DECISION MEMORANDUM

TO:COMMISSIONER NELSON

COMMISSIONER SMITH

COMMISSIONER HANSEN

MYRNA WALTERS

STEPHANIE MILLER

DAVID SCHUNKE

DON HOWELL

JOE CUSICK

BILL EASTLAKE

JIM LONG

WAYNE HART

BEVERLY BARKER

DAVID SCOTT

TONYA CLARK

WORKING FILE

FROM:BIRDELLE BROWN

DATE:MARCH 13, 1997

RE:PETITION TO INCLUDE PORTIONS OF CARIBOU AND BONNEVILLE COUNTIES IN THE EASTERN IDAHO EXTENDED AREA SERVICE (EAS) REGION.

State Senators and Representatives from Districts 30 and 32 have written to endorse a petition with nearly 400 names from Caribou and Bonneville Counties and a number of letters requesting the inclusion of Gray’s Lake, Wayan and Freedom, Idaho, areas into the eastern Idaho U S WEST  EAS region.  These communities are served by Silver Star Telephone Company.   The letter says that the reasons justifying this EAS are even more dramatic for the Silver Star Telephone Company than they were for the Eastern Idaho customers who will enjoy U S WEST’s EAS calling.  Specifically, the letter lists the requirements for schools and school districts, county governments, medical and emergency services, fire protection and all commercial and business activity.  Petitioners indicate that the nearest communities with essential facilities are approximately 40 miles away.

U S WEST and Silver Star Telephone Company have both indicated a willingness to investigate the reasonableness of the proposed EAS.

COMMISSION DECISION

Staff recommends that this petition be assigned a case number and that the case be investigated concurrently with the Swan Valley/Irwin petition, Case No. USW-S-96-4.  Does the Commission agree?

Birdelle Brown

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