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IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

April 12, 2004

Idaho Public Utilities Commission
Attention: Mr. Doug Cooley
P. O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0074

GNR-T-04-02

Re: Telephone Service to the Soldiers Meadow Area in North Central Idaho

Dear Mr. Cooley:

It has been over six weeks since Mr. & Mrs. Herb Weed and my husband and I sent this letter, a copy of which is attached. As you can see, we have requested a formal proceeding to investigate service to our area.

Can you please advise us of the status of this request? We have not received any written correspondence regarding our request. We would appreciate a written response.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Vivian Kastner-Maras

Vlado Maras and Vivian Kastner-Maras
P. O. Box 280
Winchester, ID 83555

Or Contact:
Mr. & Mrs. Herb Weed
P. O. Box 467
Winchester, ID 83555

February 18, 2004

Idaho Public Utilities Commission
P. O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Re: Telephone Service to the Soldiers Meadow Area in North Central Idaho

Dear Commissioners:

As permitted under Idaho Statute 61-508, the citizens of the Soldiers Meadow area hereby file a formal complaint and ask the Commission to open a formal proceeding to investigate service extensions and service area boundaries for Soldiers Meadow. Our request is based on the fact "...facilities or other physical property of any public utility... ought reasonably to be made, or that a new structure or structures should be erected, to promote the **security**." Mr. Maras and Mrs. Weed are both suffering from serious health problems and the other residents certainly realize the need for a telephone in any health or physical emergency.

Our complaint also recognizes the fact that we comprise the third group of the original petitioners for service. Based on conversations with staff, we were advised that this petition was going to be considered in its entirety, all of the petitioners or none. Subsequently, we were told Soldiers Meadow was outside of the service area. **Why wasn't the service area boundary changed?** Quest was allowed to modify its tariff to allow a \$1,600 line extension credit per applicant, similar to its southern Idaho tariff, so there were changes made during our application process. Our request for service could be the basis to revise the service area boundary.

Quest has installed service to the Forest area free of cost to customers. At that time, all equipment and manpower was mobilized which could have easily extended service to the Soldiers Meadow area a few miles away. We feel we were discriminated against just because of the arbitrary straight line of the county boundary. It appears that the Soldiers Meadow area is a "no man's land" which seems unbelievable in 2004. The residents of Soldiers Meadow could also be served from the Waha area which currently has telephone service.

We respectfully request that the Commissioners hear our complaint and open a formal proceeding. Please advise us of the necessary steps we need to take in this process.
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Vlado Maras
Vivian Maras
P. O. Box 280
25314 Soldiers Meadow Road
Winchester, ID 83555

Herb Weed
Trudy Weed
P. O. Box 467
43529 Yellow Pine Ave.
Winchester, ID 83555

Additional Soldiers Meadow area residents interested in telephone service:

Ron & Carol Andrews
P. O. Box 9
43669 Yellow Pine Ave.
Winchester, ID 83555

Lorene & Marnetta Shrader (disabled)
P. O. Box 171
Yellow Pine Ave.
Winchester, ID 83555

Chris & Connie Cavanaugh
1618 14th Ave.
Lewiston, ID 83501
24916 Soldiers Meadow Rd.
Winchester, ID 83555

Lois Vincent
835 Pine St.
Yellow Pine Ave.
Lewiston, ID 83501

Mike & Margaret Squires
1320 7th Ave.
Lewiston, ID 83501

Dick & Joyce Wallace
3832 12th St.
Lewiston, ID 83501

Mel & Bev Hofman
3825 11th St.
Lewiston, ID 83501

Larry & Mary Weber
Lenore, ID

Brian Howlett, DC
1627 4th Ave.
Clarkston, WA 99403

Ed & Mikki Wemhoff
Rt. 1
Cottonwood, ID 83522

Idaho Public Utility Commission
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Listed below are additional property owners in the Soldiers Meadow area who have yet to be contacted regarding their interest in the phone service:

Jim Peterson
Jake Sweet
Carol Click
Wayne Grubb
Gary Wessels
Allen Felton
Bob Skelton
Jim Light
Pat & Delray Maki

cc: Larry Craig, State Senator (846 Main St. Lewiston, ID 83501)
Mike Crapo, State Senator (111 Main St., Room 140 Lewiston, ID 83501)