

Nebraska Public Service Commission

COMMISSIONERS:

ANNE C. BOYLE
LOWELL C. JOHNSON
ROD JOHNSON
FRANK E. LANDIS
DANIEL G. URWILLER

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

ANDY S. POLLOCK



300 The Atrium, 1200 N Street, Lincoln, NE 68508
Post Office Box 94927, Lincoln, NE 68509-4927
Website: www.nol.org/home/NPSC
Phone: (402) 471-3101
Fax: (402) 471-0254

NEBRASKA CONSUMER HOTLINE:
1-800-526-0017

March 29, 2001

Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED
APR 4 - 2001
FCC MAIL ROOM

Cheryl Parrino
Chief Executive Officer
Universal Service Administrative Corp.
2120 L. Street, N.W. Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20037

Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Salas and Ms. Parrino:

Pursuant to Section 214(e)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the "Act"), and 47 C.F.R. Sections 54.201 – 54.203, the Nebraska Public Service Commission ("Commission") has designated Western Wireless Corporation ("Western Wireless") as a competitive Eligible Telecommunications Carrier.

The Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") has adopted a rule providing that an ETC may receive certain types of federal universal service funding only if the state commission files a certification that all federal high-cost support provided to the carrier will be used as required in Section 254(e). 47 C.F.R. § 54.313. *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, Ninth Report and Order and Eighteenth Order on Reconsideration, 14 FCC Rcd 20432, ¶ 97 (1999).

Western Wireless was designated an ETC in Nebraska on November 21, 2000. A copy of the order granting the designation is attached.

On March 19, 2001, a group of Nebraska telecommunications carriers ("the Intervenors") filed a notice of appeal of that decision. The notice of appeal is also attached. The Intervenors argue that the filing of the notice of appeal holds in abeyance the Nebraska order granting Western Wireless ETC status. The question on whether the order is in abeyance is a legal issue. The Nebraska Public Service Commission will be holding oral arguments on the effect of the notice of appeal on April

No. of Copies rec'd 3
List A B C D E

Federal Communications Commission
Docket CC96-45
Page Two

5, 2001. The Commission may choose to issue its own findings after the oral arguments. If findings are issued, the Commission will forward a copy of those findings to the FCC.

In light of Western Wireless' ETC designation, if such designation is not modified or held in abeyance by the Nebraska courts, it should be noted that the company would be eligible to receive federal universal service funding, and that this Commission certifies that all federal high-cost support provided to Western Wireless within its designated service area in Nebraska will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. The Commission recognizes that universal service support shall only be provided to the extent that the Nebraska Public Service Commission has filed the requisite certification pursuant to this section.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Landis", written in a cursive style.

Frank Landis
Chairman

cc: L. Jay Bartel
Kelly Dahl
Steve Seglin

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the application) Application No. C-1889
of GCC License Corporation seeking)
designation as an eligible tele-) ORDER GRANTING ETC STATUS
communications carrier (ETC) that) AND ISSUING FINDINGS
may receive universal **RECEIVED**)
support.) Entered: November 21, 2000

APR 4 - 2001

BY THE COMMISSION:

FCC MAIL ROOM

GCC License Corporation (Western Wireless, GCC or Applicant), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Western Wireless Corporation, doing business in Nebraska as Cellular One, made application with this Commission for designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) pursuant to Section 214(e)(2) of the Federal Communications Act of 1934, as amended (Act or the federal Act)¹ on August 31, 1998. Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record on September 4, 1998.

Petitions of Formal Intervention were timely filed by: Arlington Telephone Company; Blair Telephone Company; Cambridge Telephone Company; Clarks Telecommunications Co.; Consolidated Telco Inc.; Consolidated Telephone Co.; Eastern Nebraska Telephone Company; Great Plains Communications; Hamilton Communications; Hartington Telecommunications Co.; Hershey Cooperative Telephone Company, Inc.; Hooper Telephone Company; K & M Telephone Company, Inc.; NebCom Inc.; Nebraska Central Telephone Company; Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company; Pierce Telephone Company; Rock County Telephone Company; Southeast Nebraska Telephone Company and Stanton Telecom, Inc., through their attorney, Kelly R. Dahl; Arapahoe Telephone Company, Benkelman Telephone Company, Cozad Telephone Company, Diller Telephone Company, Hemingford Cooperative Telephone Company, Henderson Cooperative Telephone Company and Wauneta Telephone Company, through their attorney, Timothy F. Clare; Curtis Telephone Company, through its attorney, Steve Cole; The Glenwood Telephone Membership Cooperative, through its attorney, Charles W. Hastings; US West Communications (now known as Qwest and hereinafter referred to in this order as Qwest), initially through attorney Richard L. Johnson and subsequently by their attorneys, first Charles W. Steese, and then Todd Lundy (collectively, Intervenor).

¹ Codified at 47 U.S.C. §214(e)(2).

Procedural orders were entered by this Commission on March 9, 1999; October 5, 1999, and November 16, 1999. All parties were properly notified and the orders entered were subsequently mailed to the parties. Complete records on these progression orders can be found in the file in this docket and can be inspected at Commission offices. A hearing on the pending application was held October 20-21, 1999, in the Commission Hearing Room, 1200 N Street, 300 The Atrium, Lincoln, Nebraska. Testifying for the applicant was Gene DeJordy, for the intervenors, testimony was received by Cindy Bittinger, Don Macke, Dr. Barbara M. Wilcox and Steve Watkins.

FINDINGS AND OPINIONS

Ripeness

1. Intervenors argue that Section 214(e)(2) of the federal Telecommunications Act (the Act) requires Western Wireless to already be offering and advertising the services supported² by the federal universal service fund before the Commission can grant ETC status. Application opponents contend that the offering of the services and the advertising of those offerings are a prerequisite to designation as an ETC. In other words, they argue that the application must fail because Western Wireless fails to offer a current universal service package.

2. Such reasoning seems contrary to the objectives of the Act which is to increase competition. The FCC noted in a Recommended Decision adopted November 7, 1996:

We agree with the majority of commenters who argue that any carrier that meets these criteria is eligible to receive federal universal service support, regardless of the criteria used by that carrier. We conclude that this approach best embodies the *pro-competitive, de-regulatory*

² In relevant part the language of §214(e)(2) states, "the State Commission may...designate more than one common carrier as an eligible telecommunications carrier...so long as [the carrier] meets the requirements of paragraph (1)." Section 214(e)(1) states, "A common carrier designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier [shall] (A) offer the services that are supported by Federal universal service fund mechanisms...[and] (B) advertise the availability of such services and the charges therefor using media of general distribution."

*spirit of the 1996 Act and ensures the preservation and enhancement of universal service.*³ (Emphasis added.)

3. The Act itself is straightforward. Section 214(e)(1) states that a common carrier designated as an ETC shall "throughout the service area for which the designation is received. . . (B) advertise the availability of such services *and the charges therefor* using media of general distribution (emphasis added)."⁴ It is illogical to assume that a carrier could advertise the prices of its universal service offerings without the knowledge of whether or not it was eligible to receive federal and/or state universal service funding. To get to the prices advertised, such a carrier would have to know its underlying costs and any offsetting subsidies received."

