

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition of)	
)	DOCKET NO. UT-011439
)	
VERIZON NORTHWEST, INC.,)	SIXTH SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER
)	
)	PREHEARING CONFERENCE
)	ORDER ESTABLISHING
For Waiver of WAC 480-120-071(2)(a).)	SCHEDULE OF PROCEEDINGS
)	
.....)	

1 **Synopsis:** *The Commission establishes a further schedule of proceedings in this docket.*

2 **Proceedings:** Docket No. UT-011439 is a petition by Verizon Northwest Inc. (Verizon), seeking a waiver or an exemption from WAC 480-120-071 regarding extending service to two separate locations in Verizon’s Bridgeport exchange in Okanogan and Douglas Counties.

3 On July 10, 2002 the Commission entered an order joining RCC Minnesota, Inc.(RCC) as a party and vacating the schedule of proceedings. The Commission set July 17, 2002, as the date for a prehearing conference to determine a further schedule of proceedings in light of the addition of RCC as a party.

4 **Appearances.** Judith Endejan, Graham & Dunn, Seattle, Washington, represents Verizon Northwest Inc. Gregory Trautman, Assistant Attorney General, Olympia, Washington, represents Staff of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission Staff or Staff). Robert Cromwell, Attorney, Office of Public Counsel. Douglas N. Owens represents Qwest Corporation. Elizabeth Kohler, David LaFuria and Richard Busch represent RCC.

5 **Schedule of Proceedings.** The schedule of proceedings agreed upon by the parties takes into account the need to accommodate RCC’s participation as a party, as well as the possibility that other parties may yet be joined in the proceeding. RCC stated on the record that it was considering the filing of motions to join other wireless carriers. If additional parties are joined, the schedule devised here should provide sufficient leeway to allow their participation without significant alteration of the schedule. The schedule also takes into account the availability of the Commissioners to preside at the hearing.

Staff Response to Qwest filing	September 20, 2002
RCC filing	November 6, 2002
Parties response to RCC	December 18, 2002
Reply by RCC	January 7, 2003
Hearing	January 21-24, 2003 ¹
Simultaneous Briefs	February 21, 2003

6 **Discovery.** Based on the new schedule, the parties will return to a ten-day turn-around time for discovery.

7 **Motion for Extension/Waiver of 18-Month Construction Period.** Verizon raised the concern that because of the new, lengthier schedule, it will not be possible to construct the requested line extensions within the 18-month period required under WAC 480-120-071. Verizon indicated it would file a motion requesting an extension or waiver of that requirement.

8 **Motion to Compel.** On July 3, 2002, Staff filed a Motion to Compel Responses by Verizon requesting information about Verizon's construction of a line extension in the Sultan Exchange serving approximately 9 people. On July 8, 2002, the presiding officer convened a telephone conference to hear argument on the motion and ruled that Verizon must file responses to Staff discovery requests nos. 89-91 by July 17, 2002. During the instant prehearing conference, Verizon indicated that it would be filing responses to the Staff discovery requests by the end of the day.

DATED at Olympia, Washington and effective this 19th day of July, 2002.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

THEODORA M. MACE
Administrative Law Judge

¹ Because the Commission has tentatively scheduled an open meeting for January 22, 2003, it may be necessary to continue the hearing an additional day, January 24, 2003. In the event an open meeting is scheduled for January 22, the Commission will resume hearing in this case immediately upon the conclusion of the open meeting that day.

NOTICE TO PARTIES: Any objection to the provisions of this Order must be filed within ten (10) days after the date of mailing of this statement, pursuant to WAC 480-09-460(2). Absent such objections, this prehearing conference order will control further proceedings in this matter, subject to Commission review.