

COMMUNICATIONS & NEBRASKA UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND AGENDA

April 1, 2025

10:00 AM

BROADBAND

CPF-1

In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its own motion, to administer the federal Capital Projects Funds for broadband development in Nebraska.

AUTO DIALERS

NUSF/TRS LATE-FILED REMITTANCES

NUSF/TRS/911 Late-Filed Remittance Policy:

UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND

REPORTS

DISCUSSION

Communications Pending Applications

Filed	Appl #	Summary	Att	Protest	Hearing	Officer
7/9/2024	911-78/DC-104/C-5596	Windstream	Sara Hulac			
2/7/2017	C-4892	Show Cause for Centurylink	Shana Knutson	3/13/2017	3/28/2017	Tim Schram
2/22/2017	C-4893/PI-207	Redundancy and testing investigation	Shana Knutson	3/27/2017		
2/5/2019	C-5037/PI-223	NPSC/CenturyLink/Service Quality	Shana Knutson	3/9/2019	8/19/2020	Mary Ridder
8/6/2019	C-5069/PI-226	LB 641	Jonathan Smith	9/9/2019		
6/8/2021	C-5272	Broadband Bridge Act Program	Sallie Dietrich		6/7/2023	Dan Watermeier
1/4/2022	C-5368	Broadband Bridge Act Program 2022	Sallie Dietrich		3/22/2022	Tim Schram
12/6/2022	C-5461/PI-244	Dark fiber	Sallie Dietrich		9/19/2023	Eric Kamler
3/7/2023	C-5484	Broadband Bridge Act Program 2023	Sallie Dietrich		9/17/2024	Dan Watermeier
3/21/2023	C-5493/PI-245	FCC Prohibited Communications Equipment Attestations	Jonathan Smith		5/10/2023	Christian Mirch
7/5/2023	C-5520/PI-246	FCC Prohibited Communications Equipment Attestations to all Communications Providers	Jonathan Smith			
8/29/2023	C-5529	Precision Agriculture Grant Act	Sallie Dietrich		10/26/2023	Eric Kamler
2/6/2024	C-5561	Broadband Bridge Act Program 2024	Sallie Dietrich		3/26/2024	Dan Watermeier
4/3/2024	C-5564/PI-250	Service outage reporting requirements	Sallie Dietrich		9/30/2024	Christian Mirch
8/6/2024	C-5600	Precision Agriculture Grant Act 2024-2025	Sallie Dietrich		10/1/2024	Eric Kamler
7/19/2024	C-5601	Boundary change/Michael and Bethany Hansmire/Windstream/Great Plains	Shana Knutson	8/23/2024		
7/25/2024	C-5602	Boundary change/Cindy Melcher/Windstream/Great Plains	Jonathan Smith	8/29/2024		
12/3/2024	C-5623	CLEC Authority/TJ Cable & Underground Services LLC	Jonathan Smith	1/8/2025		
1/22/2025	C-5625	TRS Surcharge 2025	Jonathan Smith		3/11/2025	Tim Schram
12/10/2024	C-5627	Transfer of control/Citizens Telecommunications Company of Nebraska d/b/a Frontier Communications of Nebraska, Inc./Verizon Communications, Inc.	Sallie Dietrich	1/17/2025	3/25/2025	Eric Kamler
1/29/2025	C-5635	Debt financing/Arlington Telephone Company, The Blair Telephone Company, Eastern Nebraska Telephone Company, Rock County Telephone Company and HunTel Cablevision Inc. d/b/a American Broadband Nebraska Communications, Inc., all d/b/a Fastwyre Broadband	Sallie Dietrich	3/5/2025		Eric Kamler
2/27/2025	C-5638	Discontinue provisioning of long-distance voice services/Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc.	Sallie Dietrich	4/7/2025		
3/6/2025	C-5639/NUSF-144	ETC Lifeline & NTAP/TracFone Wireless, Inc.	Shana Knutson	4/18/2025		
3/4/2025	C-5640	Broadband Bridge Act Program 2025	Sallie Dietrich		4/7/2025	Dan Watermeier
3/6/2025	C-5641	IXC & CLEC Authority/Zayo Northeast, LLC	Jonathan Smith	4/10/2025		
3/6/2025	C-5642	Transfer of control/Zayo Group, LLC/Zayo Northeast, LLC	Jonathan Smith	4/10/2025		
3/12/2025	C-5643	Boundary change/Abel Martinez/Hartington/Great Plains	Sallie Dietrich	4/16/2025		
3/18/2025	C-5644	IXC & CLEC Withdrawal/HunTel Communications, Inc.	Shana Knutson	4/21/2025		
3/25/2025	C-5646	Interconnection/Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company/Windstream Nebraska, Inc.	Sallie Dietrich	4/28/2025		
Filed	Appl #	Summary	Att	Protest	Hearing	Officer
12/13/2022	CPF-1	Capital Projects Funds	Shana Knutson			Tim Schram
8/15/2023	CPF-2	Capital Project Funds	Shana Knutson			Tim Schram