4. GCC argues that it has met all of the requirements detailed in the Act. GCC (a) is a common carrier; (b) provides the supported services⁵; (c) will advertise the availability of the supported services; and (d) will make the supported services available throughout the designated service areas. The intervenors argue that proposed intentions to do what is required of the Act is insufficient.

We agree with the statement that GCC makes in its brief; to wit:

"The actual obligation to "offer" and "advertise" the services under Section 214(e)(1) are not preconditions to ETC status, but instead obligations of a carrier upon receipt of its ETC designation . . . no carrier could as a practical matter be expected to fully compete or actually provision universal services to a customer

³ *In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Adopted November 7, 1996, para. 155.*

⁴ 47 U.S.C. 214(e)(1)(B).

⁵ These services are defined under FCC Rule 54.101(a) as: 1. Voice grade access; 2. Local usage; 3. Dual tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent; 4. Single party service; 5. Access to emergency services; 6. Access to operator services; 7. Access to interexchange services; 8. Access to directory assistance; and, 9. Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers.

without the ability to receive the intended subsidy. And, the subsidy is not available to a carrier unless it has already been designated as an ETC."⁶

5. GCC also argues that FCC procedures specifically allow for either retroactive or prospective designation.⁷ The argument that a fair and reasonable reading of the statute is persuasive that an ETC candidate does not have to offer and advertise for the supported services prior to designation.

6. The Minnesota Utilities Commission gives guidance in its order granting ETC status to Minnesota Cellular as follows:

"The main meaning of this language [i.e., 47 U.S.C. §214(e)(1)] is that once a carrier has been designated an ETC it shall offer and shall advertise the supported services. The designation comes first; the obligation to offer and advertise follows . . . Not only does viewing ETC designation as a linear process square with the plain meaning of the statute, it squares with the underlying policy of opening the nation's telecommunications markets to competition. Requiring ETC applicants to actually offer and advertise universal service packages throughout their service area before designating them ETCs would be inherently anti-competitive."⁸

7. Finally, the Commission finds that it could designate ETC status prior to decisions regarding the method and level of funding for such a designate.

⁶ Brief of GCC License Corporation (hereinafter, GCC Brief), December 17, 1999, at 23.

⁷ GCC Brief at 21 (fn. 7).

⁸ *In the Matter of Minnesota Cellular Corporation's Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier*, Docket No. P-5695/M-98-1285, October 27, 1999, at 7.

Burden of Proof

8. Several intervenors argue that burden of proof for GCC in the application is "extraordinarily high" in that the applicant must demonstrate its case by "clear and convincing evidence."⁹ The intervenors are at least partially correct. However, this evidentiary standard need not be applied to the application as a whole.

9. The Commission on October 15, 1997, issued an order in Docket C-1604 that stated:

" . . . [¶] 8. We do not designate at this time service areas for other carriers, such as competitive LECs or wireless providers. When a petition is presented to the Commission by such a provider to obtain ETC status, the appropriate service areas of non-ILECs will be defined. It must be demonstrated by clear and convincing evidence that designation is in the public interest."¹⁰

10. The interpretation offered by the opponents to the application is that the "clear and convincing" standard should be applied to the entire application. This interpretation is incorrect.

11. We find, and affirm here, that the evidentiary standard of a "clear and convincing" finding relates only to that part of the application dealing with the designation of a service area. A finding that the designated service area serves the public interest, in that the service area is significantly large to promote access to the proposed ETC's services by all residents, and that the service area is not so defined as to allow the incoming ETC to siphon off the incumbent carrier's most profitable or least costly customers. Such a finding is consistent with the intent of

⁹ See, e.g., *Post-Hearing Brief of Formal Intervenors Arapahoe, Benkelman, et al.*, filed December 17, 1999, at 8.

¹⁰ *In the Matter of the Application of the Nebraska Public Service Commission on its own motion to Designate Telecommunications Carriers Eligible to Receive Federal Universal Service Support*, Docket C-1604, October 15, 1997, (hereinafter Docket C-1604) at 3.

Congress, the meaning of the findings in Docket No. C-1604, and our findings in the instant case.

Public Interest Test

12. The Act provides that an applicant for ETC status in a rural area must satisfy a public interest test. Specifically, the Act provides:

Upon request and consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity, the State commission may, in the case of an area served by a rural telephone company, and shall, in the case of all other areas, designate more than one common carrier as an eligible telecommunications carrier for a service area designated by the State commission, so long as each additional requesting carrier meets the requirements of paragraph (1). Before designating an additional eligible telecommunications carrier for an area served by a rural telephone company, the State commission shall find that the designation is in the public interest.¹¹

13. We find that the public interest test of the Act as applied to rural areas is centered on the issue of whether a proposed application has defined its service area reasonably enough to prevent "cherry-picking" by incoming designated ETCs. An application must meet a "clear and convincing" standard that such an area prevents such an abuse.

14. But that should not be, and is not, this Commission's only "public interest" concern. First, we acknowledge that the mere provision of additional competition by the entry of another ETC into a rural area is not sufficient in and of itself as a demonstration of the public interest.¹² We accept the argument made by the Intervenors that, "Competition is not tantamount to public interest." If that were the case, no public interest test review would be necessary since any and all new competitors would represent additional benefit to the public.

¹¹ 47 U.S.C. §214(e)(2).

¹² *Post-Hearing Brief of Formal Intervenors Arapahoe, Benkelman, et al.*, filed December 17, 1999, at 13.

15. Our first consideration in determining whether Western Wireless has met the rural public interest test is an examination of the proposed service area to determine if it has been fashioned to be large and diverse enough to meet the concerns of Congress when they made the public interest finding a requirement for carriers desiring to serve as an ETC in rural areas:

Those of us who come from rural areas want to say if you are going to certify a new essential (company) in an area that would be eligible for universal service funds, we want that certification to be based on a couple of themes that they think are important, one of which is this ought to result in the build-out of the infrastructure in rural areas. We know that build-out will occur in urban areas because that is where the money is, and we are just saying we want that same opportunity to exist in rural areas.¹³

The sponsor of the amendment requiring the finding of a public interest in the designation of an ETC in rural areas apparently did not introduce this requirement to protect rural telecommunications companies from competition, but instead to ensure that rural areas were not insulated from infrastructure development. We find that the public interest requirement for designation of an ETC in rural areas is not meant as a protective barrier for rural telephone companies but rather as a method for ensuring that rural areas receive the same benefits from competition as their urban neighbors. The FCC spoke to these goals when it discussed its decision that ETC status should be granted in a competitively neutral manner (including technological neutrality):

A principal purpose of section 254 is to create mechanisms that will sustain universal service as competition emerges. We expect that applying the policy of competitive neutrality will promote emerging technologies that, over time, may provide competitive alternatives in rural, insular and high cost areas and thereby benefit rural consumers. For this reason, we reject assertions

¹³ Comments of Senator Dorgan (ND) on the Telecommunications Act, Floor of U.S. Senate, 141 Cong. Rec. S. 7950 (June 8, 1995).

that competitive neutrality has no application in rural areas or is otherwise inconsistent with section 354.¹⁴

16. The Commission must then ask and answer the threshold question on whether the service area proposed by Western Wireless is large enough to meet the objectives of Congress in that its size avoids and prevents cherry-picking of the least costly subscribers. We find that the service area as defined in the Western Wireless application meets this threshold concern. (See Exhibits 5 and 6 of the pre-filed testimony.) The service area designated by the applicant covers 326 wire centers throughout the state. Moreover, this service area includes large areas of rural Nebraska. Designation of Western Wireless can help bring about the telecommunication infrastructure envisioned by Congress in adopting the rural public interest requirement.

