

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the) Application No. C-4600
Application of Consolidated)
Telephone Company, Lincoln,) GRANTED
seeking authority to re-)
establish the Arthur, Dunning)
and Brewster Exchanges.) Entered: May 14, 2013

BY THE COMMISSION:

By application filed April 3, 2013, Consolidated Telephone Company ("Consolidated" or "applicant") of Lincoln, seeks authority to re-establish Arthur, Dunning and Brewster as stand-alone exchanges. Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, on April 8, 2013. No protests were filed; therefore, this application is processed pursuant to the Commission's Rule of Modified Procedure.

By Order dated March 9, 2010, the Commission approved the consolidation of Consolidated's 15 stand-alone exchanges (including Arthur, Dunning and Brewster) into four exchanges of Hyannis, Merna, Mullen and Thedford. The consolidation of exchanges in 2010 resulted in the creation of the first, second, sixth and twenty-ninth largest exchanges in the State of Nebraska based on square miles served. Applicant serves a total of 2,375 customers in the four relevant exchanges.

According to the Applicant, without the re-establishment of Arthur, Dunning and Brewster as stand-alone exchanges, the Applicant will experience a reduced universal service fund cap in the future which is attributable to the prior consolidation of exchanges. The net effect is the applicant will have fewer resources available for future upgrades.

In addition, according to the Applicant, the re-establishment of the three stand-alone exchanges will be accomplished through the installation of emergency stand-alone switching capability in Arthur, Dunning and Brewster. Consequently, the Applicant states, service will improve by providing intra-switch calling in more locations, while the calling scope that was previously increased through the consolidation will remain the same.

The Applicant states this change will be transparent to customers both inside and outside of the Applicant's network. Rates previously filed will remain the same.

Consolidated filed its revised local exchange maps reflecting the re-establishment of the identified exchanges in its application. Consolidated also filed its proposed sample tariff reflecting the changes.

Based on the information provided in Consolidated's application, the Commission finds that approval of the proposed changes would serve the public interest. Accordingly, the application should be granted.

In accordance with the Hearing Officer's findings in Docket No. C-4543/PI-146 Progression Order No. 4¹, Consolidated must file its revised exchange boundary maps with the Commission in ESRI format on or before June 19, 2013.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the Application of Consolidated Telephone Company to re-establish the Arthur, Dunning and Brewster local telephone exchanges shall be, and it is hereby, granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Consolidated Telephone Company shall file revised exchange maps with the Commission in ESRI format on or before June 19, 2013, as provided above.

¹ See Docket No. C-4543/PI-186, *In The Matter Of The Nebraska Public Service Commission, On Its Own Motion, To Investigate And Explore Federally Mandated Filing Of Electronic Maps Certifying The Study Area Of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers In Nebraska*, Progression Order No. 4 (Entered March 29, 2013).

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 14th day of
May, 2013.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chair

ATTEST:

Executive Director

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MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 14th day of
May, 2013.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

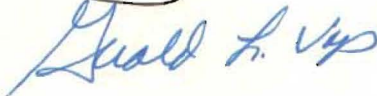
COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:



Chair



ATTEST:



Executive Director

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