DECISION MEMORANDUM

TO:COMMISSIONER HANSEN

COMMISSIONER NELSON

COMMISSIONER SMITH

MYRNA WALTERS

TONYA CLARK

DON HOWELL

STEPHANIE MILLER

DAVE SCHUNKE

JOE CUSICK

DAVID SCOTT

WORKING FILE

FROM:WELDON STUTZMAN

DATE:AUGUST 5, 1997

RE:APPLICATION OF U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT WITH AIRTOUCH CELLULAR PURSUANT TO 47 U.S.C. § 252 (e); CASE NO. USW-T-97-15

On June 16, 1997, U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST) filed an Application for approval of an Interconnection Agreement.  The Agreement provides for U S WEST and U S WEST New Vector Group, Inc., along with several partners, dba AirTouch Cellular (AirTouch)  to interconnect their facilities and interchange traffic.  U S WEST’s Application states that the Agreement was reached through voluntary negotiations and is being submitted for approval pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the Act).  The Application also states that its interconnection agreement with AirTouch is identical to the interconnection agreement entered into between Western Wireless Services Corporation and U S WEST.  The Commission arbitrated and then approved the agreement between Western Wireless and U S WEST in Case Nos. WST-T-96-1; USW-T-96-11.

On July 9, 1997, the Commission issued a Notice of Petition and Notice of Modified Procedure, which established a comment period that expired on July 30, 1997.  No comments were filed.

Staff has reviewed the agreement and recommends approval.

Commission Decision:

Should the Application of U S WEST for approval of a wireless interconnection agreement with AirTouch be approved?

Weldon Stutzman

vld\M:uswt9715.ws2