17. Western Wireless also offers in its application additional benefits to the public interest, including increased choices, an expanded calling area and the benefits of mobility.¹⁵ These benefits are every bit as valuable, if not more so, to the rural customers as to the urban customer.

The Report from the Nebraska Rural Development Commission

18. The intervenors offered into evidence a report from Don Macke, executive director of the Nebraska Rural Development Commission specifically addressed to the issues raised by this docket (hereinafter, the Macke Report). The Macke Report examined "the capacity for rural markets to effectively support the type of competition being proposed by Western Wireless."¹⁶ The Macke Report starts out by making a flawed presumption, namely, that:

¹⁴ *In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket No. 96-45, Report and Order, FCC 97-157 (Released May 7, 1997), ¶50 (hereinafter, *Universal Service Report and Order*).

¹⁵ Brief of GCC License Corporation, filed December 17, 1999, at 21, 33.

¹⁶ *Likely Impacts of Western Wireless's Proposal in PSC Application C-1889, May 1999 (Hereinafter, the Macke Report)*, at 1.

The PSC should consider as part of its public interest determination, the ability of any ETC applicant to provide what is now commonplace in Omaha or Lincoln - high quality and capacity voice, data, and video services.¹⁷

Such a requirement for an ETC applicant has no basis in either federal or state law, our rules, or our regulations. The statement seems to argue that a carrier engaged in telecommunications services should provide data and video ability. Setting aside for the moment that the term "data ability" is extremely wide in scope and that the Report offers no clarifying definition, it is clear that few telecommunications carriers in the state offer video services to their residential subscribers. Further, there is no legal requirement in the federal Act or in our regulations that an ETC be required to provision such services.

19. The Macke Report offers this Commission another criteria to add that is not supported by law. The Report states:

The Commission should specifically address the (1) wireless technologies capacity and (2) Western Wireless as a provider's capacity to deliver (a) secure, (b) reliable, and (c) necessary services. The standards for assessment should be in comparison to existing telecommunications services as being provided by Nebraska's rural telecommunications providers. (Emphasis added.)

Again, we note that nothing in the federal law or in our state law, Commission rule or regulation, requires this Commission to examine the current state of telecommunications services prior to contemplating the designation of an ETC and we specifically decline to adopt such a standard. To do otherwise might be to unwisely stifle the very competition that could bring advanced services into the rural areas.

20. The Report recognizes its own limitations. The author notes, "The Nebraska Rural Development Commission does not have the expertise to evaluate the capabilities of wireless technology"¹⁸ and

¹⁷ *Id.*, at 3.

¹⁸ *Id.*, at 3.

that the "RDC's analysis is limited in that it was conducted on a county group basis. In reality, these services are currently delivered by specific ETCs on an exchange by exchange basis."¹⁹

21. In short, given the fact that the Report asks this Commission to accept standards and to make comparisons that have no basis in law, and by its own admission, lacks expertise, the Commission finds that the Report is of questionable probative value.

Additional Requirements Offered by Qwest

22. Qwest asks this Commission to adopt additional criteria for the public interest component in the determination and designation of an ETC: affordability, unbundling, quality and landline substitutability.²⁰ We will discuss each of these four concepts in turn.

23. The suggestion by Qwest for the Commission to adopt an affordability standard is not relevant to the granting of ETC status, but may directly affect the qualifying funding by the Nebraska Universal Service Fund (NUSF). To apply the affordability standard to the actual designation is misplaced because, as we have noted, pricing by the ETC candidate is necessarily dependent on its ability to draw from the universal service fund. Second, as the applicant correctly notes in its post-hearing brief, no affordability standard was applied to incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs) when they were uniformly granted ETC status in our October 15, 1997, order. We have already described in detail the prohibition of treating other applicants differently based on the technology that will be employed to provide service. Finally, the Commission will be able to continue to explore, develop and establish pricing standards through the NUSF Docket authorized in this Order as contained herein. As such, the affordability argument is not ripe for discussion here.

¹⁹ *Id.*, at 10.

²⁰ *Qwest Communications, Inc., Post-Hearing Brief*, filed December 17, 1999, at 8.

24. Qwest also argues that unbundling of elements should be made a prerequisite for ETC designation.²¹ After careful consideration of the arguments advanced by Qwest, we find that it has not made a persuasive argument. Such a view is unsupported by the clear reading of the federal Act and subsequent rulings from the FCC.

25. Qwest also asserts that quality of delivered services is an integral element to be considered in the granting of ETC status. Much like its argument regarding affordability, this argument does not go to the granting of ETC status. The requirement to offer unbundled elements cannot be found in the federal law.

26. Finally, Qwest argues that landline substitutability should be made a requirement for ETC designation. We also decline to add this requirement. Qwest premises its argument on the Act's "absolute right to relinquish" provision.²² Such a stand is contrary to the objectives of the Act. Indeed, the requirement for landline substitutability is not found in the plain language of the Act. The arguments of the applicant are more persuasive. These include the transition period allowed to the states in the event a current ETC decides to relinquish its status and the safety net provided by the requirements of state law that would ensure the continued provision of telecommunication services.²³

Commission Jurisdiction

27. In response to questioning by the Commission, the applicant indicated that it would voluntarily submit to the Commission's jurisdiction for service quality and tariff filing of rates and services. We believe that jurisdiction over these issues, as well as information regarding the level of access rates charged by the carrier, is proper and necessary to meet the objectives of the Universal Service Fund Act. This jurisdiction, we note falls short of, and does not include "entry and rate" regulation.

²¹ *Id.*, at 10.

²² *Id.*, at 13.

²³ See *Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-806 (Reissue 1999)*.

28. The Commission finds that it has the necessary powers to enforce its jurisdiction over any carrier receiving universal service fund support. As state law indicates:

The commission shall have authority and power to issue orders carrying out its [Nebraska Universal Service Fund] responsibilities and . . . [t]he commission shall have the authority to review the compliance of any eligible telecommunications company receiving support for continued compliance with any such order and may withhold all or a portion of funds to be distributed from any telecommunications company failing to continue compliance with its order.²⁴

These responsibilities include service quality standards, ensuring that the offerings of an ETC meet Commission requirements including, but not limited to, advertising and service offerings, minimal technical requirements, local usage requirements, etc., established either by federal or state law, or established by order of the Commission either generally, or by the Universal Service Department within the Commission.

