DECISION MEMORANDUM

TO:COMMISSIONER HANSEN

COMMISSIONER NELSON

COMMISSIONER SMITH

MYRNA WALTERS

TONYA CLARK

DON HOWELL

STEPHANIE MILLER

DAVE SCHUNKE

JOE CUSICK

BILL EASTLAKE

DAVID SCOTT

WORKING FILE

FROM:WELDON STUTZMAN

DATE:DECEMBER 19, 1997

RE:PETITION BY RESIDENTS OF LOST RIVERS VALLEY (ARCO, MOORE, BUTTE CITY, HOWE, MACKAY, LESLIE, DARLINGTON) TO INSTITUTE EXTENDED AREA SERVICE TO SOUTHEASTERN IDAHO EAS REGION.

Currently pending before the Commission is an EAS case to consider implementation of toll-free calling between Malad City and Rexburg, which is part of the southeastern Idaho EAS region (Case No. GNR-T-97-6).  The local exchange carrier in Malad City is Westel, Inc.  In October 1997, the Commission received an EAS petition from residents of the Lost Rivers Valley, comprised of Arco, Moore, Butte City, Howe, Mackay, Leslie, and Darlington, requesting implementation of toll-free calling between their communities and the southeastern Idaho EAS region.  Basic telephone service in Lost Rivers Valley also is provided by Westel.

Although the Lost Rivers Valley exchange and the Malad exchange are not geographically close to each other, both are operated by Westel, and the residents of both are petitioning for inclusion in the southeastern Idaho EAS region, operated by U S WEST.  Staff therefore recommends that the new petition from the Lost Rivers Valley residents be included in Case No. GNR-T-97-6, the Malad City case.

Commission Decision:

Should the petition by residents of Lost Rivers Valley be combined in Case No. GNR-T-97-6?

Weldon Stutzman

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