**Universal Service Pending Applications**

<u>Docket</u>	<u>Date Opened/ Received</u>	<u>Protest Date</u>	<u>Hrg. Officer</u>	<u>Atty</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Comments</u>
NUSF-32.19	7/12/2022		Schram	SK	Seeking to conduct an inquiry into failure by inContact, Inc., to comply with Commission Rules or Orders and impose administrative fine	Pending	Sustaining Show Cause & Assess Civil Penalties
NUSF-32.22			Schram	SK	Seeking to conduct an inquiry into failure by various companies, to comply with Commission Rules or Orders and impose administrative fine	Pending	Schedule Show Cause Hearing for April 15, 2025 at 11:00 a.m., Commission Hearing Room,
NUSF-33/PI-68				SK	Seeking to Investigate audit requirements related to the Nebraska Universal Service Fund	Pending	Due date extended to 2-28-2025 for those audits otherwise due on 12-31-2024
NUSF-37.455	1/28/2025			JS	Cullen Robbins, Director, Complainant, v Estech Systems Inc., Respondent, for late-filing of the NUSF worksheets/payments	Pending	
NUSF-37.456	1/28/2025			JS	Cullen Robbins, Director, Complainant, v Skye Telecom, LLC, Respondent, for late-filing of the NUSF worksheets/payments	Pending	
NUSF-37.457	1/28/2025			JS	Cullen Robbins, Director, Complainant, v Greenfly Networks, Inc., Respondent, for late-filing of the NUSF worksheets/payments	Pending	
NUSF-37.458	3/18/2025			JS	Cullen Robbins, Director, Complainant, v CallShaper, LLC, Respondent, for late-filing of the NUSF worksheets/payments	Pending	
NUSF-37.459	3/18/2025			JS	Cullen Robbins, Director, Complainant, v Zultys Inc., Respondent, for late-filing of the NUSF worksheets/payments	Pending	
NUSF-37.460	3/18/2025			JS	Cullen Robbins, Director, Complainant, v Dagobah System, Inc., Respondent, for late-filing of the NUSF worksheets/payments	Pending	
NUSF-37.461	3/18/2025			JS	Cullen Robbins, Director, Complainant, v Discount Long Distance, Respondent, for late-filing of the NUSF worksheets/payments	Pending	
NUSF-37.462	3/18/2025			JS	Cullen Robbins, Director, Complainant, v Hyp0ercube Networks, LLC., Respondent, for late-filing of the NUSF worksheets/payments	Pending	
NUSF-37.463	3/18/2025			JS	Cullen Robbins, Director, Complainant, v Net2Phone 2.0 America, Inc., Respondent, for late-filing of the NUSF worksheets/payments	Pending	
NUSF-57, PO #9	6/27/2006		Mirch	SK	Seeking to administer the Nebraska Telehealth Program	Pending	Filing deadline extended to July 29, 2024
NUSF-91	8/13/2013			SD	To increase broadband adoption among low-income consumers through the development of a Nebraska broadband telephone assistance program	Pending	Held in abeyance
NUSF-92, PO #16	4/19/2023			SK	To administer the NUSF Broadband Program	Pending	Grant application window opens November 18, 2024 and closed January 13, 2025.
NUSF-108, PO #7	10/19/2021			SK	Seeking to make adjustments to the high-cost distribution mechanism and revise reporting requirements	Pending	On-going
NUSF-131, PO #3	8/29/2021		Schram	SD	To establish reverse auction procedures and requirements	Pending	Post-Auction Commitment Forms due 10-25-2024 @ 5:00 p.m.
NUSF-139	8/29/2023		Schram	SK	Consider modification to high-cost distribution of NUSF in light of federal/state infrastructure grants	Pending	
NUSF-143	2/4/2025			SK	Seeking to implement policies related to dedicated universal service support for wireless telecommunications services	Pending	Initial Comments due March 3, 2025 with reply comments due March 28, 2025

3/24/2025

# ***Tariffs***

<i><b>Carrier Name</b></i>	<i><b>Description</b></i>	<i><b>Date Filed</b></i>	<i><b>Date Effective</b></i>
Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC	Deletes alternative service terms that no longer apply.	3/21/2025	4/1/2025

# NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## LATE REMITTANCE POLICY

The Nebraska Public Service Commission (“Commission”) hereby sets forth the following policies and procedures for its Departments to address late and unpaid remittances owed to its Nebraska Universal Service Fund (“NUSF”), Telecommunications Relay System (“TRS”) fund, and ~~Wireless-911~~ Service System fund.

The Commission reserves the right to exercise discretion in applying these policies and procedures, to grant waivers where appropriate, and to levy additional fines and fees if necessary.

