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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COMMISSION ELECTS LOWELL JOHNSON AS CHAIRMAN

LINCOLN – The Nebraska Public Service Commission elected Lowell Johnson of North Bend as its chairman for 2006.

The vote at the Commission's January 11 meeting was unanimous. Commissioner Rod Johnson of Sutton was named vice chairman.

Lowell Johnson is in the final year of his second six-year term. He first was elected to the Commission from District 3 in 1994 after serving 12 years in the Nebraska Legislature. He succeeds Jerry Vap of McCook as chairman.

"We look forward to 2006 as a productive year at the Commission with all the entities that we regulate," Johnson said. "I feel very fortunate that we have a highly qualified and energetic staff who gives valuable assistance in carrying out our responsibilities to the public."

Johnson thanked the other commissioners for his election. "I appreciate the vote of my colleagues as the chairman." In addition to Rod Johnson and Vap, other commissioners are Frank Landis of Lincoln and Anne Boyle of Omaha.

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