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STATE OF WASH.
UTIL. AND TRANSP.
COMMISSION

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July 29, 1999

Ms Carole J. Washburn, Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Dear Ms Washburn:

The Order Granting Petition in Docket UT-971689 required United Telephone Company of the Northwest to file with the Commission every six months a report on the status of competition in the relevant market for its intraLATA intrastate switched interexchange message toll service, addressing at a minimum the factors contained in RCW 80.36.330(1) until otherwise ordered by the Commission. The Order was issued January 28, 1998.

One purpose of this letter is to report, in compliance with that order, that there has been no significant change in the past six months in the number and size of alternative providers, in the extent to which services are available from them in the relevant market, or their ability to make functionally equivalent or substitutable services readily available at competitive rates, terms and conditions. Using the same method of calculation as in the original petition, United's market share in the past six months has decreased from approximately 56% to 50%.

The second purpose of this letter is to respectfully request that the Commission issue an order ending United's obligation to file this report every six months. We believe we have firmly established by now that intraLATA competition exists and will continue to exist in our territory. As noted above, the reporting requirement was to be in place "until otherwise ordered by the Commission." United believes this is an appropriate time for such an order.

Should there be any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Glenn Harris at (541) 387-9290 or by e-mail at glennh@sprintnw.com or me.

Sincerely,


Nancy L. Judy