29. We further specifically find that the Commission may, through orders entered into via a NUSF Docket, establish reasonable price ranges for local service offerings which qualify for NUSF funding, appropriately defining "local usage" and issue any future orders on any matters relevant to the enforcement of this order and consistent with the objectives of the federal Act and state law.

30. We further find that a NUSF docket should be opened to determine an appropriate level of support, resolve issues raised by this order relevant to the designation of GCC License Corporation as an ETC, and to clarify any other relevant issues as may be determined by the NUSF Department.

Conclusions

31. Section 214 of the federal Act provides that the Commission is required to designate a common carrier that meets the requirements of Section 214(e) (1) as an ETC for the service area

²⁴ Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-1045 (Reissue 1999).

designated by the Commission. Such a designation must conform to the public interest.

32. The Act further states that a carrier that is granted ETC status is eligible to receive federal universal service support, and shall offer, throughout the designated service area, those services which are supported by federal universal service support mechanisms.²⁵ The carrier must also advertise the availability of these services and the rates for the services using media of general distribution. This latter requirement is aimed at ensuring that a carrier designated as an ETC truly offers a service that reaches out to all in the service area and is also aimed at avoiding cherry-picking by the ETC designated carrier.

33. The FCC has designated certain services as being supported by federal universal service support mechanisms, namely: (1) voice grade access to the public switched network; (2) local usage; (3) dual tone multi-frequency signaling or its functional equivalent; (4) single party service or its functional equivalent; (5) access to emergency services; (6) access to operator services; (7) access to interexchange service; (8) access to directory assistance; and (9) toll limitation for qualifying low-income customers.²⁶ In addition, this Commission has determined that a subscriber's desire to have his or her number published in a standard "white page" (or alpha directory) listing is a basic service.²⁷

34. The applicant has given sufficient and credible evidence that it is willing, and capable, of meeting these requirements. We have concluded that federal law does not require the applicant to already be providing these services prior to ETC designation, but have adopted the conclusion, reached in other jurisdictions as well, that the applicant must be willing to offer these services. The offering consists of its intentions to do so coupled with the financial, technical and managerial capabilities to fulfill those intentions. The applicant demonstrated that it already provides

²⁵ 47 U.S.C. 214.

²⁶ 47 C.F.R. § 54.101(a) (1999).

²⁷ *In the Matter of the Application of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, seeking to conduct an investigation into intrastate access charge reform, Docket C-1628, Order entered January 13, 1999, at 3.*

Application No. C-1889

Page 14

each of the supported services within its existing network. No credible evidence was presented by Intervenors that Western Wireless failed to meet these basic requirements.

35. The applicant has demonstrated that it meets the public interest test of the federal law. Not only will the granting of the applicant's application result in benefits of increased competition, the applicant also provides the benefits of an expanded calling area, the deployment of alternative technology and the practical benefit of mobility.

36. The Commission explicitly rejects the additional requirements suggested by Qwest as necessary components for ETC designation. Where the issues of affordability and quality are relevant to the applicant's offering, the Commission will evaluate, monitor, and rectify those concerns within the scope of an NUSF docket.

37. The Commission finds that the applicant has, by "clear and convincing" evidence, established that its defined service area satisfies the requirements and objectives of the Act.

38. The Commission hereby finds that the applicant, GCC License Corporation should be, and is, designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier for the purpose of receiving federal and state universal service support in the study areas included in its application and as designated in the ordering clauses of this order.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the applicant, GCC License Corporation should be, and is hereby, designated an eligible telecommunications carrier for the purpose of receiving federal universal service support and potentially receiving Nebraska Universal Service Fund support in the study areas for the telephone companies and exchanges listed on Appendix A of this order, which we hereby incorporate by reference.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this order shall constitute a certificate of designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier in the areas incorporated by reference in Appendix A.

Application No. C-1899

Page 15

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the NUSF Department of the Commission, in conjunction with this order, shall open a docket to examine the issues relevant to the designation granted in this order, to issue findings and to enter orders to address the concerns and issues delineated herein. The order or the orders issued by the Commission in that docket must precede any distribution of NUSF funding.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that GCC License Corporation shall submit an advertising plan which shall include: a) a description of available services and their rates; b) the geographic area where those services are available; c) the medium of publication of the advertising, including the names of the media where such advertising will be published; and d) the size and type of advertising. Within thirty days after receiving the advertising plan, the Commission shall enter an order approving or rejecting the filed plan. The Commission reserves the right to alter the geographic scope of the authority granted in this order pending the evaluation of an approved advertising plan.

MADE AND ENTERED in Lincoln, Nebraska on this 21st day of November, 2000.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:





Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

//s// Frank E. Landis

Exchanges/Study Areas Included In GCC License Corporation's Proposed Service Area

Wire Center Key	WC CODE	LOCALITY	COMPANY NAME
1	ADMSNEXL	ADAMS	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
7	ALXNNEXL	ALEXANDRIA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
20	ASLDNEXL	ASHLAND	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
25	AUBNNEXL	AUBURN	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
27	AVOCNEXL	AVOCA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
36	BLWDNEXL	BELLWOOD	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
38	BNDCNEXL	BENEDICT	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
41	BNNTNEXL	BENNET	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
43	BOCKNEXL	BROCK	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
45	BRCHNEXL	BURCHARD	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
46	BRDSNEXL	BRADSHAW	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
49	BRNGNEXL	BRUNING	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
50	BRNRNEXL	BRAINARD	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
53	BRTNNEXL	BARNESTON-	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
56	BRUNNEXL	BRUNO	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
67	BTRCNEXL	BEATRICE	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
69	BURRNEXL	BURR	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
72	BVRCNEXL	BEAVER CRO	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
73	BWVLNEXL	BROWNVILLE	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
77	CATNNEXL	CARLETON	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
78	CDBLNEXL	CEDAR BLUF	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
87	CLATNEXL	CLATONIA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
88	CLCTNEXL	CLAY CENTE	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
100	COLNNEXL	COLON	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
101	COOKNEXL	COOK	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
106	CRBONEXL	CRAB ORCHA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
107	CRDVNEXL	CORDOVA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
108	CRETNEXL	CRETE	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
110	CRLDNEXL	CORTLAND	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
112	CRSCNEXL	CERESCO	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
115	DAVYNEXL	DAVEY	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
118	DEWSNEXL	DEWEESE	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
119	DGLSNEXL	DOUGLAS	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
128	DNTNNEXL	DENTON	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
130	DRCHNEXL	DORCHESTER	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
132	DUBSNEXL	DUBOIS-SOU	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
133	DUNBNEXL	DUNBAR	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
134	DVCYNEXL	DAVID CITY	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
135	DVPTNEXL	DAVENPORT	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
136	DWGHNEXL	DWIGHT	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
137	DWSNNEXL	DAWSON	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
138	DWTTNEXL	DEWITT	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
139	DYKNNEXL	DAYKIN	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
140	EAGLNEXL	EAGLE	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
141	EDGRNEXL	EDGAR	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
143	EKCKNEXL	ELK CREEK	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.

