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

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| IN THE MATTER OF U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.’S FILING  OF TARIFF ADVICE NO. 96-01-N | )  )  )  )  )  ) | CASE NO. USW-N-96-1  NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE  ORDER NO.  26495 |

On February 5, 1996, U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST) filed Tariff Advice No. 96-01-N (Case No. USW-N-96-1) restricting the availability of its Centron and Centraflex System 2 services in northern Idaho to customers of record as of March 11, 1996.  Tariff Advice No. 96-01-N was filed by U S WEST at the same time it filed Tariff Advice No. 96-03-SC (Case No. USW-S-96-1) to restrict a similar service in the southern Idaho portion of its service territory.  The Commission thereafter received a formal complaint from MCI Telecommunications (MCI) and AT&T Communications, Inc. (AT&T) alleging that the withdrawal of these services prevents the complainants from competing in the local exchange market by preventing the resale of the services by MCI and AT&T.

The Commission has adopted a hearing schedule to process the tariff filing and complaints in regard to the proposed withdrawal of Centrex in southern Idaho.  However, we are not convinced the public interest requires an evidentiary hearing to process Tariff Advice No. 96-01-N in this case.  We find therefore that it is appropriate to process Tariff Advice No. 96-01-N by modified procedure pursuant to Rules 201-204 of the Commission’s Rules of Procedure.  During the comment period provided in that process, the parties should inform the Commission, if a hearing is requested, the specific purpose of a hearing and a description of  the evidence the parties would submit at a hearing.  We also find that the effective date of Tariff Advice No. 96-01-N should continue to be suspended pending completion of the modified procedure process.

O R D E R

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Commission will process Tariff Advice No. 96-01-N by Modified Procedure.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the proposed effective date of Tariff Advice No. 96-01-N is suspended pursuant to Idaho Code § 61-623 pending completion of the Commission’s review of the Tariff Advice.

NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on February 5, 1996, U S WEST Communications (U S WEST) filed Tariff Advice No. 96-01-N to restrict the availability of its Centron and Centraflex System 2 services in northern Idaho to customers of record as of March 11, 1996.  These services are central office based services that provide internal switching capabilities to business customers.  The Commission has issued an Order suspending the proposed effectiveness of Tariff Advice No. 96-01-N pending completion of the review by the Commission.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission has determined that the public interest may not require a formal hearing in this matter and will proceed under Modified Procedure pursuant to Rules 201 through 204 of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission’s Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.201 through -.204.

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.  Written comments concerning this application shall be mailed to the Commission and the Applicant at the addresses reflected below:

COMMISSION SECRETARYBARBARA WILSON

IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSIONIDAHO VICE PRESIDENT

PO BOX 83720U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

BOISE, IDAHO  83720-0074999 MAIN STREET, 11th FLOOR

PO BOX 7888

Street Address for Express Mail:BOISE, ID 83723

472 W WASHINGTON ST

BOISE, IDAHO  83702-5983

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

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if no written comments are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider this matter on its merits and enter its Order without a formal hearing.  If written comments are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider them and, in its discretion, may set the same for formal hearing.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this                  day of  June 1996.

RALPH NELSON, PRESIDENT

                 MARSHA H. SMITH, COMMISSIONER

DENNIS S. HANSEN, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

Myrna J. Walters

Commission Secretary

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**COMMENTS AND ANNOTATIONS**

Text Box 1:

**TEXT BOXES**

Office of the Secretary

Service Date

July 1, 1996