

June 29, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PSC COMMISSIONER WARNS OF IRS PHISHING SCHEME

LINCOLN – Nebraska Public Service Commissioner Anne Boyle of Omaha warned the public Tuesday of a phishing scheme using the name of the Internal Revenue Service.

Boyle said at the June 27 meeting of the Commission that she had received a bogus contact purportedly from the Internal Revenue Service saying that she had a tax refund available and to respond with personal identification information.

The commissioner noted, “The IRS does not initiate communication with taxpayers through email.” If anyone suspects that they have been contacted in a fraudulent scam attempt, they may report it through the website: www.irs.gov (keyword: identity theft).

“The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration can use the information plus links in the bogus emails to trace the hosting web site and alert authorities to help shut it down,” she said. Misuse of the IRS name, logo, forms, or other IRS property may be reported to the Internal Revenue Service also by toll-free telephone at 800-366-4484.

Boyle warned, “Do not open or respond to links and pop-ups associated with phishing scams. Be alert to fraudulent emails that may have been sent to your email address.”

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