Exchanges/Study Areas Included In GCC License Corporation's Proposed Service Area

Wire Center Key	WC CODE	LOCALITY	COMPANY NAME
151	EMWDNEXL	ELMWOOD	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
155	EXTRNEXL	EXETER	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
156	FAMTNEXL	FAIRMONT	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
159	FLLYNEXL	FILLEY	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
160	FRBRNEXL	FAIRBURY	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
161	FRFDNEXL	FAIRFIELD	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
163	FRNDNEXL	FRIEND	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
165	FRTHNEXL	FIRTH	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
172	GDRKNEXL	GUIDE ROCK	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
174	GENVNEXL	GENEVA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
175	GFTNNEXL	GRAFTON	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
176	GLNVNEXL	GLENVIL	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
178	GNWDNEXL	GREENWOOD	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
183	GRHMNEXL	GRESHAM	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
184	GRLDNEXL	GARLAND	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
189	HANSNEXL	HANSEN	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
190	HBRNNEXL	HEBRON	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
191	HCMNNEXL	HICKMAN	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
196	HLLMNEXL	HALLAM	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
199	HMBLNEXL	HUMBOLDT	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
214	HRVRNEXL	HARVARD	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
217	HSNGNEXL	HASTINGS	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
226	ITHCNEXL	ITHACA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
228	JHSNNEXL	JOHNSON	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
231	JNSNNEXL	JANSEN	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
232	JULNNEXL	JULIAN	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
233	JUNTNEXL	JUNIATA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
237	KNSWNEXL	KENESAW	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
242	LBRTNEXL	LIBERTY-SO	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
248	LNCLNEXA	LINCOLN	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
249	LNCLNEXB	LINCOLN	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
250	LNCLNEXD	LINCOLN	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
251	LNCLNEXL	LINCOLN	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
252	LNCLNEXS	LINCOLN	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
258	LSVLNEXL	LOUISVILLE	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
267	MCJTNEXL	MCCOOL JUN	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
271	MEADNEXL	MEAD	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
275	MLCLNEXL	MALCOLM	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
276	MLFRNEXL	MILFORD	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
277	MLGNEXL	MILLIGAN	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
284	MRDCNEXL	MURDOCK	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
288	MRRYNEXL	MURRAY	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
289	MRTLNEXL	MARTELL	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
296	NBCYNEXL	NEBRASKA C	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
299	NEMHNEXL	NEMAHA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
300	NHWKNEXL	NEHAWKA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.

Exchanges/Study Areas Included In GCC License Corporation's Proposed Service Area

Wire Center Key	WC CODE	LOCALITY	COMPANY NAME
303	NLSNNEXL	NELSON	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
311	OCTVNEXL	OCTAVIA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
314	OHIWNEXL	OHIOWA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
330	ONG NEXL	ONG	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
334	OSCLNEXL	OSCEOLA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
337	OTOENEXL	OTOE	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
341	PANMNEXL	PANAMA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
342	PCKRNEXL	PICKRELL	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
343	PERUNEXL	PERU	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
348	PLDLNEXL	PLEASANT D	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
350	PLMONEXL	PLYMOUTH	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
352	PLMYNEXL	PALMYRA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
355	PLTSNEXL	PLATTSMOUT	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
360	POLKNEXL	POLK	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
366	PWCYNEXL	PAWNEE CIT	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
374	RSCYNEXL	RISING CIT	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
375	RSKNNEXL	RUSKIN	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
379	RYMNNEXL	RAYMOND	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
387	SHCKNEXL	SHICKLEY	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
388	SHLBNEXL	SHELBY	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
402	SRPSNEXL	SURPRISE	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
405	STBGNEXL	STROMSBURG	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
406	STCYNEXL	STEELE CIT	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
411	STNGNEXL	STERLING	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
412	STNRNEXL	STEINAUER	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
416	STTNEXL	SUTTON	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
417	SWRDNEXL	SEWARD	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
418	SWTNEXL	SWANTON	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
419	SYRCNEXL	SYRACUSE	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
420	TAMRNEXL	TAMORA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
422	TBRKNEXL	TABLE ROCK	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
423	TCMSNEXL	TECUMSEH	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
428	TLMGNEXL	TALMAGE	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
430	TOBSNEXL	TOBIAS	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
435	UNADNEXL	UNADILLA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
436	UNINNEXL	UNION	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
438	UTICNEXL	UTICA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
441	VLPRNEXL	VALPARAISO	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
446	WACONEXL	WACO	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
447	WAHONEXL	WAHOO	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
457	WLBRNEXL	WLBER	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
466	WPWRNEXL	WEeping WA	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
470	WSTRNEXL	WESTERN	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
471	WVRLNEXL	WAVERLY	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
472	WYMRNEXL	WYMORE	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
475	YORKNEXL	YORK	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.

Exchanges/Study Areas Included In GCC License Corporation's Proposed Service Area

Wire Center Key	WC CODE	LOCALITY	COMPANY NAME
476	YUTNEXL	YUTAN	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
209	HRDYNEXL	HARDY-SOUT	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
398	SPRRNEXL	SUPERIOR-S	ALIAN COMMUNICATIONS CO.
16	ARPHNEXS	ARAPAHOE	ARAPAHOE TEL CO
55	BRULNERB	BRULE	ARAPAHOE TEL CO
164	FRNMNERC	FARNAM	ARAPAHOE TEL CO
193	HLBKNEXS	HOLBROOK	ARAPAHOE TEL CO
203	HNDLNEXS	HENDLEY	ARAPAHOE TEL CO
256	LOMSNERC	LOOMIS	ARAPAHOE TEL CO
338	OVTNNENX	OVERTON	ARAPAHOE TEL CO
18	ARTNEXH	ARLINGTON	ARLINGTON TEL CO
40	BNMNEXS	BENKELMAN	BENKELMAN TEL CO INC
32	BLARNEXH	BLAIR	BLAIR TEL CO
167	FTCLNEXH	FORT CALHO	BLAIR TEL CO
236	KNRDNEXH	KENNARD	BLAIR TEL CO
66	BTLYNEXS	BARTLEY	CAMBRIDGE TEL CO
95	CMBRNEXS	CAMBRIDGE	CAMBRIDGE TEL CO
91	CLRKNEXS	CLARKS	CLARKS TEL CO
413	STPHNEXM	STAPLEHURS	CLARKS TEL CO
434	ULYSNEXM	ULYSSES	CLARKS TEL CO
103	COZDNEXS	COZAD	COZAD TEL CO
113	CRTSNEXS	CURTIS	CURTIS TEL CO
122	DLLRNEXM	DILLER	DILLER TEL CO
208	HRBNNEXM	HARBINE	DILLER TEL CO
312	ODLLNEXM	ODELL	DILLER TEL CO
445	VRGNEXM	VIRGINIA	DILLER TEL CO
33	BLDNNEXH	BELDEN	EASTERN NEBRASKA TEL CO
111	CRRLNEXH	CARROLL	EASTERN NEBRASKA TEL CO
265	MACYNEXH	MACY	EASTERN NEBRASKA TEL CO
268	MDGVNEXH	MEADOW GRO	EASTERN NEBRASKA TEL CO
336	OSMNEXH	OSMOND	EASTERN NEBRASKA TEL CO
372	ROSLNEXH	ROSALIE	EASTERN NEBRASKA TEL CO
459	WLHLNEXH	WALTHILL	EASTERN NEBRASKA TEL CO
463	WNNBNEXH	WINNEBAGO	EASTERN NEBRASKA TEL CO
147	ELSINEXS	ELSIE	ELSIE MUTUAL TEL CO
153	ESTSNEXS	EUSTIS	EUSTIS TEL EXCH INC
168	FUNKNEXS	FUNK	GLENWOOD TEL MEMBERSHIP CORP
437	UPLDNEXM	UPLAND	GLENWOOD TEL MEMBERSHIP CORP
2	ALBNNEXG	ALBION	GTE NORTH INC -NE
5	ALMANEXG	ALMA	GTE NORTH INC -NE
8	AMHRNEXG	AMHERST	GTE NORTH INC -NE
54	BRTRNEXG	BERTRAND	GTE NORTH INC -NE
57	BRWKNEXH	BRUNSWICK	GTE NORTH INC -NE
65	BTCKNEXH	BATTLE CRE	GTE NORTH INC -NE
71	BVCYNEXH	BEAVER CIT	GTE NORTH INC -NE
89	CLMBNEXG	COLUMBUS	GTE NORTH INC -NE

