnelee, Mgr.	Dunkerton Telephone Cooperative	P. O. Box 188	Dunkerton, IA 50626
Jay D. Hagge, Mgr.	East Buchanan Telephone Cooperative	P.O. Drawer H	Winthrop, IA 50682
Greg Grablander, Mgr.	East Plains Telecom, Inc.	P.O. Box 307	Baltic, SD 57003
Thomas Ellwood, Mgr.	Ellsworth Cooperative Telephone Association	P.O. Box 458	Ellsworth, IA 50075-0458
Lawrence H. Woodford, Mgr.	Farmers & Business Mens' Telephone Company	P. O. Box 307	Wheatland, IA 52777
John L. Stauffer, Mgr.	Farmers & Merchants Mutual Telephone Company	P.O. Box 247	Wayland, IA 52654
Richard Baker, Mgr.	Farmers Co-operative Telephone Company	P.O. Box 280	Dysart, IA 52224-0280
Barbara Appler, Mgr.	Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Company	P. O. Box 38	Moulton, IA 52572
Tom Conry, General Mgr.	Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Company	P.O. Box 311	Harlan, IA 51537
Russell Rock, Mgr.	Farmers Mutual Telephone Company	P.O. Box 249	Jesup, IA 50648
Ronald J. Laudner, Jr., Gen. Mgr.	Farmers Mutual Telephone Company	P.O. Box 518	Nora Springs, IA 50458
Kevin Cabbage, Gen. Mgr.	Farmers Mutual Telephone Company of Stanton	P.O. Box 220	Stanton, IA 51573-0220
Charles Eldred, Gen. Mgr.	Farmers Mutual Telephone Cooperative of Shellsburg	P.O. Box 389	Shellsburg, IA 52332
Leon Cartwright, Mgr.	Farmers' Telephone Company	P.O. Box G	Batavia, IA 52533
Charles White, Mgr.	Farmers Telephone Company	P.O. Box 179	Essex, IA 51638
Ronald J Laudner, Jr., Gen. Mgr.	Farmers Telephone Company	P.O. Box 518	Nora Springs, IA 50458
Leroy E. Jacobsen, Gen. Mgr.	Fenton Cooperative Telephone Company	P.O. Box 77	Fenton, IA 50539-0077
Jack D. Phillips-Regulatory Affairs Staff Manager	Frontier Communications of Iowa, Inc.	14450 Burnhaven Dr.	Burnsville, MN 55306
Lois M. Hammer - Regulatory Staff	Frontier Communications of Schuyler, Inc.	14450 Burnhaven Dr.	Burnsville, MN 55337
Darrell L. Seaba, Mgr.	Goldfield Telephone Company	P.O. Box 67	Goldfield, IA 50542
Kenneth L. Beuthien, Mgr.	Grand Mound Cooperative Telephone Association	P.O. Box 316	Grand Mound, IA 52751
Philip S. Johnson, Gen. Mgr.	Grand River Mutual Telephone Corporation	101 Kentucky Street	Princeton, MO 64673
Harold Albertson, Mgr. Corporation Opers.	Griswold Cooperative Telephone Company	P.O. Box 640	Griswold, IA 51535
Ken Halverson, Mgr.	Harmony Telephone Company	P.O. Box 308	Harmony, MN 55939
Jeff Cacek, Mgr.	Hawkeye Telephone Company	P.O. Box 250	Hawkeye, IA 52147
David L. Schmidt, Gen. Mgr.	Heart of Iowa Telecommunications Cooperative	P. O. Box 130	Union, IA 50258-0130
Dennis Kilburg, Manager	Heartland Telecommunications Company of Iowa	P. O. Box 3248	Mankato, MN 56002-3248
Peter C. Rasmusson, V. Pres. & General Mgr.	Hills Telephone Company, Inc.	P.O. Box 98	Dell Rapids, SD 57701-0098
David Raak, Mgr.	Hospers Telephone Company	P.O. Box 142	Hospers, IA 51238
Larry D. Kielsmeier, Mgr.	Hubbard Cooperative Telephone Association	P.O. Box 428	Hubbard, IA 50122
Bill Hotchkiss, Mgr.	Huxley Cooperative Telephone Company	P.O. Box 36	Huxley, IA 50124
Larry McAlpin, Gen. Mgr.	IAMO Telephone Company	P.O. Box 368	Coin, IA 51636

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