

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of Consolidated Telephone) Application No. 148.19
Company, seeking transition of ongoing)
high-cost Nebraska Universal Service) **VERIFIED APPLICATION**
Support for eligible served locations in)
Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink)
QC or United Telephone Company of the)
West d/b/a CenturyLink Support Areas.)

Consolidated Telephone Company ("Applicant") files this application with the Public Service Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Procedure, seeking receipt of ongoing high-cost Nebraska Universal Service Fund ("NUSF") support for locations for which Lumen Technologies, parent company of Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC or United Telephone Company of the West d/b/a CenturyLink, the incumbent local exchange carrier ("ILEC") has carrier of last resort ("COLR") responsibilities which are within the "Support Area or Support Areas," as further defined below. Applicant is currently offering fiber-based voice and broadband services to all locations in the Support Area(s). As the Application will set forth, the action sought is consistent with existing law, the Commission's NUSF Rules and Regulations, as well as orders entered in NUSF-139.

In support of its Application, Applicant provides the following:

1. A description of the Applicant's organizational structure (Exhibit A), including a certificate of good standing from the Nebraska Secretary of State (Exhibit B).
2. A demonstration that the Applicant is a Nebraska Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (Exhibit C, Affidavit of Consolidated Telephone Company).
3. A commitment verified by the Affidavit (Exhibit C) to comply with all provisions of NEB. ADMIN. CODE, tit. 291, ch. 10, § 004.02(G).

4. A commitment verified by the Affidavit (Exhibit C) to fulfill to the Commission's satisfaction the following COLR obligations for so long as the Applicant receives NUSF support:

a. Offer Voice Services to all locations in the Support Area in compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations.

b. Offer reliable Broadband Services to all locations in the Support Area at speeds required by Nebraska statute.

c. Offer affordable and reasonably comparable Voice Services and Broadband Services to all locations in the Support Area.

i. Rates for Voice Services will be no higher than the Voice Benchmark Rate established by the Commission.

ii. Rates for Broadband Services will comply with the Broadband Benchmark Rate established by the Commission.

d. Offer 911 and Telecommunications Relay services.

e. Participate in the Nebraska Telephone Assistant Program.

5. A description of the Support Areas comprised of all Serviceable Locations contained in the (10) Minimum Bidding Units (MBU) awarded to Applicant in the 2024-2 Reverse Auction. A shapefile containing all Serviceable Locations for which support is sought is attached as Exhibit D of this Application. Also included are Exhibits D.1, D.2, D.3, and D.4 that contain shapefiles of the Support Areas along with details for locations within the Support Areas.

6. A commitment to file the NUSF EARN Form, or any replacement filing, annually.

7. A commitment to file Commission-prescribed NETC certification reports annually.

8. A commitment to provide interconnection with any requesting carrier on a reasonable and nondiscriminatory basis.
9. A commitment to filing speed test data and meeting speed testing metrics consistent with the Commission's Orders in NUSF-133.
10. A commitment that NUSF support received will be used in a manner consistent with the requirements of the NUSF Act (NEB. REV. STAT. 86-316 - 86-329), Commission Rules and Regulations, and any order or policy of the Commission relevant to the use of NUSF support.
11. An affirmation verified by the Affidavit (Exhibit C) that Applicant is not using or deploying communications equipment or service deemed to pose a threat to national security which is identified on the FCC's *List of Equipment and Services Covered by Section 2 of the Secure Networks Act* anywhere on its network.
12. Information responsive to the Commission's NUSF Rules and Regulations (NEB. ADMIN. CODE, tit. 291, ch. 10, § 004.02(G)(i)):
 - a. **The cost of providing the supported services.** Applicant requests support for all Serviceable Locations in the Support Area based on modelling approved by the Commission in NUSF-139.
 - b. **An estimate of the amount of NUSF high-cost program support needed in the area.** Applicant defers to the modelling approved by the Commission in NUSF-139.
 - c. **Benefits to consumers.** Consumers already have access to Applicant's fiber-based telecommunications and broadband services at locations where the ILEC was not offering comparable services.
 - d. **The supported services provided in unserved areas.** Applicant will comply with its COLR obligations as stated above.

e. A demonstration that the quality of service provided would equal the existing service equal or be better than service provided. Such information is publicly available as part of Broadband Data Collection ("BDC") program administered by Federal Communications Commission ("FCC").

f. Applicant will adopt existing interconnection agreements for the Support Area as needed to provide services, consistent with the requirements of NUSF-139.

g. Specific demonstration and documentation of the ability of the Applicant to offer service to everyone on its own network. Such information is publicly available as part of the FCC's BDC program.

