

**BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )</b>	
<b>QWEST CORPORATION FOR )</b>	<b>CASE NO. QWE-T-02-25</b>
<b>DEREGULATION OF BASIC LOCAL )</b>	
<b>EXCHANGE RATES IN ITS BOISE, NAMPA, )</b>	
<b>CALDWELL, MERIDIAN, TWIN FALLS, )</b>	<b>NOTICE OF</b>
<b>IDAHO FALLS, AND POCATELLO )</b>	<b>PUBLIC WORKSHOPS</b>
<b>EXCHANGES. )</b>	

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YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on December 17, 2002, Qwest Corporation filed an Application for deregulation of basic local exchange telephone rates in its Boise, Nampa, Caldwell, Meridian, Twin Falls, Idaho Falls, and Pocatello exchanges. Qwest basic local services in these exchanges currently are subject to regulation by the Commission under Title 61, Idaho Code. Qwest seeks deregulation of its basic local service pursuant to *Idaho Code* § 62-622(3)(b). That section requires the Commission to cease regulating basic telephone rates in a local exchange calling area upon a showing by the incumbent telephone corporation that effective competition exists for basic service throughout the local calling area. The statute states that effective competition exists when “there are functionally equivalent, competitively priced local services reasonably available to both residential and small business customers from a telephone corporation unaffiliated with the incumbent telephone corporation.”

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that Qwest’s Application asserts that effective competition exists in the seven identified exchanges from cellular telephone providers. Qwest asserts the cellular service is a functionally equivalent and competitively priced local exchange service reasonably available to both residential and small business customers.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission is directed, in its deliberation of deregulation of an incumbent telephone company, to “examine the impact such deregulation will have on the public interest in accordance with the general grant of authority given to the Commission by the legislature.” *Idaho Code* § 61-602(3). To enable the public to participate in the case, the Commission Staff will conduct workshops to provide an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions of Staff and the Company, and to provide written

comments regarding Qwest's Application. Accordingly, the Commission Staff will convene public workshops in Pocatello, Twin Falls, and Boise.

#### NOTICE OF WORKSHOPS

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Commission will convene a public workshop in Pocatello, Idaho on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2003 AT 7:00 P.M. The workshop will be held in the COUNCIL CHAMBERS, POCATELLO CITY HALL, 911 NORTH 7<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, POCATELLO, IDAHO. Members of the Commission Staff and of the parties in this case will be available to answer questions from the public, and the public will be provided an opportunity to prepare written comments for filing in the case.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission will convene a public workshop in Twin Falls, Idaho on THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2003 AT 3:00 P.M. The workshop will be held in the OAK ROOM, WEST COAST HOTEL, 1357 BLUE LAKES BOULEVARD NORTH, TWIN FALLS, IDAHO. Members of the Commission Staff and of the parties in this case will be available to answer questions from the public, and the public will be provided an opportunity to prepare written comments for filing in the case.

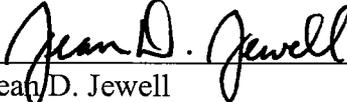
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Commission will convene a public workshop in Boise, Idaho on TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2003 AT 7:00 P.M. The workshop will be held in THE COMMISSION HEARING ROOM, 472 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, BOISE, IDAHO. Members of the Commission Staff and of the parties in this case will be available to answer questions from the public, and the public will be provided an opportunity to prepare written comments for filing in the case.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all hearings and prehearing conferences in this matter will be held in facilities meeting the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Persons needing the help of a sign language interpreter or other assistance in order to participate in or to understand testimony and argument at a public hearing may ask the Commission to provide a sign language interpreter or other assistance at the hearing. The request for assistance must be received at least five (5) working days before the hearing by contacting the Commission Secretary at:

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
PO BOX 83720  
BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0074  
(208) 334-0338 (Telephone)  
(208) 334-3762 (FAX)  
E-Mail: [secretary@puc.state.id.us](mailto:secretary@puc.state.id.us)

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. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to *Idaho Code* §§ 61-502, 61-622, and 61-623.

DATED at Boise, Idaho this 24<sup>th</sup> day of February 2003.

  
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Jean D. Jewell  
Commission Secretary

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