

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

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<p>IN RE ARBITRATION OF:</p> <p>SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY L.P.,</p> <p style="text-align:center">Petitioning Party,</p> <p style="text-align:center">vs.</p> <p>NORTH ENGLISH COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANY AND WINNEBAGO COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE ASSOCIATION,</p> <p style="text-align:center">Responding Parties.</p>	<p style="text-align:center">DOCKET NO. ARB-05-5</p>
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**ORDER GRANTING STAY OF PROCEEDINGS**

(Issued November 7, 2005)

On August 29, 2005, Sprint Communications Company L.P. (Sprint) filed a petition with the Utilities Board (Board) requesting the Board arbitrate certain terms and conditions of a proposed Interconnection Agreement between Sprint and two rural local exchange carriers, North English Cooperative Telephone Company and Winnebago Cooperative Telephone Association (hereinafter, the RLECs). The petition was filed pursuant to the provisions of 199 IAC 38.4(3) and 38.7(3) and § 252(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 101-104, 110 Stat. 56 (1996).

Sprint filed a single petition for arbitration against the two RLECs alleging that the issues were identical and requested the Board treat the filing as a consolidated petition for arbitration with respect to the two RLECs. The petition has been identified as Docket No. ARB-05-5.

In compliance with the procedures established in the Board's rules, the Board docketed the petition for arbitration, set a date for answering the petition, and scheduled a telephone conference to discuss procedures.

On September 14, 2005, Sprint and the RLECs filed a joint motion to stay the proceedings pending resolution of Docket No. ARB-05-2. Docket No. ARB-05-2 relates to Sprint's petition for arbitration with other rural local exchange carriers addressing issues which would also be presented in this proceeding. The parties to this proceeding request that all matters in this docket be stayed until the Board has taken final action in Docket No. ARB-05-2.

The Board finds that the request to stay these proceedings is appropriate and will grant the stay to prevent unnecessary duplication of litigation.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

The "Joint Application for Stay of Proceedings" filed on September 14, 2005, by Sprint Communications Company L.P., North English Cooperative Telephone

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Company, and Winnebago Cooperative Telephone Association is granted as discussed in this order.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ John R. Norris

/s/ Diane Munns

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper  
Executive Secretary

/s/ Curtis W. Stamp

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 7<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2005.