

1 THE HONORABLE \_\_\_\_\_

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7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
8 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

9 Verizon Northwest Inc., Bell Atlantic  
10 Communications, Inc., d/b/a Verizon Long  
Distance, NYNEX Long Distance d/b/a  
11 Verizon Enterprise Solutions, Verizon Select  
Services Inc., and Verizon Services  
Corporation,

12 Plaintiffs,

13 v.

14 Marilyn Showalter, Chairwoman; Patrick  
15 Oshie, and Richard Hemstad,  
Commissioners, in their official capacities as  
16 members of the Washington Utilities and  
Transportation Commission, and  
17 Washington Utilities and Transportation  
Commission,

18 Defendants.  
19

No. \_\_\_\_\_

**PLAINTIFFS' MOTION AND  
MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN  
SUPPORT OF A PRELIMINARY  
INJUNCTION**

**NOTE ON MOTION CALENDAR:  
Friday, December 13, 2002**

**ORAL ARGUMENT REQUESTED**

20 **I. INTRODUCTION**

21 This case involves severe restrictions on Plaintiffs' ability to speak with their own  
22 customers regarding the products and services they provide. It also involves unprecedented  
23 restrictions on Plaintiffs' ability to discuss and analyze customer information internally and  
24 among affiliates, agents, independent contractors and joint venture partners. On November 7,  
25 2002, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission ("WUTC") adopted the most  
26 speech-restrictive rules in the nation regarding telecommunication carriers' rights to analyze

**PLAINTIFFS' MOTION AND  
MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT  
OF A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION - 1**

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1 customer consumption data and discuss that data with their customers. These new rules do not  
2 advance any recognized privacy interest; they are overbroad in many respects and underinclusive  
3 in others; and they contain vague and self-contradictory definitions that do not provide adequate  
4 notice of what speech is authorized and what speech is prohibited.

5 A federal appeals court previously struck down substantially less speech-restrictive  
6 federal regulations as contrary to the First Amendment. *See U.S. West, Inc. v. FCC*, 182 F.3d  
7 1224 (10th Cir. 1999), *cert. denied*, 530 U.S. 1213 (2000). In response to that decision, the  
8 Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) rejected precisely the kind of speech restrictions  
9 contained in the WUTC rules at issue in this case, finding them contrary to both the First  
10 Amendment and the interests of consumers. The new WUTC rules fail all three prongs of the  
11 First Amendment test for restriction of commercial speech established by the Supreme Court in  
12 *Central Hudson Gas & Elect. Corp. v. Public Serv. Comm’n of N.Y.*, 447 U.S. 557 (1980). In  
13 addition, because the new rules restrict a substantial amount of Plaintiffs’ non-commercial  
14 speech and because they constitute a prior restraint on truthful speech, they must also satisfy  
15 heightened First Amendment scrutiny. Finally, the vague, confusing and self-contradictory  
16 definitions contained in the rules will have a substantial chilling effect on carrier speech even  
17 beyond their express prohibitions. For this reason, the WUTC rules are also void for vagueness  
18 under well-established Supreme Court and Ninth Circuit precedent.

19 Absent intervention by this Court, these new restrictions on Plaintiffs’ commercial and  
20 non-commercial speech will go into effect on January 1, 2003. Because the loss of First  
21 Amendment freedoms is per se irreparable injury, and because enforcement of the new rules will  
22 irreparably damage Plaintiffs’ relationships with their customers and corporate goodwill,  
23 Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable harm if the rules are allowed to go into effect. Because Plaintiffs  
24 will adhere to the FCC’s national rules regarding use and disclosure of customer information  
25 *pendente lite*, the WUTC will suffer no injury if the effective date of the new rules is postponed  
26 to allow this Court to pass on the important constitutional and statutory claims presented in

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1 Plaintiffs' complaint. In addition, the public interest will be served by delaying implementation  
2 of the new rules (and the complex and confusing customer notifications those rules require)  
3 pending this Court's examination of their legality. For these reasons, Plaintiffs respectfully  
4 request that this Court enter a preliminary injunction, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 65, enjoining  
5 Defendants from implementing or enforcing the rules pending final judgment in this litigation.

## 6 **II. BACKGROUND**

7 In the course of providing their customers with telecommunications services, carriers  
8 capture and organize information regarding local and long distance calling patterns, unanswered  
9 calls, and use of services such as caller-identification, call forwarding, private line and data  
10 services. This information is defined under federal law as "Customer Proprietary Network  
11 Information" ("CPNI"). *See* 47 U.S.C. § 222. Carriers use this information to communicate  
12 with their customers to maintain and improve their ongoing business relationship. This  
13 communication includes the use of CPNI to develop and market enhancements to existing  
14 services and to offer new communications-related products and services to existing customers.  
15 *See* Declaration of Maura Breen, Senior Vice President & Chief Marketing Officer of Retail  
16 Markets at Verizon Services Corporation, ¶¶ 6-10, 14, 23-24 ("Breen Dec.") (Exhibit 1 to this  
17 Motion).

18 Plaintiffs presently speak to their customers through a variety of national marketing  
19 campaigns that rely upon use of CPNI as authorized by existing federal regulations. For  
20 example, by using CPNI, Verizon was able to identify customers with high toll usage who might  
21 be better served and obtain significant savings by utilizing Verizon's Local Package Plus plan,  
22 which includes unlimited toll calls. (*Id.* ¶ 14). Similarly, Verizon has a long distance retention  
23 program, where by it analyzes each customer's long distance calling patterns and provides the  
24 customer with information regarding the best and most cost efficient calling plan for the  
25 customer. (*Id.*). As discussed below, the WUTC's new rules would have the practical effect of  
26 banning these and other marketing programs in Washington State.

### **PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION - 3**

1 Congress first defined and addressed the handling of CPNI gathered by  
2 telecommunications carriers in the Telecommunications Act of 1996. *See* 47 U.S.C. § 222. In  
3 1998, the FCC promulgated implementing regulations that (a) permitted carriers to use CPNI,  
4 without express customer approval, “to market offerings that are related to, but limited by, the  
5 customer’s existing service relationship with their carrier,” and (b) required carriers to obtain  
6 express customer approval prior to using CPNI to market new services to existing customers or  
7 to market services provided by third parties (referred to herein as “opt-in”). *See Implementation*  
8 *of the Telecommunications Act of 1996*, Second Report & Order, CC Nos. 96-115, *et al.* (Feb.  
9 26, 1998) (“1998 CPNI Order”) (Exhibit 2 to this Motion).

10 The FCC’s 1998 CPNI Rules were challenged by numerous telecommunications carriers  
11 and others as overly restrictive of carrier speech. In particular, carriers argued that the opt-in  
12 requirement for use and discussion of CPNI constituted a significant and unnecessary burden on  
13 a carrier’s ability to speak with its own customers. *U.S. West*, 182 F.3d at 1239. Upon review,  
14 the Tenth Circuit agreed and found that the FCC’s regulations violated the First Amendment’s  
15 protection of commercial speech, because the regulations were not narrowly tailored to directly  
16 and materially advance a substantial state interest. Without deciding the issue, the court  
17 questioned whether a carrier’s discussion of an existing customer’s consumption patterns in the  
18 context of an ongoing business relationship with that customer implicated any privacy interest at  
19 all. *Id.* at 1235-36.