Having complied with all statutes, rules, regulations, and orders of the Commission, Applicant respectfully requests the Commission enter an Order:

1. Allocating ongoing high-cost support consistent with modelling under NUSF-139 to Applicant for all locations in the Support Area that are eligible for such support;
2. Subjecting Applicant to the following COLR duties for so long as it receives NUSF ongoing support:

a. Offer Voice Services to all locations in the Support Area in compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations.

b. Offer reliable Broadband Services to all locations in the Support Area at speeds required by Nebraska statute.

c. Offer affordable and reasonably comparable Voice Services and Broadband Services to all locations in the Support Area.

d. Rates for Voice Services will be no higher than the Voice Benchmark Rate established by the Commission.

- e. Rates for Broadband Services will comply with the Broadband Benchmark Rate established by the Commission.
 - f. Offer 911 and Telecommunications Relay services.
 - g. Participate in the Nebraska Telephone Assistant Program.
3. Holding Applicant to the other commitments it has made in its Application.
 4. Relieving ILEC of its COLR duties for all locations in the Support Area.

August 14, 2026

Consolidated Telephone Company
APPLICANT

By: *Paul M. Schudel*

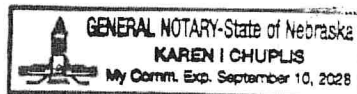
Paul M. Schudel, NE Bar No. 13723
Woods Aitken LLP
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Lincoln, NE 68508
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pschudel@woodsaitken.com
Its Attorneys

STATE OF NEBRASKA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF LANCASTER)

Wendy Thompson Fast, being first duly sworn on oath, states that he is the duly appointed and acting President of Consolidated Telephone Company, that she has read the foregoing Application and is familiar with the contents thereof, and that such contents are true and correct to the best of her information and belief.


Wendy Thompson Fast

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and for such State and County, this 21 day of August 2026.




Notary Public

STATE OF



NEBRASKA

Department of State

Frank Marsh, Secretary of State of the State of Nebraska does hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of the Articles of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation of Consolidated Telephone Company of Dunning, with registered office in Dunning, Nebraska, changing name to CONSOLIDATED TELEPHONE COMPANY, as filed in this office on September 2, 1966.

In Testimony Whereof,

I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska.

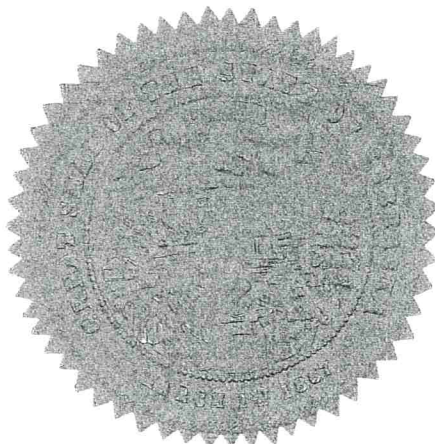
Done at Lincoln this

second

day of September
in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and sixty-six.

Frank Marsh
SECRETARY OF STATE

DEPUTY



ARTICLES OF AMENDMENT TO THE
ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF
CONSOLIDATED TELEPHONE COMPANY
FORMERLY KNOWN AS

CONSOLIDATED TELEPHONE COMPANY OF DUNNING

Pursuant to the provisions of R. S. Supp. 1965, Section 21-2056,
21-2060 and 21-2063 of the Nebraska Business Corporation Act, the under-
signed Consolidated Telephone Company, formerly known as Consolidated
Telephone Company of Dunning, hereby adopts the following revised Articles
of Incorporation to its Articles of Incorporation:

FIRST: The name of the corporation is Consolidated Telephone
Company, formerly known as Consolidated Telephone Company of Dunning.

SECOND: The following amendment to the Articles of Incorporation
was adopted by the shareholders of the corporation on August 22, 1966, in the
manner prescribed by the Nebraska Business Corporation Act:

STATE OF NEBRASKA } SS	
SECRETARY'S OFFICE	SEP 2 1966
Received and filed for record	
and recorded on film roll No. 20	
at page 1362	
Miss J. C. ...	
Frank M. ...	
Secretary of State	
By ...	

REVISED

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

CONSOLIDATED TELEPHONE COMPANY

I

The name of the Corporation is Consolidated Telephone Company.

II

The period of the Corporation's duration is perpetual.

III

The purpose for which this Corporation is organized is to engage in the business of acquiring by purchase, lease or otherwise, constructing, maintaining, leasing and operating of telephone exchange systems, telephone toll circuits and public and private telephone and telegraph circuits, and in general the receiving and transmitting of intelligence by electricity, electronics and radio for all purposes, and the doing of a telecommunications business within the State of Nebraska and adjacent states, and the acquiring, holding, using, selling and leasing of all rights, franchises, patents, machinery and apparatus pertaining to such business within the State of Nebraska and adjacent states, and the acquiring, holding, using, selling and leasing of all rights, franchises, patents, machinery and apparatus pertaining to such business.

IV

The Corporation shall have and exercise all powers and rights conferred upon corporations by the Nebraska Business Corporation Act and any enlargement of such powers conferred by subsequent legislative acts; and, in addition thereto, the Corporation shall have and exercise all powers and rights, not otherwise denied corporations by the laws of the State of Nebraska, as are necessary, suitable, proper, convenient or expedient to the attainment of the purposes set forth in Article III above.

V

The aggregate number of shares which the Corporation shall have the power to issue is ten thousand (10,000) shares of common stock and the par

value of each of said shares shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00).

VI

The street address of the registered office of the Corporation is 1001 - 12th Street, Aurora, Hamilton County, Nebraska, and the name of the registered agent at such address is Clifford E. Thompson.

VII

The Corporation reserves the right from time to time and at any time to amend, alter, change or repeal any provisions contained in these Articles of Incorporation, in the manner now or hereafter prescribed by statute, and all rights herein conferred upon stockholders are granted subject to such reservation.

VIII

The number of directors of the Corporation shall be fixed and may be altered from time to time as provided in the by-laws. Vacancies in the Board of Directors and newly created directorships resulting from any increase in the authorized number of directors may be filled as provided in the by-laws. Directors need not be stockholders.

IX

The private property of the shareholders shall not be subject to the payment of corporate debts to any extent whatever.

X

These revised Articles of Incorporation supersede the original Articles of Incorporation and all amendments thereto.

XERO COPY XERO COPY XERO COPY XERO COPY

THIRD: The number of shares of the corporation outstanding at the time of such adoption was 1,000; and the number of shares entitled to vote thereon was 1,000.

FOURTH: The designation and number of outstanding shares of each class entitled to vote thereon as a class were as follows: (Inapplicable.)

FIFTH: The number of shares that voted for such amendment was 996 and the number of shares that voted against such amendment was none.

SIXTH: The number of shares of each class entitled to vote thereon as a class voted for and against such amendment, respectively was: (Inapplicable.)

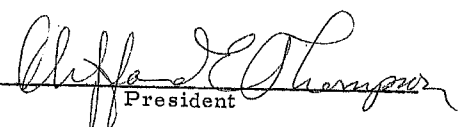
SEVENTH: The manner, if not set forth in such amendment, in which any exchange, reclassification, or cancellation of issued shares provided for in the amendment shall be effected, is as follows: No Change.

