

[Service Date July 18, 2002]

July 18, 2002

**NOTICE SUSPENDING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

RE: In the Matter of the Review of Unbundled Loop and Switching Rates and  
Review of the Deaveraged Zone Rate Structure  
Docket No. UT-023003

TO THE PARTIES:

Verizon Northwest, Inc (“Verizon”) on July 2, 2002, filed a motion to suspend the procedural schedule due to resource constraints. The Commission convened a prehearing conference in this docket concurrent with a conference in Docket No. UT-003013–Part E on July 11, 2002. A major purpose of the prehearing conference was to discuss proposals of the parties to narrow or expand the scope of this proceeding. Parties discussed Verizon’s motion along with other proposals to coordinate both dockets in order to effect administrative efficiency, including the proposal that the Commission consider some Part E issues as part of this proceeding. Commission Staff also introduced the proposal that the Commission consider evidence regarding a deaveraged zone rate structure for switching in the state of Washington. All parties support an extension of the procedural schedule for a minimum of four to six weeks.

The current procedural schedule requires parties to file direct evidence on August 16, 2002. The Commission agrees that some extension of the procedural schedule may be necessary. During the short time that it takes for the Commission to consider the various issues and alternatives raised by the parties, the Commission deems it appropriate to suspend the parties burden to file direct evidence in accordance with the current procedural schedule while the Commission considers scheduling issues. The Commission will enter orders addressing the proposals of the parties soon.

Sincerely,

LAWRENCE J. BERG  
Administrative Law Judge