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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PSC SCHEDULES WORKSHOP ON TELEPHONE ACCESS CHARGES

LINCOLN – Members of the public and representatives of telecommunications industry have been invited by the Nebraska Public Service Commission to a workshop to discuss a proposal before the Federal Communications Commission designed to reform telephone access charges.

The workshop will be on October 4 at 1:30 p.m. in the Commission Hearing Room, at 1200 N Street, Suite 300, Lincoln.

The proposal, known as the “Missoula Plan” after the Montana city where a planning meeting was held, was released by the Federal Communications Commission for comment. The Nebraska Commission regulates telecommunications within the state and wants to hear from the industry and the public prior to filing comments on October 25, 2005.

The aim of the plan is to reform access charges that carriers pay each other for handling long distance traffic and address how compensation should work in the rapidly evolving telecommunications environment. In setting the workshop meeting, the Commission noted that the Missoula Plan is controversial.

The workshop will be moderated by Commissioner Anne Boyle and facilitated by Commission staff members.

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