

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT FILED )</b>	<b>ORDER DENYING PETITION</b>
<b>BY TELE-TECH, INC. AND LONG LINE, INC., )</b>	<b>FOR REHEARING OR</b>
<b>SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA, AGAINST )</b>	<b>RECONSIDERATION</b>
<b>U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC. )</b>	
<b>REGARDING OVERCHARGES FOR )</b>	<b>CT99-006</b>
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES )</b>	

On June 3, 1999, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a complaint filed by Tele-Tech, Inc. and Long Line, Inc., Sioux Falls, South Dakota (hereafter referred to collectively as Companies), against U S West Communications, Inc. (U S WEST), regarding overbilling.

Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:08.01 and 20:10:01:09, if a complaint cannot be settled without formal action, the Commission shall determine if the complaint shows probable cause of an unlawful or unreasonable act, rate, practice or omission to go forward with the complaint.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of June 22, 1999, the Commission reviewed the Companies' filing. The Commission voted unanimously to find probable cause. U S WEST filed its answer on July 22, 1999.

A hearing was held as scheduled at 1:00 p.m., on November 1, 1999, in Room 412, State Capitol Building, 500 East Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota. On December 6, 1999, the Commission received a Stipulation for an extension of time until December 16, 1999, for the filing of the Companies' brief. The Stipulation was signed by the attorneys representing the Companies and Respondent. The parties requested approval of the Stipulation by the Commission. On December 6, 1999, the Commission approved the Stipulation and granted the Companies an extension of time to file its initial brief.

On January 14, 2000, the Commission received a Stipulation for an extension of time until January 25, 2000, for the filing of the Respondent's reply brief. The Stipulation was signed by the attorneys representing the Companies and Respondent. The parties requested approval of the Stipulation by the Commission. On January 19, 2000, the Commission approved the Stipulation and granted the Respondent an extension of time to file its reply brief.

On February 15, 2000, U S WEST filed a Motion to Strike. The Companies filed a reply on March 7, 2000.

At its May 30, 2000, meeting, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission voted unanimously to deny U S WEST's Motion to Strike. The Commission voted to find U S WEST did not commit an unreasonable act, rate, practice, or omission in its billing of services to the Companies (Commissioner Schoenfelder, dissenting).

On July 24, 2000, the Commission received a Petition for Rehearing or Reconsideration from the Companies. On August 14, 2000, the Commission received a response from U S WEST (now known as Qwest). At its October 17, 2000, meeting, the Commission considered the Petition for Rehearing or Reconsideration. The Commission voted to deny the petition (Commissioner Schoenfelder, dissenting). The Commission notes that the first issue raised by the Companies concerned the payment for six lines, plus interest, that U S WEST had not disconnected pursuant

to the October of 1994 ASR for disconnection of 12 FGA lines. U S WEST has now reissued the check for the six lines and issued another check to cover the interest on those lines to the Companies, pursuant to the terms of U S WEST's tariff. The Commission finds this issue is now moot. With respect to the remaining issues, the Commission finds the Companies have failed to provide the Commission with sufficient reason for rehearing or reconsideration. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Companies' Petition for Rehearing or Reconsideration is denied.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 2nd day of November, 2000.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>	
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.	
By:	<u>Delaine Kelso</u>
Date:	<u>11/3/00</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg  
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson  
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner,  
dissenting