

Agenda Date: June 6, 2006
Item Number: A2

Docket Number: UT-060762
Company Name: Westgate Communications (d/b/a WeavTel) (WeavTel)

Staff: Bob Shirley, Telecommunications Policy Analyst
Tim Zawislak, Regulatory Analyst

Recommendation

Take no action on this matter and schedule it for further proceedings at the regularly scheduled open meeting on June 14.

Background

Stehekin is an isolated community at the north end of Lake Chelan, accessible by boat, foot, and plane, and it does not have telephone service. WeavTel states it is prepared to provide service on June 30.

This matter was before the commission on May 17 with a recommendation for a WECA revenue objective of \$738,443. At that time, the commission asked staff to examine the prudence of the actions of the company, examine more closely the investment already made by WeavTel, and examine the reasonableness of its anticipated expenses. The commission also requested that staff examine other instances of companies entering the WECA pool and compare those entrances with the request of WeavTel.

Analysis

Staff has completed most of the investigation requested by the commission. However, the start-up nature of the project has resulted in a need for more time to complete the due diligence necessary to support a final recommendation. Staff expects to complete the investigation and be prepared to make a recommendation at the June 14 open meeting.