

December 13, 2002

Carole J. Washburn, Secretary  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW  
P. O. Box 47250  
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Re: *Verizon Northwest, Inc.*  
Docket No. UT-011439  
Qwest Motion to Respond to Staff's September 20, 2002, Testimony

Dear Ms. Washburn:

Staff has received Qwest Corporation's motion for leave to respond to certain matters set forth in Staff's September 20, 2002, testimony. While Staff does not concur with all of the statements in paragraphs 1-4 of Qwest's motion, Staff does not object to Qwest's request to file responsive testimony on or before December 20, 2002, provided that Staff be permitted to file rebuttal testimony no later than January 10, 2003. In addition, Staff and Qwest have agreed that, if Qwest files responsive testimony, in light of the limited time frame, Qwest would respond to Staff discovery on matters raised in the responsive testimony by January 6, 2003.

Very truly yours,

GREGORY J. TRAUTMAN  
Assistant Attorney General

GJT:kl  
Enclosures  
cc: All Parties