

June 27, 2002

NOTICE OF FILING DATE FOR RESPONSE TO QWEST MOTION
TO JOIN RCC MINNESOTA

RE: Petition of Verizon Northwest Inc. for Waiver of WAC 480-120-071(2)(a)
Docket No. UT-011439

TO ALL PARTIES OF RECORD:

On June 20, 2002, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed a Motion to Join RCC Minnesota, Inc. (RCC) as a party in this proceeding. Qwest states that RCC is a necessary party because it has recently been granted Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) status for a number of areas in Eastern Washington, including both Verizon's Bridgeport exchange and Qwest's Omak exchange. RCC's service territory includes the location of the Timm Ranch, where several individuals have applied for residential wireline telephone service from Verizon. Verizon's petition involves in part a request for a waiver of the obligation to provide service to the Timm Ranch applicants. Under federal law, an ETC is obligated to provide certain types of service in its designated service area. Because of RCC's role as an ETC in the very area which is the subject of this waiver proceeding, Qwest contends that RCC must be joined both as a necessary party and to protect RCC's interests.

On June 24, 2002, Verizon made a filing indicating its support of Qwest's motion.

Due to the shortened schedule in this proceeding, it is important to hear soon from Commission Staff and RCC regarding their positions on the motion. Responses to Qwest's Motion should be filed by **12:00 noon on Wednesday, July 3, 2002**. Parties may fax their response by that time, with a hard copy filed the next day.

Sincerely,

THEODORA M. MACE
Administrative Law Judge