20 In response to the court’s decision, the FCC revised its regulations. *See Implementation*  
21 *of the Telecommunications Act of 1996*, Third Report & Order, CC Nos. 96-115, *et al.* (July 25,  
22 2002) (“2002 CPNI Order”) (Exhibit 3 to this Motion). The FCC conducted an extensive review  
23 of evidence submitted by every sector of the telecommunications industry, privacy groups, and  
24 states, including Washington State, and concluded that the record before it did not justify “an  
25 opt-in role for intra-company use” of CPNI. *Id.* ¶ 31. The FCC adhered to its prior view that  
26 there was no privacy interest that justified restricting carriers’ discussion of CPNI with existing

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1 customers in the context of offering new or enhanced products within the same service category  
2 to which the customer already subscribed. *See 2002 CPNI Order*, ¶ 83; *1998 CPNI Order*, ¶ 23  
3 (“[C]ustomer approval for carriers to use, disclose, and permit access to CPNI can be inferred in  
4 the context of an existing customer-carrier relationship . . . because the customer is aware that its  
5 carrier has access to CPNI, and, through subscription to the carrier’s service, has implicitly  
6 approved the carrier’s use of CPNI within that existing relationship.”). Thus, carriers remain  
7 free under federal law to analyze and discuss CPNI for marketing products and services in the  
8 same category (*e.g.*, local, long distance or wireless) without prior customer approval. *Id.* ¶ 24.

9 As to all other carrier uses of CPNI to discuss or market communications-related  
10 products and services, the FCC found that the evidence supported only “opt-out,” a mechanism  
11 by which the carrier provides notice to the customer of the opportunity to request that his or her  
12 CPNI not be used in certain ways. If the customer does not request any limitations, then the  
13 carrier is generally allowed to use the customer’s information to discuss communications-related  
14 services with the customer. As both the FCC and the courts have repeatedly recognized, an opt-  
15 in mechanism is substantially more burdensome and curtails significantly more carrier speech  
16 than an opt-out system. *See 2002 CPNI Order*, ¶¶ 31, 44; *U.S. West*, 182 F.3d at 1238-39. This  
17 has been Plaintiffs’ experience as well; very few customers will undertake the effort to provide  
18 opt-in consent for use of CPNI. (Breen Dec. ¶ 15.)<sup>1</sup>

19 In January 2002, the WUTC solicited comments as to whether it should change its  
20 existing CPNI rules in order to conform to the *U.S. West* decision. At no time during the  
21 rulemaking did anyone tender any evidence that consumers had been or were likely to be harmed  
22 by telecommunications carriers’ use of CPNI to speak with them regarding improvements to  
23 existing service or new communications-related products and services. No party submitted any

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24 <sup>1</sup> The FCC’s selection of the less burdensome opt-out approach for the use of CPNI for most  
25 marketing speech was expressly based upon First Amendment concerns. It found that, “carriers have provided  
26 evidence that their commercial speech interest in using customer’s CPNI for tailored telecommunications marketing  
is *real and significant*, and that an opt-out regime is a less burdensome means of obtaining a customer’s ‘approval’  
under section 222(c)(1) than is an opt-in regime.” *2002 CPNI Order*, ¶ 40 (emphasis added).

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1 empirical evidence supporting an objective “privacy interest” in CPNI as between a carrier (or its  
2 related business entities) and an existing customer. The potential harm that dominated  
3 participant comments in the WUTC proceedings was disclosure of CPNI to third parties for  
4 marketing non-telecommunications related products.

5 Defendants published proposed rules in April 2002 and adopted a substantially modified  
6 version of them on Nov. 7, 2002. *See Order Adopting and Repealing Rules Permanently*, No.  
7 UT-990146, Order No. R-505 (Nov. 7, 2002) (Compl. Ex. A, hereinafter “*WUTC Order*”)  
8 (adopting Wa. Admin. Code §§ 480-120-201 *et seq.*<sup>2</sup>). The new rules are scheduled to go into  
9 effect on January 1, 2003. Defendants’ new rules are substantially different and more restrictive  
10 of carrier speech than the nationwide rules adopted by the FCC in July of 2002. Contrary to  
11 federal law, which contains one unitary definition of CPNI, the WUTC’s rules create new  
12 subcategories of customer information denominated “individually identifiable CPNI” (“I-  
13 CPNI”), “private account information” and “call detail.” Call detail is private account  
14 information that identifies specific calls placed, including the location from which a call was  
15 placed, time of day, duration and cost of a call.<sup>3</sup> Wa. Admin. Code. § 480-120-201. Private  
16 account information is “CPNI that does not include call detail but is associated with an  
17 identifiable individual.” *Id.* I-CPNI comprises call detail and private account information. *Id.*

18 The WUTC’s rules impose new and unprecedented restrictions on Plaintiffs’ ability to  
19 use CPNI to decide which customers to speak to and what to say to those customers. The new  
20 rules also substantially restrict the ability of Plaintiffs to speak within corporate units or among  
21 affiliates, agents, independent contractors and joint venture partners regarding these categories of  
22 customer information. Central to the rules is a total ban on the use of call detail for the

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23 <sup>2</sup> Citations hereinafter to Wa. Admin. Code §§ 480-120-201 *et seq.* are to the rules scheduled to  
24 become effective on January 1, 2003.

25 <sup>3</sup> Call detail also includes aggregate data on a particular customer’s calls to a specific area code or  
26 prefix (including monthly or even annual data), general calling patterns for particular days of the week or times of  
day, as well as data regarding answered or unanswered calls by time of day or day of the week. Wa. Admin. Code §  
480-120-201.

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1 development and marketing of communications-related services without the prior written,  
2 electronic, or recorded opt-in consent of the customer. Wa. Admin. Code §§ 408-120-204, 408-  
3 120-212. Because experience demonstrates that few customers will expend the time and effort to  
4 opt-in, and that many who do not do so are nonetheless interested in and willing to receive  
5 carrier speech regarding new or improved services, the WUTC's new rules will prevent  
6 Plaintiffs' from speaking to a large number of willing listeners in the State of Washington.

7 The new rules also significantly limit the ability of telecommunications carriers to  
8 communicate CPNI to affiliates, agents, independent contractors and joint venture partners for  
9 the development and marketing of communications-related services. Wa. Admin. Code §§ 480-  
10 120-201 *et seq.* Under the new WUTC rules, disclosure of both call detail and private account  
11 information is limited to "associated companies," which are defined as "any company that  
12 controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, another company." *Id.* § 480-120-  
13 201. Any disclosure of CPNI to affiliates that do not meet the definition of "associated  
14 company," as well as to agents, independent contractors and joint venture partners, is treated as a  
15 disclosure to an unrelated third party requiring opt-in consent, even if these other entities are  
16 used to provide communications-related services to the customer, and even if the carrier has  
17 bound the third party to a confidentiality agreement as required by the FCC. *See also* Compl. ¶  
18 51 (chart comparing the WUTC's new speech restrictions to current FCC regulations).

### 19 **III. PLAINTIFFS ARE ENTITLED TO A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

#### 20 **A. Standards For Injunctive Relief**

21 To obtain injunctive relief, Plaintiffs need show only "(1) a combination of probable  
22 success on the merits and the possibility of irreparable injury, or (2) that serious questions are  
23 raised and the balance of hardships tips sharply in [their] favor." *Stuhlberg Int'l Sales Co. v.*  
24 *John D. Brush & Co.*, 240 F.3d 832, 839-40 (9th Cir. 2001). These standards represent two  
25 points on a sliding scale in which "the required degree of irreparable harm decreases as the  
26

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1 probability of success increases,” *Topanga Press, Inc. v. City of Los Angeles*, 989 F.2d 1524,  
2 1528 (9th Cir. 1993), and vice versa, *Gorbach v. Reno*, 181 F.R.D. 642, 648 (W.D. Wa. 1998),  
3 *aff’d*, 219 F.3d 1087 (9th Cir. 2000). Plaintiffs here present a compelling case for preliminary  
4 relief on either end of the “continuum,” *Int’l Jensen, Inc. v. Metrosound U.S.A.*, 4 F.3d 819, 822  
5 (9th Cir. 1993).

6 **B. There Is A Strong Likelihood That Plaintiffs Will Prevail On The Merits.**

7 1. Defendants’ Rules Unconstitutionally Restrict Carriers’ Speech.

8 Plaintiffs use CPNI to design new products and services and to craft targeted messages to  
9 their customers. CPNI is thus an essential component in Plaintiffs’ decision-making process  
10 regarding the audience to whom it speaks and the message it communicates. (Breen Dec. ¶¶ 6-  
11 10, 14, 23-24). This use of CPNI to discuss customer needs and offer new products and services  
12 is protected speech under the First Amendment. *See Edenfield v. Fane*, 507 U.S. 761, 765-66  
13 (1993).<sup>4</sup> The First Amendment also protects the rights of willing listeners to receive Plaintiffs’  
14 speech. *See Conant v. Walters*, 309 F.3d 629, 643 (9th Cir. 2002) (Kozinski, J., concurring); *Va.*  
15 *State Bd. of Pharmacy v. Va. Citizens Consumer Council*, 425 U.S. 748, 756-57 (1976).

16 Because they do not permit Plaintiffs to speak internally or to their own customers  
17 without satisfying a highly burdensome prior approval regime, the WUTC rules constitute a  
18 restriction on both the First Amendment rights of Plaintiffs to speak and on the First Amendment  
19 rights of their customers to receive that speech. A requirement of prior written or otherwise  
20 verified approval to speak, combined with a burdensome notice requirement and a post-  
21 authorization waiting period, is obviously a substantial burden on carrier speech. (Breen Dec. ¶¶  
22 11, 15-17). Indeed, opt-in consent alone, as distinguished from a no prior approval or opt-out  
23

24 \_\_\_\_\_  
25 <sup>4</sup> *See also Meyer v. Grant*, 486 U.S. 414, 424 (1988) (“The First Amendment protects [the  
26 speaker’s] right not only to advocate their cause but also to select what they believe to be the most effective means  
for doing so.”); *Shapero v. Kentucky Bar Ass’n*, 486 U.S. 466, 473-74 (“[T]he First Amendment does not permit a  
ban on certain speech merely because it is more efficient . . .”).



1 regime, constitutes a significant prior restraint on carriers' First Amendment rights.<sup>5</sup> It is also  
2 clear that under an opt-in regime, customers may not "opt-in" even though they are willing  
3 listeners who desire and would benefit from both CPNI-designed products and services and  
4 target marketing. (*Id.* ¶¶ 15-16, 26.)<sup>6</sup> In fact, the WUTC assumed that an opt-in regime would  
5 restrict substantially more carrier speech than necessary to protect consumer privacy. *See WUTC*  
6 *Order*, at 34 ("We accept for argument's sake that many customers who might not actually  
7 object to the proposed use will not take the time to read such a solicitation and register their  
8 approval.").

9 Beyond the express restrictions on Plaintiffs' speech contained in the WUTC's new rules,  
10 the Court must also consider the practical effects on Plaintiffs' First Amendment rights. *Linmark*  
11 *Assocs., Inc. v. Township of Willingboro*, 431 U.S. 85, 93 (1977). First, although the opt-in  
12 requirement applies on the face of the WUTC rules only to the use of certain types of call detail,  
13 the practical effect is to force carriers to use the opt-in approach for all types of individually  
14 identifiable customer information in Washington State. This is so because Verizon is not  
15 presently able to prevent those employees who have electronic access to the CPNI data system

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17 <sup>5</sup> The numerous administrative requirements connected with the WUTC's opt-in regime that must  
18 be satisfied *before* a carrier has the right to speak to its customers regarding certain subjects form a prior restraint on  
19 carriers' speech. The effect is the same as an onerous or complex permit or licensing regime imposed as a predicate  
20 to particular types of speech. *See, e.g., Forsyth County, Ga. v. Nationalist Movement*, 505 U.S. 123, 130-31 (1992);  
21 *City of Lakewood v. Plain Dealer Pub. Co.*, 486 U.S. 750, 757 (1988) ("[A] licensing statute placing unbridled  
22 discretion in the hands of a government official or agency constitutes a prior restraint and may result in  
23 censorship."); *Shuttlesworth v. City of Birmingham*, 394 U.S. 147, 151 (1969). Such a prior restraint "bear[s] a  
24 heavy presumption against its constitutional validity," *Southeastern Promotions, Ltd. v. Conrad*, 420 U.S. 546, 558  
25 (1975), and "avoids constitutional infirmity only if it takes place under procedural safeguards designed to obviate  
26 the dangers of a censorship system," *id.* at 559 (citations omitted). Because it is clear that there are non-privacy  
related reasons why customers may choose not to opt-in and the WUTC rules themselves will be "incomprehensible  
to even well-informed consumers," *WUTC Order*, at 42 (Hemstad, dissenting), they will inevitably lead to arbitrary  
censorship and silence more speech than necessary. They therefore cannot satisfy the rigorous test applied to prior  
restraints.

Both the FCC and the Ninth Circuit have recognized this fact. *See Computer III Remand*  
*Proceedings*, Report & Order, 6 F.C.C.R. 7576, 7610 n.155 (1991) ("Under a prior authorization rule, a large  
majority of mass market customers are likely to have their CPNI restricted through inaction . . ."); *California v.*  
*FCC*, 39 F.3d 919, 931 (9th Cir. 1994) ("If small customers were required to take an affirmative step of authorizing  
access to their information, they are unlikely to exercise this option . . .").

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1 from accessing the subcategory of call detail. (Breen Dec. ¶¶ 12-13.). Indeed, the FCC has  
2 expressed doubt that the segregation of subcategories of CPNI within a telecommunications  
3 carrier's operations is technically feasible. *2002 CPNI Order*, ¶ 121 n.279.

4 Second, the WUTC's new rules will restrict marketing practices beyond the borders of  
5 Washington State. Plaintiffs do not segregate customer information by state or engage in  
6 marketing activities limited to single states. (Breen Dec. ¶¶ 10, 12, 18-19.) On the contrary,  
7 Plaintiffs use a centralized marketing organization that serves all of its states, which reduces  
8 costs and facilitates the development of national or regional marketing plans. (*Id.* ¶ 10)  
9 Moreover, Plaintiffs design specially tailored products and services using CPNI collected from  
10 all of their customers, not only those that reside within a particular jurisdiction. (*Id.* ¶ 14.) Thus,  
11 in order to comply with the WUTC rules, Plaintiffs must either separate their Washington-based  
12 marketing and product-design components from their regional and national marketing and design  
13 segments, or adopt the WUTC's most restrictive approval mechanism with respect to *all* call  
14 detail-related CPNI used for marketing purposes. (*Id.* ¶¶ 14, 18-20.)

15 Finally, because the opt-in regime is itself so costly to administer, yields very low  
16 customer approval, and by its very nature erodes customer goodwill, Plaintiffs will likely be  
17 forced to forego use of CPNI altogether, thus effecting a total ban on CPNI-based speech in the  
18 State of Washington. (*Id.* ¶ 21.)

## 19 2. Defendants' Rules Unconstitutionally Restrict Commercial Speech.

20 Plaintiffs' communications with customers for the purpose of proposing further  
21 commercial transactions are constitutionally protected commercial speech. *See Va. State Bd.*,  
22 425 U.S. at 762; *City of Cincinnati v. Discovery Network, Inc.*, 507 U.S. at 410, 422-23 (1993).  
23 Under the Supreme Court's standards for restricting commercial speech, if the regulated speech  
24 is not misleading and does not concern unlawful activity, then the government must: (1) assert a  
25 substantial interest in restricting the speech; (2) demonstrate that the regulation directly advances  
26 the asserted interest; and (3) show that the restriction is not more extensive than necessary to

1 achieve the asserted governmental interest. *Western States Med. Ctr. v. Shalala*, 238 F.3d 1090,  
2 1093 (9th Cir. 2001) (applying *Central Hudson*, 447 U.S. at 556), *aff'd*, \_\_\_ U.S. \_\_\_, 122 S. Ct.  
3 1497 (2002); *see also* *WUTC Order*, at 16 (same). The government bears the burden on each of  
4 these inquiries. *See 44 Liquormart, Inc. v. Rhode Island*, 517 U.S. 484, 505 (1996) (plurality  
5 opinion); *Edenfield*, 507 U.S. at 771. Thus, if Defendants cannot satisfy any one of the three  
6 *Central Hudson* prongs, Plaintiffs will succeed on the merits.

7 a. *The government cannot demonstrate any substantial state interest in the*  
8 *specific restrictions contained in the WUTC's new rules.*

9 “When faced with a constitutional challenge, the government bears the responsibility of  
10 building a record adequate to clearly articulate and justify the state interest.” *U.S. West*, 182  
11 F.3d at 1234; *see Thompson v. W. States Med. Ctr.*, \_\_\_ U.S. \_\_\_, 122 S. Ct. 1497 (2002).  
12 Defendants have not and cannot articulate a substantial state interest furthered by the new rules.

13 The precise contours of the new speech restrictions are: (1) to bar Plaintiffs from using  
14 call detail in developing improvements in existing service or new communications-related  
15 products and services; (2) to bar Plaintiffs from using call detail to decide which customers are  
16 likely to benefit from a particular product or service and to further bar them from discussing call  
17 detail with those customers in the context of offering that product or service; and (3) to bar  
18 Plaintiffs from discussing any I-CPNI with agents, independent contractors, and joint venture  
19 partners for the development and marketing of communications-related services. Defendants  
20 must show that there is a “particular notion of privacy” that is served by the specific contours of  
21 these new burdens placed upon speech and that this privacy interest is a substantial one. *U.S.*  
22 *West*, 182 F.3d at 1235; *see 44 Liquormart*, 517 U.S. at 505; *Edenfield*, 507 U.S. at 771;  
23 *Thompson*, 122 S. Ct. at 1504-07.

24 There is no privacy interest—substantial or otherwise—as between a telecommunications  
25 carrier and its related entities, and an *existing* customer, regarding that customer’s usage of the  
26 carrier’s services. Such a right is not recognized at common law or in any state or federal statute

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1 of which Plaintiffs are aware. Its existence has been expressly rejected by the FCC, which  
2 found, based upon an extensive nationwide record, that there is no substantial privacy interest  
3 implicated by carrier's using CPNI to communicate with existing customers regarding  
4 communications-related products and services.<sup>7</sup> Indeed, because carriers use exactly this same  
5 data to bill and provide service, they already have access to and discuss this data with the  
6 customer in these contexts. Thus, the peculiar privacy interest asserted by the WUTC is not in  
7 denying access to private information, but limiting its *use* to one type of speech as opposed to  
8 another.

9 Not surprisingly, the WUTC was unable to find any legal or factual support for the  
10 existence of this rather arcane conception of privacy. Each of the examples given in its order is  
11 either wrong, or inapposite, or both. Much of the *WUTC Order* is taken up with discussion of  
12 case law regarding constitutional limits on the *government* under the Fourth Amendment and  
13 analogous state constitutional protections. *See WUTC Order*, at 27-29. But the WUTC's rules  
14 do not limit governmental conduct; rather they limit communications among private parties.  
15 Moreover, these private parties are already in a contractual relationship and, as the FCC found,  
16 part of their contractual understanding is that customer consumption patterns will be used to  
17 communicate regarding enhancements and new communications-related services. *See supra* at  
18 4. The WUTC is not protecting citizens from governmental intrusion on their privacy—it is  
19 imposing its unprecedented conception of privacy on private parties.

20 Second, the WUTC attempts to distinguish its position from the FCC's by alleging that  
21 Washington State recognizes a more expansive notion of privacy. *See WUTC Order*, at 24-27.  
22 This assertion is neither relevant nor borne out by state law. To the contrary, the WUTC

23 \_\_\_\_\_  
24 <sup>7</sup> The WUTC's new rules thus reject the FCC's consistent position since 1998 that there is *no* discernible  
25 privacy interest in limiting carrier speech regarding new products or enhancements within the existing service  
26 relationship. Instead, as to the category of "call detail" carriers are forbidden to use or disclose CPNI in developing  
or marketing enhancements to services to which the customer already subscribes. Thus, in a situation where the  
FCC has repeatedly found that *no privacy interest is implicated* and no consumer consent of any kind is required, the  
WUTC has chosen to impose a highly-speech restrictive opt-in regime.

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1 concedes in its own order that a fair reading of current Washington law is that, “because there is  
2 no specific prohibition on *disclosing* [CPNI], it would not be unlawful for the phone company to  
3 *use . . .* call detail information that it has already recorded in the ordinary course of providing  
4 telecommunications services.” *Id.* Thus, it is clear that the WUTC is unable to root its new  
5 speech restrictions in any recognized conception of privacy under pre-existing Washington law.

6 Third, the WUTC attempts to posit First Amendment rights that favor restrictions on  
7 speech as between carriers and their customers. “If citizens fear that their use of the telephone  
8 will result in disclosure of very personal information,” they will be reluctant to exercise those  
9 rights through telephone use. *See WUTC Order*, at 11-12, 19. Again, the WUTC ignores the  
10 fact that carriers are not state actors and therefore cannot infringe the First Amendment rights of  
11 anyone. It also ignores the fact that the customer *has chosen* a relationship with the particular  
12 carrier—and that under either an opt-in or opt-out approach carriers must inform their customers  
13 of intended uses of CPNI. The WUTC also completely ignored the FCC’s express finding that  
14 consumers expect and welcome CPNI-based contacts by carriers and that such contacts do not  
15 involve dissemination of CPNI beyond the carrier-customer relationship. There is no evidence  
16 that carriers’ target marketing of new service plans based upon past consumption patterns  
17 “chills” customers’ telephone usage. In fact, presumably better-tailored and less costly service  
18 plans and bundles *increase* consumer satisfaction and use of telecommunications services.

19 Finally, the bulk of the WUTC’s discussion of privacy in its order is devoted to concerns  
20 associated with the dissemination of CPNI to unrelated third parties for the marketing of non-  
21 communications-related services.<sup>8</sup> *See WUTC Order*, at 15-23. However, Plaintiffs do not

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23 <sup>8</sup> The WUTC also proffers a few sentences from consumer complaints as evidence that customers  
24 do not expect their CPNI to be disclosed, *see WUTC Order*, at 31-32, with “no attempt at explanation or context.”  
25 *United States v. Playboy Entertainment Group, Inc.*, 529 U.S. 803, 819 (2000). The bulk of these comments  
26 expressed concerns over third-party disclosure. Moreover, even had all 600 citizen comments included a statement  
as to those self-selected citizens’ expectation of privacy vis-à-vis their carriers, this “paucity of evidence” in the face  
of the millions of Washington citizens who voiced no complaint cannot support a substantial state interest. *Turner*  
*Broadcasting Sys., Inc. v. FCC*, 512 U.S. 622, 667 (1994); *see Playboy*, 529 U.S. at 821-22 (“Without some sort of  
field survey, it is impossible to know how widespread the problem in fact is . . .”). In any event, none of the quoted

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1 currently engage in such dissemination, nor do they intend to do so in the future. (Breen Dec. ¶  
2 25). In addition, FCC rules already require opt-in consent for this type of disclosure. Concerns  
3 about disclosure to third parties provide no justification for rules that restrict communication  
4 between carriers and existing customers.<sup>9</sup>

5 Nor is it surprising that the WUTC could not identify a substantial privacy interest in  
6 limiting carrier communication with existing customers regarding information already known to  
7 both parties. No court, to Plaintiffs' knowledge, has ever recognized a protected privacy interest  
8 in the communication of information that is compiled by a service provider as between that  
9 provider and an existing customer. The Supreme Court and Ninth Circuit cases recognizing a  
10 substantial government interest in the protection of privacy typically involve repeated contacts  
11 that are "pressed with such frequency or vehemence as to intimidate, vex, or harass the  
12 recipient." *Edenfield*, 507 U.S. at 769. They also address contacts during time periods of  
13 particular vulnerability, *see Florida Bar v. Went For It, Inc.*, 515 U.S. 618 (1995) (permitting  
14 restrictions on solicitation that was "willful and knowing affront to or invasion of the tranquility  
15 of bereaved individuals" in the wake of an accident); or broadcast marketing efforts, *Project 80s*  
16 *Inc. v. City of Pocatello*, 857 F.2d 592, 596 (9th Cir. 1988) (substantial governmental interest in  
17 protecting privacy of citizens in their homes from uninvited door-to-door solicitation), *vacated*  
18 *on other grounds*, 493 U.S. 1013 (1990). These cases involve "the protection of *potential*  
19 *clients' privacy*" in their homes from intrusive marketing. *Edenfield*, 507 U.S. at 769 (emphasis  
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21 \_\_\_\_\_  
22 statements suggested that any customer interests would remain unprotected if carriers were required to follow the  
23 FCC-prescribed opt-out procedures.

24 <sup>9</sup> At one point in its order the WUTC suggests that limiting carriers' use of CPNI in communicating with  
25 customers might reduce the number of persons within the carrier with access to such information and therefore  
26 lessen the likelihood of unintentional disclosure to third parties. *See WUTC Order*, at 20 n.20, 24. Besides lacking  
a shred of factual support, limiting one type of speech because of collateral consequences it might have, is precisely  
the kind of overbroad regulation the First Amendment forbids. *See infra* at 18-20. If inadvertent disclosure to third  
parties is the problem the WUTC wishes to address, it should do so directly, not forbid speech between carrier and  
customer based upon rank speculation that it might have some unknown effect on the primary problem.

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1 added). They do not recognize any interest in protecting existing clients from targeted contacts  
2 from a service provider with whom they have an ongoing contractual relationship.

3 b. *The WUTC’s new rules do not directly and materially advance any*  
4 *alleged state interest.*

5 To meet the “direct advancement” requirement, the government must prove “that the  
6 challenged regulation advances the government’s interest ‘in a direct and material way.’ ” *Rubin*  
7 *v. Coors Brewing Co.*, 514 U.S. 476, 487 (1995). This burden “is not satisfied by mere  
8 speculation or conjecture; [the government] must demonstrate that the harms it recites are real  
9 and that its restriction will in fact alleviate them to a material degree.” *Edenfield*, 507 U.S. at  
10 770-71. Restrictions will fail this prong if they “provide[] only ineffective or remote support for  
11 the government’s purpose.” *Central Hudson*, 447 U.S. at 564.

12 Even assuming Defendants could establish a substantial privacy interest in protecting  
13 consumers from unwanted “profiling” or undesired intrusion by telemarketers, the regulations,  
14 far from directly advancing these interests “to a material degree,” *Western States*, 238 F.3d at  
15 1094-95, work directly against them. In fact, the WUTC’s new rules will fuel the “emerging  
16 market” for information profiling, *WUTC Order*, at 16, that the WUTC decries. They will also  
17 cause more undifferentiated and unwanted solicitation of consumers than would occur absent the  
18 rules. First, the opt-in approval regime itself requires Plaintiffs to make numerous unsolicited  
19 contacts with customers just to discuss opt-in approval. Second, if Plaintiffs must forego use of  
20 CPNI-based marketing altogether, more calls and direct mail must be directed at a larger,  
21 undifferentiated audience. (Breen Dec. ¶¶ 16-17.) Third, in lieu of using CPNI derived from  
22 their carrier-customer contractual relationships, Plaintiffs will be forced to purchase customer  
23 “profiles” from outside sources that may have no ongoing relationship to which customers have  
24 consented. Perversely, the WUTC’s new rules will expand the market for “data mining” and  
25 other types of profiling in the name of consumer privacy.  
26

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1           In addition, the new rules are “so riddled with exceptions that it is unlikely that the  
2 speech restrictions would actually succeed” in protecting any purported privacy interest that the  
3 WUTC seeks to protect. *Western States*, 238 F.3d at 1095. That is, under the WUTC’s new  
4 rules, Plaintiffs can continue to collect CPNI, and nothing in those rules prevents Plaintiffs from  
5 accessing and using call detail to, *inter alia*, administer billing for the customer’s  
6 telecommunications services, resolve customer complaints, or provide records to a data base  
7 management service for 911 purposes. Wa. Admin. Code § 480-120-205. Nor do the rules  
8 preclude Plaintiffs from calling customers directly, based on customer profiles developed by  
9 third parties, to offer new services. The rules only restrict the use of call detail for purposes of  
10 developing new products and services and target marketing new services to customers.

11           The distinction, for privacy purposes, between use of call detail by Plaintiffs to provide  
12 an accurate bill or resolve a consumer complaint as opposed to offering a new, lower cost service  
13 plan is indecipherable. Moreover, the WUTC rules allow Plaintiffs to obtain one-time only  
14 consent for use of call detail during incoming and outgoing telemarketing calls. Wa. Admin.  
15 Code § 480-120-206. “When exceptions and inconsistencies counteract the alleged purpose of a  
16 speech restriction,” as in the case of the WUTC rules, “the restriction fails the direct  
17 advancement test.”<sup>10</sup> *Western States*, 238 F.3d at 1095; *see Rubin*, 514 U.S. 476.

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20           <sup>10</sup> These significant exceptions also render the WUTC rules unconstitutionally underinclusive in  
21 violation of the First Amendment. *See, e.g., City of Ladue v. Gilleo*, 512 U.S. 43, 51 (1994); *Nollan v. California*  
22 *Coastal Comm’n*, 483 U.S. 825, 837 (1987). Moreover, to the extent Defendants attempt to defend the new rules  
23 based upon a supposed privacy interest in limiting companies that gather consumer consumption data from using  
24 those data for target marketing, the restrictions are radically underinclusive in singling out the speech of  
25 telecommunications carriers for unique burdens. Washington State does not similarly restrict the First Amendment  
26 rights of other utilities. *See, e.g., Wa. Admin. Code § 480-70-421* (permitting waste collection companies to use  
customer information for “[m]arketing new services or options to its customers”); *id.* § 480-100-153 (permitting  
electric companies to use private consumer information, without prior approval, to target market customers for new  
services); *id.* § 480-90-153 (permitting gas companies to do the same). Accordingly, the discriminatory treatment of  
telecommunications carriers’ commercial speech cannot pass constitutional muster. *See S.O.C., Inc. v. County of*  
*Clark*, 152 F.3d 1136, 1146-47 (9th Cir. 1998); *City of Ladue*, 512 U.S. at 51; *Nollan*, 483 U.S. at 837; *Turner*, 512  
U.S. at 660 (distinctions “among different *speakers* within a single medium, often present serious First Amendment  
concerns” (emphasis added)); *Rosenberger v. Rector & Visitors of Univ. of Va.*, 515 U.S. 819, 828 (1995).

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1 c. *Washington’s CPNI regulations are not narrowly tailored.*

2 Opt-in approval is clearly more restrictive than the alternative opt-out mechanism  
3 recently adopted by the FCC. In assessing the FCC’s 1998 opt-in regime, the Tenth Circuit  
4 found that “the FCC’s failure to adequately consider an *obvious and substantially less restrictive*  
5 *alternative, an opt-out strategy*, indicates that it *did not narrowly tailor* the CPNI regulations  
6 regarding customer approval.” *U.S. West*, 182 F.3d at 1238-39 (emphases added). Even if the  
7 Court finds a substantial state interest in protecting customers’ privacy from their own carriers,  
8 there is not a “reasonable fit” between that interest and the means chosen to accomplish that end.  
9 *See Lorillard Tobacco Co. v. Reilly*, 533 U.S. 525, 528 (2001). By adopting a default  
10 presumption that *all* customers prefer privacy and are automatically “opted-out” of any use of  
11 CPNI unless they affirmatively manifest preferences to the contrary, Defendants restrict  
12 substantially more speech than is necessary to protect the alleged privacy interest at stake.

13 The only justification proffered by the WUTC in its order for choosing opt-in over opt-  
14 out is the unsupported assertion that under an opt-out regime carriers do not have sufficient  
15 incentive to provide clear notice to their customers regarding carriers use of CPNI. *See WUTC*  
16 *Order*, at 33-35. The WUTC makes no attempt to suggest, however, that the FCC’s notice  
17 requirement is inadequate. Moreover, the “obvious and substantially less restrictive alternative”  
18 is to strictly enforce the FCC’s or even new WUTC opt-out notice requirements and not to  
19 ratchet up the approval requirement as an indirect incentive to entice carriers to adhere to the  
20 notice rules.<sup>11</sup> Similarly, with respect to the communication of CPNI to affiliates, agents,  
21 independent contractors and joint venture partners, the WUTC did not even consider the  
22 substantially less restrictive option of directly punishing those individuals or companies that

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23 <sup>11</sup> The WUTC makes much in its order of Qwest’s alleged problems in administering the FCC’s opt-  
24 out regime, including confusing notices and failure to maintain a 24-hour toll free hotline for customers to opt-out.  
25 *WUTC Order*, at 12, 21, App. A, 9-10. However, problems in administration can occur in either an opt-in or opt-out  
26 regime, and those problems are properly dealt with through enforcement measures. They do not provide a  
principled basis for selecting a more restrictive opt-in regime. In fact, Verizon has no doubt that the highly complex  
and confusing opt-in notices mandated by the WUTC’s new rules would cause customer consternation and  
frustration beyond anything previously experienced in any state. (Breen Dec. ¶ 20).

1 disclose CPNI to third parties and non-communications-related entities, or the option employed  
2 by the FCC, requiring strict non-disclosure agreements in non-agency relationships.

3 The WUTC's approach is particularly indefensible given the nationwide rules adopted by  
4 the FCC. The FCC specifically found that its "no approval approach" for marketing  
5 improvements to existing services combined with an opt-out regime for other carrier and related  
6 entity uses of CPNI was sufficient to protect consumer privacy and "no more extensive than  
7 necessary to serve the government interest," *2002 CPNI Order*, ¶ 31. Moreover, the FCC also  
8 found that on the record it had compiled (one substantially more extensive than that before the  
9 WUTC) further restrictions could not be justified under the First Amendment. The fact that the  
10 body charged by Congress with creating nationwide rules for protection of CPNI has rejected the  
11 WUTC's approach as unnecessarily restrictive is powerful evidence that the WUTC has not  
12 adequately considered less restrictive means.

### 13 3. Defendants' Rules Are Unconstitutionally Overbroad.

14 Defendants' rules not only prohibit Plaintiffs from using CPNI to solicit customers to  
15 purchase their services, but they reach into the Plaintiffs' organizations and seek to restrict  
16 internal speech among its employees and affiliates when that speech includes discussion of call  
17 detail for purposes of product development or marketing. Wa. Admin. Code § 480-120-204. At  
18 the same time, Plaintiffs may discuss call detail internally for other purposes, including billing  
19 and resolution of customer complaints. *Id.* § 480-120-205. Thus, the WUTC's new rules  
20 constitute a content-based restriction on Plaintiffs' freedom of speech. *See Turner Broadcasting*  
21 *Sys. v. FCC*, 512 U.S. 622, 643 (1994) ("As a general rule, laws that by their terms distinguish  
22 favored speech from disfavored speech on the basis of the ideas or views expressed are content-  
23 based."); *Foti v. City of Menlo Park*, 146 F.3d 629, 636 (9th Cir. 1998) (same).

24 Plaintiffs' right to use CPNI to engage in internal communications, which do not propose  
25 commercial transactions to their own employees, agents, affiliates, and joint venture partners, is  
26 protected by the First Amendment. Although Plaintiffs may have an ultimate, or even central,

## **PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION - 18**

1 economic motivation for the speech, that in and of itself is insufficient to render these internal  
2 communications commercial speech. *See Bolger v. Youngs Drug Prods., Inc.*, 463 U.S. 60, 67  
3 (1983); *Bd. of Trustees of State Univ. of N.Y. v. Fox*, 492 U.S. 469, 473-74 (1989) (describing the  
4 proposal of a commercial transaction as “*the test* for identifying commercial speech” (emphasis  
5 added)); *Hoffman v. Capital Cities/ABC, Inc.*, 255 F.3d 1180, 1184-85 (9th Cir. 2001). As the  
6 Supreme Court has recognized, commercial and non-commercial speech may co-exist in any  
7 given circumstance, and it is the duty of a court to ensure that non-commercial speech is not  
8 swept up with commercial speech for purposes of constitutional analysis.<sup>12</sup> *Bolger*, 463 U.S. at  
9 66 (examining pamphlets “carefully to ensure that speech deserving of greater constitutional  
10 protection is not inadvertently suppressed”).

11 Because the WUTC’s new rules are content-based restrictions on Plaintiffs’ protected  
12 speech, they are presumptively unconstitutional; Defendants bear the burden of proving that the  
13 restrictions are constitutional. *See R.A.V.*, 505 U.S. at 382; *Foti*, 146 F.3d at 637. That burden  
14 entails proving that the restrictions are narrowly tailored to further a compelling state interest.  
15 *See Crawford v. Lungren*, 96 F.3d 380, 386 (9th Cir. 1996). Defendants simply cannot meet this  
16 burden because they have not demonstrated any compelling state interest in preventing Plaintiffs  
17 from using the CPNI in internal discussions within corporate units or affiliates and among  
18 agents, independent contractors, and joint venture partners. Moreover, even if Defendants could  
19 identify and substantiate a compelling state interest in regulating Plaintiffs’ internal business  
20 communications, they have offered no proof that their choice in preventing Plaintiffs from  
21 engaging in discussions regarding CPNI is the least restrictive means of protecting consumers’

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22 <sup>12</sup> Plaintiffs’ internal business communications, regardless whether they deal exclusively with  
23 marketing strategy, are no different from the internal brainstorming sessions of an advertising firm, a type of speech  
24 that has never been held by the Supreme Court to constitute commercial speech. Indeed, the very purpose of lesser  
25 protection for commercial speech—to protect consumers from the risk of deceptive advertising or other peculiarly  
26 commercial harms, *See R.A.V. v. St. Paul*, 505 U.S. 377, 383 (1992), —is inapplicable to speech conducted within  
and between Plaintiffs’ organizations. *See 44 Liquormart*, 517 U.S. at 501 (opinion of Stevens, J.) (“[W]hen a State  
entirely prohibits the dissemination of truthful, nonmisleading commercial messages for reasons unrelated to the  
preservation of a fair bargaining process, there is far less reason to depart from the rigorous review that the First  
Amendment generally demands.”).

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1 privacy. *See Denver Area Educ. Telecomms. Consortium, Inc. v. FCC*, 518 U.S. 727 (1996)  
2 (plurality opinion); *Sable Communs. of Cal. v. FCC*, 492 U.S. 115, 126 (1989).

3 4. Defendants’ Rules Are Unconstitutionally Vague.

4 The WUTC’s new rules are also void for vagueness under the Due Process Clause of the  
5 Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution. *See Connally v. Gen. Constr. Co.*, 269 U.S.  
6 385, 391 (1962). Given the Byzantine and self-contradictory definition of “call detail,” which  
7 draws lines between private and non-private information that have no rational relationship to  
8 privacy interests, it is impossible for carriers to determine what speech is subject to the onerous  
9 opt-in restrictions and what speech is subject to a less onerous regime. It is thus impossible to  
10 know, for example, if Plaintiffs’ accessing of call detail in order to compile aggregate monthly  
11 data is prohibited by the rules.<sup>13</sup> In addition, the definition of “associated company” is also  
12 vague, as what constitutes “control” of another entity is nowhere defined or subject to further  
13 specification anywhere in the WUTC’s new rules.

14 Because carriers face significant penalties for violations of these rules, *see* RCW §  
15 80.04.387, and they are unclear as to what conduct is forbidden or punishable, the rules violate  
16 the Due Process Clause. *See, e.g., Grayned v. City of Rockford*, 408 U.S. 104, 108-9 (1972);  
17 *United States v. Wunsch*, 84 F.3d 1110, 1119-20 (9th Cir. 1996). Furthermore, because “the  
18 guarantees of the First Amendment are at stake, the Court [must] appl[y] its vagueness analysis  
19 strictly.” *Bullfrog Films, Inc. v. Wick*, 847 F.2d 502, 512 (9th Cir. 1996); *Grayned*, 408 U.S. at  
20 108-09. That is, because any vagueness or uncertainty in the rules will result in further chilling  
21 of carrier speech, this Court must require a heightened degree of clarity and precision in the  
22 WUTC rules. *Bullfrog Films*, 847 F.2d at 512; *see also Keyishian v. Bd. of Regents of Univ. of*  
23 *State of N.Y.*, 385 U.S. 589, 603-04 (1967).

24 \_\_\_\_\_  
25 <sup>13</sup> The definition of “call detail” purports to exclude “the amount spent monthly by a specific  
26 customer on long distance calls. Wa. Admin. Code § 480-120-213(2). The only way a carrier could compile such  
information, however, would be to examine the actual call records and numbers called, *e.g.*, use information that  
appears to be defined as “call detail.” (Breen Dec. ¶ 22).

1           **C. Enforcement Of The New Rules Will Cause Plaintiffs Irreparable Harm.**

2           As the Supreme Court has recognized, “[t]he loss of First Amendment freedoms, for even  
3 minimal periods of time, unquestionably constitutes irreparable injury.” *Elrod v. Burns*, 427  
4 U.S. 347, 373-74 (1976); *see also Foti*, 146 F.3d at 643; *Jacobsen v. U.S. Postal Serv.*, 812 F.2d  
5 1151, 1154 (9th Cir. 1987). This is equally true when the protected speech is commercial  
6 speech. *See S.O.C., Inc. v. County of Clark*, 152 F.3d 1136, 1148 (9th Cir. 1998). Indeed, just as  
7 restrictions on publishing a newspaper constitute irreparable harm even when applied for a single  
8 day, “the prevention of [Plaintiffs’] access to [a potential customer] is, each day, an irreparable  
9 injury: the ephemeral opportunity to present one’s [proposed commercial transaction] to an  
10 interested audience is lost and the next day’s opportunity is different.” *Jacobsen*, 812 F.2d at  
11 1154. Because enforcement of the new rules threatens to curtail Plaintiffs’ rights to engage in  
12 protected commercial speech with their customers and in non-commercial speech within and  
13 among their organizations, application of the WUTC’s new rules undoubtedly will cause  
14 irreparable injury.

15           In addition, the WUTC’s new rules would require Plaintiffs to send highly complex and  
16 confusing notices to their customers regarding the new protections for call detail and private  
17 account information as a condition of their ability to speak to those customers regarding call  
18 detail. Wa. Admin. Code §§ 480-120-209, 480-120-212. As the dissenting Commissioner  
19 rightly observed, these notices will be “incomprehensible to even well-informed consumers,”  
20 *WUTC Order*, at 42 (Hemstad, dissenting). Moreover, if Plaintiffs send the WUTC-mandated  
21 notices to customers, and this Court subsequently concludes that the WUTC scheme violates  
22 Plaintiffs’ constitutional or statutory rights, it will be well-nigh impossible to “unring the bell”  
23 and obtain customer consent under the FCC’s less restrictive approach without substantial  
24 consumer confusion. This “threatened loss of prospective customers or goodwill certainly  
25 supports a finding of the possibility of irreparable harm.” *Stuhlberg*, 240 F.3d at 841; *Rent-A-*  
26 *Center, Inc. v. Canyon Television & Appliance Rental, Inc.*, 944 F.2d 597, 603 (9th Cir. 1991).

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1 Plaintiffs only other alternative is to forego all speech regarding individually identifiable CPNI  
2 in Washington State, which will also result in lost goodwill, reduced customer satisfaction, and  
3 unrecoverable monetary damages.

4 **D. The New Rules Raise Serious Constitutional Questions And The Balance Of**  
5 **Hardships Tips Decidedly in Plaintiffs' Favor.**

6 Even were this Court not convinced of Plaintiffs' high likelihood of success on the  
7 merits, injunctive relief is appropriate because the WUTC's new rules raise serious constitutional  
8 questions and the balance of hardships tips decidedly in Plaintiffs' favor. To raise a "serious  
9 question going to the merits," the Court need decide only that Plaintiffs "ha[ve] a fair chance of  
10 success or one serious enough to require litigation." *Benda v. Grand Lodge of the Int'l Assoc. of*  
11 *Machinists Aerospace Workers*, 584 F.2d 308, 315 (9th Cir. 1978). Given the Tenth Circuit's  
12 decision in *U.S. West* striking down federal regulations less restrictive than the WUTC's rules at  
13 issue here, and the FCC's determination in July of 2002 that there was insufficient factual  
14 predicate under *Central Hudson* for adoption of the opt-in approach chosen by the WUTC here,  
15 there is no question that Plaintiffs' First Amendment claims at the very least have a fair chance  
16 of success.

17 Furthermore, in light of the negligible evidence of harm to the public by virtue of  
18 Plaintiffs engaging in commercial speech with their customers, and the complete lack of  
19 evidence of harm stemming from Plaintiffs' communications with their related entities, there is  
20 nothing to weigh against the constitutional and financial harms Plaintiffs will suffer if the  
21 WUTC's new rules are enforced. Indeed, the opt-out approach adopted by the FCC is presently  
22 applied nationwide without any showing of ensuing harm to consumers. Moreover, the WUTC  
23 voluntarily delayed enactment of these rules for over six months to await and then analyze the  
24 FCC's action. Thus, Defendants cannot plausibly argue that a limited delay while this Court  
25 adjudicates Plaintiffs' constitutional and statutory claims causes them any harm at all, let alone  
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1 irreparable injury. For these reasons, the balance of hardships tips decidedly, and indeed  
2 completely, in Plaintiffs' favor.<sup>14</sup>

3 **E. Enjoining Enforcement of The New Rules Will Advance the Public Interest.**

4 In determining whether to grant a preliminary injunction, where the public interest is  
5 involved, a court must consider whether the balance of public interests weighs in favor of  
6 granting or denying injunctive relief. *See Westlands Water Dist. v. Natural Res. Def. Council*, 43  
7 F.3d 457, 459 (9th Cir. 1994); *Fund for Animals v. Lujan*, 962 F.2d 1391, 1400 (9th Cir. 1992).  
8 If the new rules are enforced, the public interest will most definitely be harmed above and  
9 beyond the constitutional violations and financial harm that will befall Plaintiffs.

10 It is well established that allowing enforcement of unconstitutional laws does not advance  
11 the public interest. "Curtailing constitutionally protected speech will not advance the public  
12 interest, and 'neither the Government nor the public generally can claim an interest in the  
13 enforcement of an unconstitutional law.'" *ACLU v. Reno*, 217 F.3d 162, 180-81 (3d Cir. 2000),  
14 *vacated on other grounds, Ashcroft v. ACLU*, \_\_\_ U.S. \_\_\_, 122 S. Ct. 1700 (2002).

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25 <sup>14</sup> The Court must also weigh the rights of Plaintiffs' customers who welcome commercial speech regarding  
26 new communications services and products but will be confused by, or will not make the effort to respond to, the  
WUTC-mandated opt-in notice. These consumers have a constitutional right to receive Plaintiffs' messages that  
will also be stifled during this litigation absent preliminary relief. *Thompson*, 122 S. Ct. at 1503.

1 **IV. CONCLUSION**

2 For the reasons set forth above, as supported by the materials filed concurrently with this  
3 Motion, the Court should enter a preliminary injunction pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 65 preventing  
4 Defendants and any officer or employee of the State of Washington from enforcing any portion  
5 of the WUTC's new CPNI rules pending this Court's final judgment in this action.

6 Respectfully submitted this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2002.

7  
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