Exchanges/Study Areas Included In GCC License Corporation's Proposed Service Area

Wire Center Key	WC CODE	LOCALITY	COMPANY NAME
125	DNCNEXH	DUNCAN	GTE NORTH INC -NE
142	EDSNEXH	EDISON	GTE NORTH INC -NE
173	GENONEXG	GENOA	GTE NORTH INC -NE
180	GRELNEXH	GREELEY	GTE NORTH INC -NE
195	HLDRNEXG	HILDRETH	GTE NORTH INC -NE
215	HRWLNEXH	HEARTWELL	GTE NORTH INC -NE
238	KRNYNEXG	KEARNEY	GTE NORTH INC -NE
244	LEGHNEXG	LEIGH	GTE NORTH INC -NE
253	LNSDNEXH	LINDSAY	GTE NORTH INC -NE
270	MDSNEXG	MADISON	GTE NORTH INC -NE
279	MLLRNEXG	MILLER	GTE NORTH INC -NE
281	MONRNEXH	MONROE	GTE NORTH INC -NE
294	NAPNEXG	NAPONEE	GTE NORTH INC -NE
301	NLGHNEXH	NELIGH	GTE NORTH INC -NE
307	NWGVNEXG	NEWMAN GRO	GTE NORTH INC -NE
331	ORCHNEXG	ORCHARD	GTE NORTH INC -NE
332	ORD NEXH	ORD	GTE NORTH INC -NE
333	ORLNEXH	ORLEANS	GTE NORTH INC -NE
347	PLCTNEXG	PLATTE CEN	GTE NORTH INC -NE
351	PLMRNEXG	PALMER	GTE NORTH INC -NE
354	PLTNEXG	PLEASANTON	GTE NORTH INC -NE
373	RPCYNEXG	REPUBLICAN	GTE NORTH INC -NE
377	RVDLNEXG	RIVERDALE	GTE NORTH INC -NE
391	SMFRNEAA	STAMFORD	GTE NORTH INC -NE
392	SMNRNEXH	SUMNER	GTE NORTH INC -NE
427	TLDNNEXG	TILDEN	GTE NORTH INC -NE
454	WVVLNEXG	WILSONVILL	GTE NORTH INC -NE
35	BLTNEXG	BLOOMINGTO	GTE NORTH INC -NE
157	FKLNNEXH	FRANKLIN	GTE NORTH INC -NE
26	AURRNEXM	AURORA	HAMILTON TEL CO
127	DNPHNEXM	DONIPHAN	HAMILTON TEL CO
177	GLTNEXM	GILTNER	HAMILTON TEL CO
202	HMPNEXM	HAMPTON	HAMILTON TEL CO
213	HRVLNEXM	HORDVILLE	HAMILTON TEL CO
287	MRQTNEXM	MARQUETTE	HAMILTON TEL CO
345	PHLPNEXM	PHILLIPS	HAMILTON TEL CO
408	STHMNEXM	STOCKHAM	HAMILTON TEL CO
429	TMBLNEXM	TRUMBULL	HAMILTON TEL CO
218	HTNTNEXS	HARTINGTON	HARTINGTON TEL CO
204	HNSNEXM	HENDERSON	HENDERSON COOP TEL CO
211	HRSHNEXS	HERSHEY	HERSHEY COOP TEL CO
47	BRDYNEXS	BRADY	HOME TEL CO OF NEBRASKA
292	MXWLNEXS	MAXWELL	HOME TEL CO OF NEBRASKA
207	HOPRNEXS	HOOPER	HOOPER TEL CO
433	UHNGNEXS	UEHLING	HOOPER TEL CO
83	CHMBNEXS	CHAMBERS	K & M TEL CO

Exchanges/Study Areas Included In GCC License Corporation's Proposed Service Area

