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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| IN THE MATTER OF A RURAL TELEPHONE COMPANY EXEMPTION FOR GTE NORTHWEST INCORPORATED’S IDAHO OPERATIONS | )  )  )  )  )  ) | CASE NO. GTE-T-97-4  ORDER NO.  26848 |

U S WEST Communications, Inc. petitioned to intervene in this case on March 19, 1997, after the deadline for petitioning to intervene of March 3, 1997, pursuant to Rules of Procedure 71 through 75 of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, IDAPA 31.01.01.071-75.

FINDINGS OF FACT

We find that no party timely opposed this Petition to Intervene.

We further find that based on the pleadings and other documents filed in this case, intervention by this party would serve the purposes of intervention as described by Rule 74 of the Rules of Procedure and should be granted.   We also find that granting this late intervention will not prejudice any party and that late intervention should be granted.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Petition to Intervene filed by U S WEST Communications, Inc. is hereby granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all parties in this proceeding serve all papers hereafter filed in this matter on all parties of record.  This Intervenor is represented by the following for purposes of service:

Kathy FordMary S. Hobson

U S WEST Communications, Inc.ELAM & BURKE, P.A.

1801 California St., #5100PO Box 1539

Denver, CO 80202Boise, ID 83701

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho, this         day of  April  1997.

                                                                                RALPH NELSON, PRESIDENT

                                                                                MARSHA H. SMITH,  COMMISSIONER

                                                                                DENNIS S. HANSEN, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

MYRNA J. WALTERS

COMMISSION SECRETARY

bls/O-gtet974.in5

**COMMENTS AND ANNOTATIONS**

Text Box 1:

**TEXT BOXES**

Office of the Secretary

Service Date

April 1, 1997