

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY U S WEST)	ORDER SETTING
COMMUNICATIONS, INC. OF A NOTICE OF)	INTERVENTION DEADLINE
INTENT TO FILE A 271 APPLICATION)	AND PROCEDURAL
))	SCHEDULE
))	TC00-011

On February 8, 2000, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a Notice of Intent to File Section 271 Application and Motion for Alternative Procedure to Manage the Section 271 Process from U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST). In its notice, U S WEST requested "that the Commission initiate a docket to (1) allow U S WEST to submit the ROC Master Test Plan to the Commission for consideration in early second quarter 2000, and (2) allow parties to participate in proceedings to consider each aspect of Section 271, including each item on the 14-point checklist in Section 271, beginning fourth quarter 2000."

At its February 29, 2000, meeting, the Commission considered how to proceed with this matter. After listening to comments from U S WEST and other interested entities, the Commission unanimously voted as follows: (1) set an intervention deadline; (2) require U S WEST to explain its request for an alternative procedure to manage a Section 271 application in more detail; (3) allow parties to comment on U S WEST's alternative procedure; and (4) allow U S WEST to respond to those comments.

The Commission sets an intervention deadline of March 17, 2000. The Commission sets the following procedural schedule:

U S WEST's detailed proposal due	March 17, 2000
Intervenors' comments due	March 31, 2000
U S WEST's reply comments due	April 10, 2000

It is therefore

ORDERED, that the deadline for intervention is March 17, 2000; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that all parties shall follow the procedural schedule as set forth above.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 7th day of March, 2000.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
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: _____
Date: _____
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

PAM NELSON, Commissioner

LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner