

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Barbara Beerhalter	Chair
Cynthia A. Kitlinski	Commissioner
Norma McKanna	Commissioner
Robert J. O'Keefe	Commissioner
Darrel L. Peterson	Commissioner

In the Matter of the Request of Northwestern  
Bell Telephone Company to Revise Its Tariff  
for the Sale of Premises Wire and Cable

ISSUE DATE: July 14, 1988

DOCKET NO. P-421/M-85-115

ORDER APPROVING REQUEST TO  
DISCONTINUE REPORTS

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On June 18, 1985, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) issued its AMENDED FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER in the above-captioned matter. That Order required Northwestern Bell Telephone Company (NWB or the Company) to file semi-annual reports with the Commission on the sales of customer premises wiring with a net book value of \$50,000 or more.

On June 24, 1988, the Company requested that this reporting requirement be discontinued because customer premises wiring has been deregulated and sales of customer premises wiring are prohibited by the Commission's December 31, 1986 Order in Docket No. P-999/CI-86-747, the Inside Wire Case.

On July 8, 1988, the Minnesota Department of Public Service (DPS) filed its comments on the Company's request and recommended that it be granted.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Following the Commission's June 18 Order, the Federal Communications Commission detariffed the installation of simple inside wire and maintenance of both simple and complex inside wiring. (Memorandum Opinion and Order, CC Docket No. 79-105, November 21, 1986.)

The Commission further addressed the deregulation of inside wire in its December 31, 1986 Order which provides that telephone companies:

- 1) are precluded from receiving additional compensation for customer premises wiring after it has been expensed or fully amortized;
- 2) cannot require that customer premises wiring be purchased; and
- 3) cannot impose a charge for the use of customer premises wiring. The Order also states that the installation and maintenance of customer premises wiring are deregulated effective January 1, 1987.

The Commission finds that the deregulation of the installation and maintenance of inside wire and the restrictions placed on companies are adequate to ensure that the interests of ratepayers are protected. NWB cannot require that inside wire that has been installed or maintained under tariff be purchased, nor can it impose a leasing charge for the use of such inside wire. While the Company may sell unamortized inside wiring, it must account for the sale on the books of the regulated company. The Commission concludes that the reports required by its June 18, 1985 Order are no longer necessary and will grant NWB's request to discontinue filing them.

#### ORDER

1. Northwestern Bell Telephone Company's request to discontinue filing semi-annual reports on the sales of premises wiring with a net book value of \$50,000 or more is hereby granted.
2. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Mary Ellen Hennen  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)