

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE ARBITRATION OF:

SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY L.P.,

Petitioning Party,

vs.

ACE COMMUNICATIONS GROUP, CLEAR LAKE INDEPENDENT TELEPHONE COMPANY, FARMERS MUTUAL COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE CO. OF SHELBY, FARMERS TELEPHONE COMPANY, FARMERS MUTUAL TELEPHONE COMPANY, GRAND RIVER MUTUAL TELEPHONE CORPORATION, HEART OF IOWA COMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE, HEARTLAND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY OF IOWA d/b/a HICKORYTECH, HUXLEY COMMUNICATIONS, IOWA TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC., d/b/a IOWA TELECOM f/k/a GTE MIDWEST, KALONA COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE, LA PORTE CITY TELEPHONE COMPANY, LOST NATION-ELWOOD TELEPHONE COMPANY, MINBURN TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC., ROCKWELL COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE ASSOCIATION, SHARON TELEPHONE, SHELL ROCK TELEPHONE COMPANY d/b/a BEVCOMM c/o BLUE EARTH VALLEY TELEPHONE COMPANY, SOUTH CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS, INC., SOUTH SLOPE COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANY, SWISHER TELEPHONE COMPANY, VENTURA TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC., VILLISCA FARMERS TELEPHONE COMPANY, WEBSTER CALHOUN COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE ASSOCIATION, WELLMAN COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE ASSOCIATION, and WEST LIBERTY TELEPHONE COMPANY d/b/a LIBERTY COMMUNICATIONS; AND NORTH ENGLISH COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANY AND WINNEBAGO COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE ASSOCIATION; AND CITIZENS MUTUAL TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, MABEL COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANY, TITONKA TELEPHONE COMPANY, LYNNVILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY, AND SULLY TELEPHONE ASSOCIATION,

Responding Parties.

DOCKET NOS. ARB-05-2
ARB-05-5
ARB-05-6

ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR LEAVE TO LATE FILE TESTIMONY

(Issued January 31, 2006)

On December 21, 2005, the Utilities Board (Board) issued its "Order Docketing Petition for Arbitration, Consolidating Petitions, and Setting Procedural Schedule." In that order, the Board's procedural schedule required Sprint Communications Company L.P. (Sprint) to file its rebuttal testimony on January 27, 2006.

On January 30, 2006, Sprint filed a motion requesting leave to file its testimony on January 30, 2006. According to its motion, Sprint was unable to timely file the rebuttal testimony because Sprint did not receive timely responses to Sprint's data requests from the RLEC group.¹ According to Sprint, the discovery responses were due back to Sprint on January 25, 2006, but were not received until close of business on Friday, January 27, 2006, the same day Sprint's rebuttal testimony was due. According to Sprint, no party should be harmed by its request because Sprint did serve each of the parties with its testimony on January 27, 2006. Only the formal filing with the Board's records center was postponed until January 30, 2006.

¹ The RLEC group includes the following: Ace Communications Group, Clear Lake Independent Telephone Company, Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Co. of Shelby, Farmers Telephone Company, Farmers Mutual Telephone Company, Grand River Mutual Telephone Corporation, Heart of Iowa Communications Cooperative, Huxley Communications, Iowa Telecommunications Services, Inc., d/b/a Iowa Telecom f/k/a GTE Midwest, Kalona Cooperative Telephone, La Porte City Telephone Company, Lehigh Valley Cooperative Telephone Association, Lost Nation-Elwood Telephone Company, Minburn Telecommunications, Inc., Rockwell Cooperative Telephone Association, Sharon Telephone, Shell Rock Telephone Company d/b/a BEVCOMM c/o Blue Earth Valley Telephone Company, South Central Communications, Inc., South Slope Cooperative Telephone Company, Swisher Telephone Company, Van Buren Telephone Company, Ventura Telephone Company, Inc., Villisca Farmers Telephone Company, Webster Calhoun Cooperative Telephone Association, Wellman Cooperative Telephone Association, West Liberty Telephone Company, d/b/a Liberty Communications, North English Cooperative Telephone Company, Winnebago Cooperative Telephone Association, Citizens Mutual Telephone Cooperative, Mabel Cooperative Telephone

The Board will grant Sprint's request and accept the late-filed rebuttal testimony.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The "Motion for Leave to File Late Testimony" filed by Sprint Communications Company L.P. on January 30, 2006, is granted.

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 31st day of January, 2006.