

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION)	
)	CAUSE NO. U-85-23, et al.
Complainant,)	
)	NINETY-FIRST
vs.)	SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER
)	APPROVING MODIFIED
PACIFIC NORTHWEST BELL)	UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND
TELEPHONE COMPANY,)	ADMINISTRATION
)	AGREEMENT
Respondent.)	
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 In the Eighteenth Supplemental Order in this proceeding, the Commission required local exchange telecommunications companies in this state to establish a Universal Service Fund (USF) designed to provide assistance to high-cost companies. The Commission ordered that the Washington Exchange Carrier Association (WECA), or a similar body, draft an agreement for the Administration of the USF. The Seventy-Eighth Supplemental Order in this matter, issued October 23, 1987, approved the original Universal Fund Administration Agreement. The original has been used by WECA for all of the incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs) since that time.
- 2 On August 28, 2001, WECA filed with the Commission a new modified Universal Service Fund Agreement with Advanced Telecom, Inc. This agreement is similar to agreements WECA has been using for competitive local exchange carriers, or CLECs, since Electric Lightwave, Inc., first agreed to the concept back in 1995. The fundamental difference for CLECs vs. ILECs is that only ILECs are eligible to receive "Traditional USF." Nonetheless, both CLECs and ILECs have agreed to contribute to the "Traditional USF" as evidenced by these agreements.
- 3 This Agreement sets forth the terms and conditions under which this company will meet its obligations to contribute to the intrastate USF. The Agreement was executed on March 27, 2001. WECA now requests that the Commission approve this agreement.
- 4 This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled open meeting on September 26, 2001. The Commissioners, having been fully advised in

the matter, and having determined the following order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter the following order and related provisions.

FINDINGS

- 5 (1) The Commission is an agency of the state of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public service companies, including telecommunications companies.
- 6 (2) WECA is authorized by the Commission to administer the state Universal Service Fund.
- 7 (3) Advanced Telecom, Inc., is authorized to provide intrastate and local exchange telecommunications services in the state of Washington.
- 8 (4) After careful examination of the Universal Service Fund Administration Agreement filed herein by WECA and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds that the Agreement should be approved.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 9 (1) The Universal Service Fund Administration Agreement between the Washington Exchange Carrier Association and Advanced Telecom, Inc., is approved.
- 10 (2) The laws, regulations, and Commission Orders of Washington shall govern the construction and interpretation of the Agreement. The Agreement shall also be subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission and the Washington courts.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 26th day of September 2001.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN
Secretary