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

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| IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MAX-TEL COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN MAX-TEL AND U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS. | ))))))) | CASE NO. MAX-T-97-1ORDER NO.  27176 |

On September 16, 1997, the Commission issued a Notice of Modified Procedure soliciting comments in response to the Interconnection Agreement with U S WEST submitted by Max-Tel Communications, Inc. (Max-Tel) for Commission approval.  The only party to submit comments was the Commission Staff.  Staff notes that the Agreement submitted by Max-Tel is the original standard resale agreement offered by U S WEST to companies seeking to provide competitive local exchange service.  Staff compared the Max-Tel Agreement with the U S WEST-Citizens Telecommunications agreement recently approved by the Commission in Order No. 26778 and found the general terms and conditions to be identical in the two Agreements.  Consequently, Staff recommends that the Commission approve the Interconnection Agreement as filed.

F I N D I N G S

We hereby approve Max-Tel’s Interconnection Agreement with U S WEST.  We note that it is, in fact, the standard form used by U S WEST and historically approved by this Commission.

O R D E R

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Interconnection Agreement with U S WEST filed by Max-Tel Communications, Inc. on March 11, 1997, is approved.

THIS IS A FINAL ORDER.  Any person interested in this Order (or in issues finally decided by this Order) or in interlocutory Orders previously issued in this Case No. MAX-T-97-1  may petition for reconsideration within twenty-one (21) days of the service date of this Order with regard to any matter decided in this Order or in interlocutory Orders previously issued in this Case No. MAX-T-97-1.  Within seven (7) days after any person has petitioned for reconsideration, any other person may cross-petition for reconsideration.  See Idaho Code § 61-626.

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

                                                                                                                                       DENNIS S. HANSEN, PRESIDENT

                                                                                            RALPH NELSON, COMMISSIONER

MARSHA H. SMITH, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

Myrna J. Walters

Commission Secretary

vld/O:MAX-T-97-1.bp

**COMMENTS AND ANNOTATIONS**

Text Box 1:

**TEXT BOXES**

Office of the Secretary

Service Date

October 20, 1997