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

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| McLEOD USA TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES INC. (FORMERLY McLEOD TELEMANAGEMENT, INC.)    vs.  U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS INC. | )  )  )  )  )  )  )  ) | CASE NO. USW-T-97-5  MTI-T-97-1  NOTICE OF HEARING  ORDER NO.  26885 |
|  |  |  |

On January 31, 1997, McLeod USA Telecommunications Services, Inc. (McLeod) filed a complaint against U S WEST Communications Inc. (U S WEST) alleging that the withdrawal of Centrex Plus service by U S WEST prevents McLeod from competing in the local exchange market in the near term.  According to the complaint, McLeod’s primary service is the resell of Centrex Plus service and there exists no practical or economical way to replicate a similar service in the near future.  McLeod alleges it is ready and able to enter the local exchange markets in Idaho using Centrex Plus  service as a vehicle.  On February 25, 1997, U S WEST filed its answer to the complaint generally denying the allegations by McLeod.

In order to process this case, the Commission finds it appropriate and expedient to adopt the following schedule:

Direct testimony filed by McLeod May 12, 1997

Direct testimony filed by U S WEST June 9, 1997

Rebuttal testimony filed by McLeod June 30, 1997

Hearing July 14, 1997

Discovery shall be completed by the parties no later than June 27, 1997, except that discovery limited to issues raised in the rebuttal testimony of McLeod shall be allowed through July 3, 1997.

O R D E R

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Commission will process this case according to the schedule set forth above.

NOTICE OF HEARING

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a public hearing in this matter has been scheduling for MONDAY JULY 14, 1997, AT 9:30 A.M. IN THE COMMISSION HEARING ROOM, 472 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, BOISE, IDAHO.

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.  Persons needing the help of a sign language interpreter or other assistance of the kind that the Commission is obligated to provide under the Americans with Disabilities Act in order to participate in or to understand the 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) 334-3151  (TEXT TELEPHONE)

(208) 334-3762  (FAX)

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.

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

                                                                                                                                      DENNIS S. HANSEN, PRESIDENT

                                                                                           RALPH NELSON, COMMISSIONER

MARSHA H. SMITH, 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

April 11, 1997