Wire Center Key	WC CODE	LOCALITY	COMPANY NAME
225	INMNNEXS	INMAN	K & M TEL CO
4	ALLNNERC	ALLEN	NEBCOM, INC.
70	BUTTNERE	BUTTE	NEBCOM, INC.
117	DCTRNEWT	DECATUR	NEBCOM, INC.
254	LNPNNERE	LONG PINE	NEBCOM, INC.
396	SPNCNERC	SPENCER	NEBCOM, INC.
415	STRTNERB	STUART	NEBCOM, INC.
464	WNSDNERB	WNSIDE	NEBCOM, INC.
9	ANSLNEXS	ANSLEY	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
12	ARCDNEXS	ARCADIA	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
21	ASTNNERB	ASHTON	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
44	BOLSNERB	BOELUS	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
58	BRWLNEXB	NORTH BURW	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
59	BRWLNEXS	BURWELL	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
96	CMSTNEXS	COMSTOCK	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
116	DBRGNERC	DANNEBROG	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
144	ELBANERB	ELBA	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
152	ERSNNEXS	ERICSON	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
170	GBBNEXS	GIBBON	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
259	LTFDNERB	LITCHFIELD	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
290	MSCYNERC	MASON CITY	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
302	NLOPNEXS	NORTH LOUP	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
370	RKVLNERC	ROCKVILLE	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
378	RVNNNERE	RAVENNA	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
381	SCOTNEXS	SCOTIA	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
389	SHTNNEXS	SHELTON	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
401	SRGNEXS	SARGENT	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
421	TAYLNEXS	TAYLOR	NEBRASKA CENTRAL TEL CO
52	BRTLNEXS	BARTLETT	NORTHEAST NEBRASKA TEL CO
90	CLRGNEXS	COLERIDGE	NORTHEAST NEBRASKA TEL CO
93	CLWRNEXS	CLEARWATER	NORTHEAST NEBRASKA TEL CO
105	CRAGNEXS	CRAIG	NORTHEAST NEBRASKA TEL CO
121	DIXNNEXS	DIXON	NORTHEAST NEBRASKA TEL CO
227	JCSNNEXS	JACKSON	NORTHEAST NEBRASKA TEL CO
255	LNWDNEXM	LINWOOD-MO	NORTHEAST NEBRASKA TEL CO
283	MRBGNEXS	MARTINSBUR	NORTHEAST NEBRASKA TEL CO
306	NWCSNEXS	NEWCASTLE	NORTHEAST NEBRASKA TEL CO
309	OBRTNEXS	OBERT	NORTHEAST NEBRASKA TEL CO
362	PRAGNEXM	PRAGUE	NORTHEAST NEBRASKA TEL CO
469	WSTNNEXM	WESTON	NORTHEAST NEBRASKA TEL CO
216	HSKNEXS	HOSKINS	PIERCE TEL CO
346	PIRCNEXS	PIERCE	PIERCE TEL CO
356	PLVWNEXS	PLAINVIEW	PLAINVIEW TEL CO INC
64	BSSTNEXH	BASSETT	ROCK COUNTY TEL CO
308	NWPTNEXH	NEWPORT	ROCK COUNTY TEL CO
385	SDTNEXS	SODTOWN	SODTOWN TEL CO

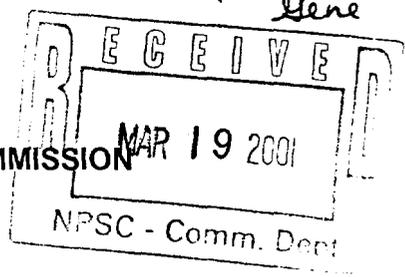
Exchanges/Study Areas Included In GCC License Corporation's Proposed Service Area

Wire Center Key	WC CODE	LOCALITY	COMPANY NAME
158	FLCYNEXM	FALLS CITY	SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA TEL CO
424	TCTYNEXM	TRI-CITY	SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA TEL CO
393	SNTNNEXS	STANTON	STANTON TEL CO INC
229	JHTWNEXS	JOHNSTOWN	THREE RIVER TELCO
263	LYNCNEXS	LYNCH	THREE RIVER TELCO
295	NAPRNEXS	NAPER	THREE RIVER TELCO
400	SPVWNEXS	SPRINGVIEW	THREE RIVER TELCO
444	VRDLNEXS	VERDEL	THREE RIVER TELCO
230	JLBGCOMA	JULESBURG	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - MOUNTAIN BELL -CO
11	ANWONENW	AINSWORTH	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
22	ATLNNENW	ATLANTA	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
23	ATSNNENW	ATKINSON	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
28	AXTLNENW	AXTELL	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
48	BRKBNENW	BROKEN BOW	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
76	CAIRNENW	CAIRO	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
85	CKSNNEUW	CLARKSON	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
97	CNCYNENW	CENTRAL CI	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
148	ELWDNENW	ELWOOD	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
149	EMCKNENW	ELM CREEK	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
150	EMSNNENW	EMERSON	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
162	FRMTNENW	FREMONT	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
166	FRWLNENW	FARWELL	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
169	FUTNNENW	FULLERTON	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
171	GDISNENW	GRAND ISLA	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
188	GTBGNENW	GOTHENBURG	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
194	HLDGNENW	HOLDREGE	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
201	HMPHNENW	HUMPHREY	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
206	HOMRNENW	HOMER	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
219	HWLSNENW	HOWELLS	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
240	LARLNENW	LAUREL	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
257	LPCYNENW	LOUP CITY	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
261	LXTNNENW	LEXINGTON	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
264	LYNSNENW	LYONS	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
266	MCCKNENW	MCCOOK	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
274	MINDNENW	MINDEN	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
304	NPLTNENW	NORTH PLAT	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
305	NRFLNENW	NORFOLK	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
313	OGLLNENW	OGALLALA	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
316	OKLDNEUW	OAKLAND	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
329	ONELNENW	O'NEILL	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
339	OXFRNENW	OXFORD	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
349	PLGRNENW	PILGER	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
358	PNDRNEUW	PENDER	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
371	RNDHNENW	RANDOLPH	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
380	SCHLNENW	SCHUYLER	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
390	SLCKNENW	SILVER CRE	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE

Exchanges/Study Areas Included In GCC License Corporation's Proposed Service Area

Wire Center Key	WC CODE	LOCALITY	COMPANY NAME
404	SSCYNENW	SOUTH SIOU	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
409	STLBNENW	SAINT LIBO	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
414	STPLNENW	SAINT PAUL	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
426	TKMHNENW	TEKAMAH	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
440	VLNTNENW	VALENTINE	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
450	WAYNNEUW	WAYNE	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
452	WDRVNENW	WOOD RIVER	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
455	WKFDNENW	WAKEFIELD	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
468	WSPNNENW	WEST POINT	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
30	BGSPNENW	BIG SPRING	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
31	BGTNNECO	BENNINGTON	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
81	CHDRNENW	CHADRON	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
109	CRFRNENW	CRAWFORD	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
146	ELKHENW	ELKHORN	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
181	GRETENW	GRETNA	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
212	HRSNNENW	HARRISON	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
318	OMAHNE78	OMAHA	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
319	OMAHNE84	OMAHA	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
321	OMAHNEBE	OMAHA	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
324	OMAHNEFW	OMAHA	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
327	OMAHNENW	OMAHA	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
395	SPFDNENW	SPRINGFIEL	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
439	VLLYNENW	VALLEY	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
6	ALNCNENW	ALLIANCE	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
51	BRPTNENW	BRIDGEPORT	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
320	OMAHNE90	OMAHA	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
322	OMAHNECE	OMAHA	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
323	OMAHNEFO	OMAHA	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
325	OMAHNEHA	OMAHA	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
326	OMAHNEIZ	OMAHA	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
328	OMAHNEOS	OMAHA	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE
384	SDNYNENW	SIDNEY	US WEST COMMUNICATIONS - NORTHWESTERN BELL -NE

re: Gene



BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

IN RE APPLICATION NO. C-1889 OF GCC LICENSE CORPORATION (WESTERN WIRELESS),

APPLICATION NO. C-1889

Applicant/Appellee,

v.

STATE OF NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION,

RECEIVED

APR 4 - 2001

Respondent/Appellee

v.

