

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Petition of	)	DOCKET NO. UT-030417
	)	
QWEST CORPORATION,	)	ORDER NO. 02
	)	
Petitioner,	)	
	)	
Seeking Exemption from the	)	
Provisions of WAC 480-120-146	)	
Relating to Changing Service	)	ORDER GRANTING
Providers From One Local	)	EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY
Exchange Company to Another	)	EXEMPTION FROM RULE
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1 On March 27, 2003, Qwest Corporation (Qwest or the Company) filed a petition requesting exemption from WAC 480-120-146. In Order No. 1, on July 27, 2003, the Commission granted the Company’s request until January 1, 2004, while a proposal to revise the rule permanently is processed in Docket No. UT-030964.<sup>1</sup>
  
- 2 On December 10, 2003, the Commission continued until January 14, 2004, the rule adoption hearing in Docket No. UT-030964, creating an extension of time in the rulemaking docket to permit stakeholders and Staff to complete work on drafting proposed new rules.
  
- 3 Accordingly, on December 18, 2003, Qwest submitted a letter in regards to the instant case, requesting an extension of the temporary exemption from WAC 480-120-146 until July 1, 2004, while the rulemaking in Docket No. UT-030964 proceeds to completion.

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<sup>1</sup> Order No. 1, Docket No. UT-030417.

## FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the state of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public service companies, including telecommunications companies. *RCW 80.01.040; Chapter 80.04 RCW and Chapter 80.36 RCW.*
- 5 (2) Qwest is engaged in the business of providing telecommunications services within the state of Washington and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission under the provisions of Chapter 80.36 RCW.
- 6 (3) Qwest is subject to the provisions of WAC 480-120-146, requiring telecommunications companies not discontinue service when a customer migrates from one local exchange company (LEC) to another until confirmation of activation of new service is received from the new service provider.
- 7 (4) WAC 480-120-015 provides that the Commission may grant an exemption from the provisions of any rule in Chapter 480-120 WAC, if consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation, and applicable statutes.
- 8 (5) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on December 31, 2003.
- 9 (6) After review of the request for a six month extension filed in Docket UT-030417 by Qwest on December 18, 2003, and giving due consideration,

the Commission finds that extending the temporary exemption is reasonable and should be granted temporarily until July 1, 2004.

## ORDER

### THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 10 (1) After the effective date of this Order, Qwest Corporation is granted an extension of temporary exemption from WAC 480-120-146, relating to changing service providers from one local exchange company to another.
- 11 (2) This exemption is subject to the following condition: When the customer migrates from Qwest Corporation to another LEC, Qwest Corporation must not discontinue service until 11:59 p.m. of the next business day following the scheduled port before disconnecting the customer's service. If a customer does not retain their telephone number through local number portability, then the rule would still apply. This exemption is temporary until July 1, 2004.
- 12 (3) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Qwest Corporation to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

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DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 31<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2003.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary