

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service) Application No. NUSF-92.46
Commission, on its own motion, seeking to)
administer the Nebraska Universal Service Fund's)
Broadband Program: Application to the Nebraska)
Broadband Program Received from Pinpoint)
Wireless d/b/a Blaze Wireless.)
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In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service) Application No. NUSF-92.47
Commission, on its own motion, seeking to)
administer the Nebraska Universal Service Fund's)
Broadband Program: Application to the Nebraska)
Broadband Program Received from United States)
Cellular Corporation.)
)
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)
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)

In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service) Application No. NUSF-92.48
Commission, on its own motion, seeking to)
administer the Nebraska Universal Service Fund's)
Broadband Program: Application to the Nebraska)
Broadband Program Received from N.E. Colorado)
Cellular, Inc., d/b/a Viaero Wireless.)
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Received
NOV - 4 2016
NPSC Comm. Dept.

PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF SUE VANICEK

1 **Q: Please state your name for the record.**

2 A: Sue Vanicek, S-U-E V-A-N-I-C-E-K

3

4 **Q: Where are you employed and in what capacity?**

5 A: I am the Director of the Nebraska Telecommunications Infrastructure and Public
6 Safety Department of the Nebraska Public Service Commission which administers the
7 Nebraska Universal Service Fund. I have been employed by the Commission as Director
8 since August 14, 2008.

9

10 **Q: What Was Your Experience Prior To Your Current Position?**

11 A: For 14 years I was employed by Lincoln Telephone/Aliant Communications. I held a
12 variety of positions specializing in regulatory and legislative analysis and strategic
13 planning. There I also served as Economic Costs and Analysis Manager. In that position
14 I was responsible for managing the development of cost information, both forward-
15 looking and historical. After leaving Aliant, I was employed as a Senior Consultant at
16 TELECOM Consulting Resources now known as Consortia Consulting.

17

18 **Q: What Is Your Educational Background?**

19 A: I have Master of Arts degree in Economics and a Bachelor of Science degree in
20 Business Administration, both from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

21

1 **Q: What is the purpose of your testimony?**

2 A: To make recommendations and to discuss the Department's opinion regarding the
3 applications docketed as NUSF-92.46, NUSF-92.47, and NUSF-92.48. Specifically, my
4 testimony is related to the process used to review each application to ensure that it is
5 eligible to be considered for support under the Commission's requirements for the
6 wireless broadband infrastructure program.

7
8 **Q: What steps did the Department take when reviewing these applications?**

9
10 Staff and the Department reviewed each application to determine whether all
11 application requirements were fulfilled. The Commission adopted five application
12 requirements, demonstrating the requisite information for project consideration.¹

13
14 The Department contacted each applicant and asked each applicant for
15 explanation and/or to provide additional information. After preliminary internal review,
16 staff and the Department held individual phone conferences with each applicant as
17 necessary seeking clarification of various application specific issues. Pursuant to these
18 discussions, application supplements were provided by applicants as needed.

19
20 **Q: Does the Department recommend any modifications to the amounts requested in**
21 **the applications?**

22
23 No. All applications were reviewed to determine whether they contained requests
24 for ongoing operating expenses. Currently the wireless broadband infrastructure program
25 is designed to fund capital costs associated with constructing towers. None of the

¹ See *In the Matter of the Nebraska Public Service Commission, on its Own Motion, to Administer the Nebraska Universal Service Fund Broadband Program*, Application No. NUSF-92, ORDER (January 26, 2016) at p. 3.

1 applications contained requests for ongoing operating expenses, therefore, the
2 Department does not recommend any adjustments to the requested amounts.

3

4 **Q: What is the Department's recommendation regarding the eligibility of each**
5 **application to be considered for support?**

6

7 Based upon the application supplements received, the Department recommends
8 the Commission find each application to be in conformance with the Commission's
9 application requirements and eligible for consideration of support subject to the
10 methodology described by Mr. Robbins in his testimony.

11

12 **Q: Do you have anything further to add at this time?**

13

14 A: Not at this time.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on this 4th day of November 2016, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was sent by electronic mail to the following with the original being filed with the Nebraska Public Service Commission:

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