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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

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

Re: Tariff Rulemaking, Docket No. UT-991301

Dear Ms. Washburn:

McLeodUSA Telecommunication Services, Inc., (hereinafter McLeodUSA) forwards the following comments pursuant to the Notice of Opportunity to File Written Comments in the above-referenced matter.

In general, it appears to McLeodUSA that these proposed rules in some respects may render the filed price lists of the CLECs to be of little value to them and in fact, may impose additional requirements that are onerous and an economic burden.

Of particular concern to McLeodUSA are the following:

1. (1) (b) statement that the price list is not reviewed or approved by the commission at the time of filing. In addition to the review that is conducted at the time of certification of the CLEC as a competitive provider, our experience has been that the commission staff is thorough in its review of the price lists proposed, and based upon that review makes suggestions tantamount, we believe, to requirements that must be addressed before the price lists can become effective. We have found the staff's review and suggestions to be valuable to us and would not like to see their role diminished.
2. (1) (c) provision that the price list shall not be considered constructive notice to the customers. This provision appears, at least partially, to negate the reason for filing the price list in the first place and would seem to fly in the face of a long standing practice that filings with the commission are, in fact, notice to the public. A reading of this rule would seem to dictate that each customer must be provided a copy of the price list for it to be of any effect.

3. (2) (c) provision that price list revisions must provided to exiting customers to be effective. This provision, we believe, places a burdensome duty on the CLECs and is unclear in its direction as to as to who would constitute an existing customer nor what would constitute sufficient documentation to render the price list effective.
4. McLeodUSA is very supportive of the concept of price lists which state a maximum price for services as well as the provision that clarifies that contracts which provide for less than the maximum rate would not have to be filed to be effective. However, McLeodUSA does feel that contracts should not have to be filed at all by competitive provides and that any requirement for filing contracts by competitive providers should, as a matter of course, be waived.

We appreciate the opportunity to address the proposed rules and look forward to the Workshop scheduled on March 6, 2001.

Respectfully yours,

Marianne K. Holifield