FCC MAIL ROOM

ARLINGTON TELEPHONE COMPANY, CLARKS TELECOMMUNICATIONS CO., CONSOLIDATED TELCO, INC., CONSOLIDATED TELEPHONE COMPANY, EASTERN NEBRASKA TELEPHONE COMPANY, GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS, INC., HARTINGTON TELECOMMUNICATIONS, CO., INC., HERSHEY COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC., HOOPER TELEPHONE COMPANY, K&M TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC., NEBCOM, INC., NEBRASKA CENTRAL TELEPHONE COMPANY, NORTHEAST NEBRASKA TELEPHONE COMPANY, PIERCE TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC., ROCK COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY, SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA TELEPHONE CO., STANTON TELECOM, INC., and THE BLAIR TELEPHONE COMPANY,

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Intervenors/Appellants,

v.

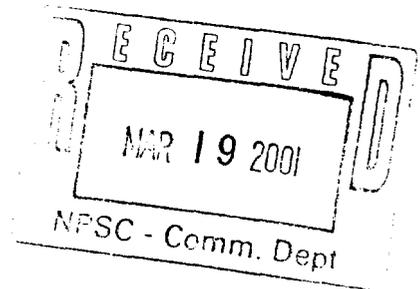
ARAPAHOE TELEPHONE COMPANY, BENKELMAN TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC., COZAD TELEPHONE CO., DILLER TELEPHONE CO., HEMINGFORD COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE CO., HENDERSON COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE CO., WAUNETA TELEPHONE CO., CURTIS TELEPHONE CO., THE GLENWOOD TELEPHONE MEMBERSHIP COOPERATIVE, CAMBRIDGE TELEPHONE COMPANY, HAMILTON TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC., and US WEST COMMUNICATIONS (QWEST),

Intervenors/Appellees.

TAKE NOTICE that the after-named Intervenor, Arlington Telephone Company, Clarks Telecommunications Co., Consolidated Telco, Inc., Consolidated Telephone Company, Eastern Nebraska Telephone Company, Great Plains Communications, Inc., Hartington Telecommunications Co., Inc., Hershey Cooperative Telephone Company, Inc., Hooper Telephone Company, K&M Telephone Company, Inc., NebCom, Inc., Nebraska Central Telephone Company, Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company, Pierce Telephone Company, Inc., Rock County Telephone Company, Southeast Nebraska Telephone Co., Stanton Telecom, Inc., and The Blair Telephone Company, and each of them (collectively referred to as the "Independents"), in order to assert the interests of subscribers served by rural telephone companies with regard to the designation of a second Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") in rural telephone company service areas in the State of Nebraska, intend to prosecute pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 75-136 (Cum. Supp. 2000) an appeal to the Nebraska Court of Appeals from the orders of the Public Service Commission entered on November 21, 2000 granting ETC status to GCC License Corporation (Western Wireless) and on February 21, 2001 denying said Intervenor's Motion for Reconsideration.

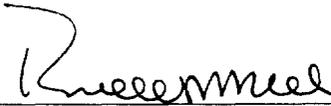
Said Intervenor simultaneously herewith deposit with the Nebraska Public Service Commission the docket fee in the amount of \$52.00 and a cash deposit in lieu of cost bond in the amount of \$75.00, for a total of \$127.00.

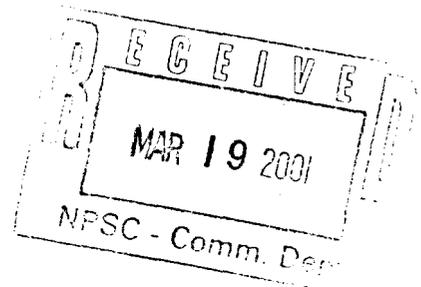
Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 75-134 (Cum. Supp. 2000), the Orders of the Nebraska Public Service Commissions dated November 21, 2000 and February 21, 2001 are in abeyance until the court of Appeals or Supreme Court issues its mandate.



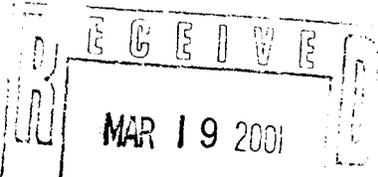
Dated this 17th day of March, 2001.

ARLINGTON TELEPHONE COMPANY,
CLARKS TELECOMMUNICATIONS CO.,
CONSOLIDATED TELCO, INC.,
CONSOLIDATED TELEPHONE COMPANY,
EASTERN NEBRASKA TELEPHONE COMPANY,
GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS, INC.,
HARTINGTON TELECOMMUNICATIONS CO., INC.,
HERSHEY COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE
COMPANY, INC., HOOPER TELEPHONE
COMPANY, K&M TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC.,
NEBCOM, INC., NEBRASKA CENTRAL
TELEPHONE COMPANY,
NORTHEAST NEBRASKA TELEPHONE COMPANY,
PIERCE TELEPHON COMPANY, INC.,
ROCK COUNTY TELEPHONE COMPANY,
SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA TELEPHONE CO.,
STANTON TELECOM, INC., AND
THE BLAIR TELEPHONE COMPANY,
Intervenors/Appellants.

By: 
Kelly R. Dahl (#19273)
of BAIRD, HOLM, McEACHEN, PEDERSEN,
HAMANN & STRASHEIM LLP
1500 Woodmen Tower
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-2068
402-344-0500



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE



The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing NOTICE OF APPEAL was sent by regular United States first-class mail, postage prepaid, this 19th day of March, 2001, to the following:

Cambridge Telephone Company
613 Patterson, P.O. Box G
Cambridge, Nebraska 69022

Nebraska Public Service Commission
c/o Nebraska Attorney General
2115 State Capitol
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-8920

The Glenwood Telephone Membership
Cooperative
c/o Charles W. Hastings, Esq.
Dunmire, Fisher & Hastings
P.O. Box 1044
Hastings, Nebraska 68902-1044

Steven G. Seglin, Esq.
Crosby, Guenzel, Davis, Kessner & Kuester
134 So. 13th Street, Suite 400
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Mark J. Ayotte, Esq.
Briggs and Morgan
2200 First National Bank Building
332 Minnesota Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Curtis Telephone Company
c/o Steve Cole
102 Center Avenue
P.O. Box 8
Curtis, Nebraska 69025

Hamilton Telecommunications, Inc.
1001 - 12th Street
Aurora, Nebraska 688186

Nebraska Public Service Commission
c/o Executive Director
300 The Atrium
1200 N Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4927

Gene DeJordy, Esq.
Western Wireless
2001 N.W. Sammamish Road
Issaquah, Washington 98027

Steve Beck, Esq.
Qwest Communications
1801 California Street, Room 5100
Denver, Colorado 80202

Steve Cole
102 Center Ave.
P.O. Box 8
Curtis, Nebraska 69025

Arapahoe Telephone Company,
Benkelman Telephone Company,
Cozad Telephone Company, Diller
Telephone Company, Hemingford
Cooperative Telephone Company,
Henderson Cooperative Telephone
Company, and Wauneta Telephone
Company,
c/o Timothy F. Clare, Esq.
Remboldt, Ludtke & Berger
1201 Lincoln Mall, Suite 102
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rueensuel", written over a horizontal line.