### 1. Due Dates:

- a. All remittances must be submitted through the Commission’s online remittance system (“Remittance System”), ~~found at the website <https://www.nebraska.gov/apps-psc-remittance/>.~~
- b. **NUSF:** NUSF remittances are due on the 15th day of each month following the remittance period in which the surcharges were collected. If the 15th day falls on a weekend or holiday, the remittance will be due on the next business day after the 15th.
- c. **TRS:** TRS surcharge remittances are due thirty (30) calendar days after the end of the reported data period. If the 30th day falls on a weekend or holiday, the remittance will be due on the next business day after the 30th day.
- d. ~~**Wireless-911:**~~ **Wireless-911** remittances are due ~~no later than~~ sixty (60) calendar days after the end of the reported data period. If the 60th day falls on a weekend or holiday, the remittance will be due on the next business day after the 60th day.

### 2. Monthly, Quarterly, and Annual Filing: Carriers are generally required to submit their remittances to each fund on a monthly basis, with the following exceptions:

- a. **NUSF:** Carriers who qualify to remit on a quarterly basis to the NUSF under Commission regulations must notify the Telecom/NUSF Department in writing, at least ten (10) business days prior to the beginning of the next remittance period, of their election to remit on a quarterly basis.
- b. **TRS:** Carriers whose monthly TRS remittances total less than \$25.00 may submit their TRS remittances on either a quarterly or annual basis.
  - i. The period for annual remittances shall begin on July 1 of each year and end on June 30.
  - ii. A carrier must notify the Telecom/NUSF Department in writing, at least ten (10) business days prior to the beginning of the next remittance period, of its election to remit quarterly or annually for the following remittance period.
- c. ~~**Wireless-911:**~~ **Wireless-911** remittances must be submitted on a monthly basis.

## NPSC LATE REMITTANCE POLICY

3. Waiver: Carriers are eligible for a waiver of late fees relating to one late filing. This waiver is available one time only, for one remittance period, for the duration of the carrier's authority in Nebraska for each of the three remittance systems.
  - a. Carriers wishing to use their one-time waiver may elect to do so through the Commission's online Remittance System.
  - b. A carrier making its initial filing to any of the three funds may be granted, at the Commission's discretion, a one-time waiver of late fees and fines for more than one remittance period. If granted, this waiver will be the only waiver for that fund for which the carrier is eligible for the duration of its authority in Nebraska.
  - c. The Commission reserves the right to deny the waiver if it has reason to believe the carrier willfully violated filing requirements.
4. Late Filed Remittances: If a carrier files a remittance late and is not eligible for a one-time waiver, the following penalties will apply:
  - a. A late handling fee of \$100 will be automatically assessed for each late remittance.
  - b. Late handling fees will support the fund for which the late remittance was filed.
5. Complaint Procedure:
  - a. In the following circumstances, the relevant department of the Commission will open a complaint against the carrier, seeking an administrative fine of at least \$50 per violation and/or revocation of the carrier's operating authority:
    - i. If a carrier files on a monthly basis and files any single type of remittance late three or more times in a twelve-month period;
    - ii. If a carrier files on a quarterly basis and files a remittance late two or more times within a twelve-month period; or
    - iii. If a carrier files on an annual basis and files late for two consecutive remittance periods.
  - b. If the Commission has opened two or more complaints against a carrier within eighteen (18) months due to late remittance filings, regardless of the department bringing the complaint, that carrier will be considered a repeat offender.
    - i. Repeat offenders will be required to pay an additional administrative fine of at least one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each subsequent late filing.
    - ii. The Commission reserves the right to increase the amount of the fine for willful or egregious offenses.
  - c. Complaints will be handled pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Procedure, 291 Neb. Admin. Code, Chapter 1. If a complaint has not been resolved within ninety (90) days of being opened, the Commission will schedule it for hearing.
  - d. Administrative fines will be assessed in accordance with Commission statutes, including Neb. Rev. Stat. § 75-156. All administrative fines collected pursuant to this policy will support the common school fund.

## NPSC LATE REMITTANCE POLICY

### 6. Commission Approval:

- a. The opening of any formal complaints will be brought before the Commission for approval.
- b. The departments of the Commission shall have the ability to seek settlement of complaints with respondent carriers prior to hearing, provided that the assessed fines and fees agreed upon are not less than the minimum amounts set forth in the policies above.
- c. A complaint, once filed, may only be dismissed by the Commission.

# NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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The Commission reserves the right to exercise discretion in applying these policies and procedures, to grant waivers where appropriate, and to levy additional fines and fees if necessary.

### 1. Due Dates:

- a. All remittances must be submitted through the Commission’s online remittance system (“Remittance System”).
- b. **NUSF:** NUSF remittances are due on the 15th day of each month following the remittance period in which the surcharges were collected. If the 15th day falls on a weekend or holiday, the remittance will be due on the next business day after the 15th.
- c. **TRS:** TRS surcharge remittances are due thirty (30) calendar days after the end of the reported data period. If the 30th day falls on a weekend or holiday, the remittance will be due on the next business day after the 30th day.
- d. **911:** 911 remittances are due sixty (60) calendar days after the end of the reported data period. If the 60th day falls on a weekend or holiday, the remittance will be due on the next business day after the 60th day.

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- c. **911:** 911 remittances must be submitted on a monthly basis.



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