(text box: 1)BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF GTE NORTHWEST INCORPORATED IN TARIFF ADVICE 96-15 TO REVISE TOLL RATES AND INTRODUCE TWO NEW INTRALATA CALLING PLANS. | )  )  )  )  )  )  )  ) | CASE NO. GTE-T-97-1  NOTICE OF APPLICATION  NOTICE OF MODIFIED           PROCEDURE |

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on November 19, 1996, the Commission received  Tariff Advice 96-15 from GTE Northwest Incorporated requesting authority to revise toll rates and to introduce two new intraLATA calling plans effective February 11, 1997.

According to the Tariff Advice, GTE has proposed to introduce two new calling plans; one for business customers and the other for residential customers.  The plans do not require a minimum monthly fee.  They do provide volume discounts on intraLATA calls.  Residential customers will receive a 10% discount on volumes from $10 to $24.99 per month and 25% on volumes of $25 or higher.  Business calls will be rated on a subminute basis (initial 18 seconds and then 6 second increments) and then discounted.  Business subscribers using the plan on a month-to-month basis will receive a 10% discount on volumes of $25 to $99.99; 15% on volumes of $100 to $199 and 20% on volumes greater than $200.  The business discounts increase on one year, two year and three year plans.

In addition, GTE proposes to revise its toll rate structure.  New rate schedules are proposed for direct dialed station-to-station, customer dialed calling card station-to-station, operator handled person-to-person, operator handled station-to-station and coin telephone station-to-station.  Each of these schedules has a flat rate of 32¢ per minute for peak and 21¢ per minute for off-peak periods.  GTE’s current time periods are:

Day8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

Evening5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and Sunday (incurs a 30% discount)

Night11:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. Monday through Friday, all of Saturday and all but the evening period on Sunday (incurs a 45% discount)

The proposed new time periods are:

Peak7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday (32¢ per minute)

Off PeakAll other times (21¢ per minute)

According to Staff’s initial calculations, these new rates would result in increases for some customers and decreases for others.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that on January 16, 1997, the Commission issued Order No. 26762 in which it found that the Tariff Advice is of sufficient importance and complexity to require the Commission’s investigation of the reasonableness of the proposed toll rates and intraLATA calling plans.  Consequently, the Commission suspended the proposed February 11, 1997, effective date for a period of 30 days plus 5 months.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Commission offices.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this case will be held pursuant to the Commission's jurisdiction under Title 61 of the Idaho Code and that the Commission may enter any final Order consistent with its authority under Title 61.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this matter will be conducted pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000 et seq.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission has reviewed the filings of record in Case No. GTE-T-97-1.  The Commission has preliminarily determined that the public interest may not require a hearing to consider the issues presented and that the issues raised by the Application may be processed under Modified Procedure, i.e., by written submission rather than by hearing.  Reference Commission Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.201-.204.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission may not hold a hearing in this proceeding unless it receives written protests or comments opposing the use of Modified Procedure and stating why Modified Procedure should not be used.  Reference IDAPA 31.01.01.203.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that any person desiring to state a position on this Application may file a written comment in support or opposition with the Commission within twenty-one (21) days from the date of this Notice.  The comment must contain a statement of reasons supporting the comment.  Persons desiring a hearing must specifically request a hearing in their written comments.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if no written comments or protests are received within the deadline, the Commission will consider the matter on its merits and enter its Order without a formal hearing.  If comments or protests are filed within the deadline, the Commission will consider them and in its discretion may set the matter for hearing or may decide the matter and issue its Order on the basis of the written positions before it.  Reference IDAPA 31.01.01.204.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that written comments concerning Case No. GTE-T-97-1 should be mailed to the Commission and the Company at the addresses reflected below:

COMMISSION SECRETARYFRED LOGAN

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSIONGTE TELEPHONE OPERATIONS

PO BOX 8372017933 NW EVERGREEN PARKWAY

BOISE, IDAHO  83720-0074PO BOX 1100

BEAVERTON, OR 97079-1100

Street Address for Express Mail:

472 W WASHINGTON ST

BOISE, IDAHO  83702-5983

All comments should contain the case caption and case number shown on the first page of this document.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Application in Case No. GTE-T-97-1 can be reviewed at the Commission’s office and at the Idaho offices of GTE Northwest Incorporated during regular business hours.

DATED at Boise, Idaho this                  day of January 1997.

Myrna J. Walters

Commission Secretary

vld/N:GTE-T-97-1.bp

**COMMENTS AND ANNOTATIONS**

Text Box 1:

**TEXT BOXES**

Office of the Secretary

Service Date

January 31, 1997