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August 3, 2001

VIA FEDEX

Ms. Carole J. Washburn
Executive Secretary
Washington Utilities and
Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S. W.
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Dear Ms. Washburn:

Subject: VERIZON NORTHWEST INC. ANSWER TO COMPLAINT IN DOCKET NO.
UT-010996

Verizon Northwest Inc. (Verizon) requests a waiver of the Commission's requirement that Verizon submit a written answer to the complaint in this docket by August 2, 2001. Verizon requests that the Commission accept this letter and the company's answer by telefax today (August 3, 2001), with the original and hard copies to be overnight mailed to the Commission for delivery on Monday, August 6, 2001.

On July 13, 2001 the Commission mailed Verizon a Notice of Complaints and Requirement for Answer in this matter. Under the Commission's rules, answers are not mandatory [WAC 480-09-425(3)(a)], but in this instance the Commission directed Verizon to submit an answer by August 2, 2001. Verizon was not able to deliver its answer to the Commission on August 2.

Verizon is serving the lead complainant, Terry McNeil, with a copy of its answer. Verizon requests clarification from the Commission as to whether it must additionally serve the

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other persons listed in the "complaint." If it must, it requests that the Commission provide it with a legible service list for those individuals.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Carrathers III
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CHC:gms

c: Service List