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

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| IN THE MATTER OF SPRINT COMMUNICA­TIONS COMPANY L.P.’S PETITION FOR ARBITRA­TION PURSUANT TO SECTION 252(b) OF THE TELECOMMUNICA­TIONS ACT OF 1996 OF THE RATES, TERMS, AND CON­DITIONS OF INTERCONNECTION WITH U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC. | )  )  )  )  )  )  )  ) | CASE NOS. USW-T-97-12                       SPR-T-97-1  ORDER NO.  26958 |

Sprint Communications Company L.P. (Sprint) on April 25, 1997, filed a Petition for Arbitration with the Commission.  By its Petition, Sprint requested arbitration of disputed issues for interconnection with U S WEST Communications (U S WEST) so that Sprint could provide local exchange service in the areas served by U S WEST.  On May 21, 1997, Sprint filed a Motion to Withdraw its Petition for Arbitration, and also filed a Stipulation and Agreement executed by Sprint and U S WEST.  In its Motion, Sprint states that the Stipulation and Agreement makes the Commission’s arbitration of disputed issues no longer necessary.  According to the terms of the Stipulation and Agreement, the parties will file a negotiated interconnection agreement within 60 days after the withdrawal of Sprint’s Petition for Arbitration is granted by the Commission.

Commission Rule of Procedure 67 permits a party to withdraw a pleading by filing a Notice of Withdrawal of the pleading with the Commission. Sprint’s Motion satisfies the requirements of Rule 67.

Based on Sprint’s Motion and representation that the parties no longer require the arbitration of disputed issues, we find that withdrawal of Sprint’s Petition for Arbitration is appropriate.

O R D E R

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Motion to Withdraw Petition for Arbitration filed by Sprint is granted.  The Commission accordingly will not arbitrate disputed issues for an interconnection agreement between Sprint and U S WEST.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this                  day of May 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

May 29, 1997