EIGHTH: The manner in which such amendment effects a change in the amount of stated capital as changed by such amendment, are as follows: No change in stated capital. Authorized capital is increased from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

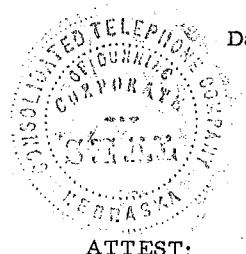
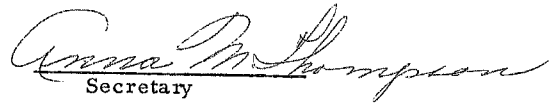
Dated August 26, 1966

CONSOLIDATED TELEPHONE COMPANY

By


President

ATTEST:



Secretary

STATE OF NEBRASKA

United States of America, } ss.
State of Nebraska }

Secretary of State
State Capitol
Lincoln, Nebraska

I, Robert B. Evnen, Secretary of State of the
State of Nebraska, do hereby certify that

CONSOLIDATED TELEPHONE COMPANY

**incorporated on February 25, 1902 and is duly incorporated under the law of
Nebraska;**

**that no occupation taxes due from and assessable against the Corporation are
unpaid and have become delinquent;**

**that no annual or biennial report required to be forwarded by the
Corporation to the Secretary of State has become delinquent;**

that Articles of Dissolution have not been filed.

*This certificate is not to be construed as an endorsement,
recommendation, or notice of approval of the entity's financial
condition or business activities and practices.*

In Testimony Whereof,

I have hereunto set my hand and
affixed the Great Seal of the
State of Nebraska on this date of

July 15, 2026



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert B. Evnen".

Secretary of State

Exhibit C

AFFIDAVIT OF CONSOLIDATED TELEPHONE COMPANY IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR NUSF HIGH-COST SUPPORT

State of Nebraska

I, Wendy Thompson Fast, being first duly sworn, hereby state and affirm as follows:

1. Organizational Structure

Consolidated Telephone Company is a S-Corporation in good standing with the Nebraska Secretary of State. See Exhibit B for current Certificate of Good Standing.

2. Nebraska Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Status

Consolidated Telephone Company is a Nebraska Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("NETC") and is authorized to receive ongoing NUSF support in Nebraska.

3. Election to Serve as COLR

Consolidated Telephone Company elects to assume COLR obligations in the described service area.

Service Area Description

The designated service area for which Consolidated Telephone Company seeks NUSF high-cost support is specifically described in Exhibit D attached hereto.

4. Commitment to Universal Service

Consolidated Telephone Company commits to offering service to every location within the designated service area.

5. Service Capability

Consolidated Telephone Company demonstrates that it provides voice and broadband service with minimum speeds of 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload to locations in the designated service area, including, but not limited to, locations reported as serviceable through the FCC Broadband Data Collection process.

6. Public Safety and Supported Services

Consolidated Telephone Company commits to providing NUSF-supported services including, but not limited to, 911 and Telecommunications Relay services.

7. Affordability and Benchmark Compliance

Consolidated Telephone Company commits to offering affordable and reasonably comparable services at rates which are at or below the benchmark rate established by the Commission.

8. Regulatory Reporting Commitments

Consolidated Telephone Company commits to filing the NUSF EARN Form on an annual basis, as well as the Commission-prescribed NETC certification reports on an

annual basis.

9. Interconnection Commitment

Consolidated Telephone Company commits to providing interconnection with any requesting carrier on a reasonable and nondiscriminatory basis.

10. Speed Testing Compliance

Consolidated Telephone Company commits to filing speed test data and meeting speed testing metrics consistent with the Commission's Orders in Docket No. NUSF-133.

11. Use of Funds

Consolidated Telephone Company affirms that all NUSF support received will be used in a manner consistent with the requirements of the NUSF Act (Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-316 through 86-329), Commission rules and regulations, and applicable Commission orders relevant to the use of NUSF high-cost support.

12. National Security Compliance

Consolidated Telephone Company affirms that it is not using or deploying any communications equipment or services deemed to pose a threat to national security, as identified on the FCC and State of Nebraska's Covered List, anywhere within its network.

Signature: 

Printed Name: Wendy Thompson Fast

Title: President

Company: Consolidated Telephone Company

Date: 8/20/26