

August 14, 2003

**REQUEST FOR INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING DISPOSITION OF  
RESPONSES TO BENCH REQUEST NOS. 43, 44, AND 45**

**(Due by September 5, 2003)**

RE: In the Matter of the Investigation Into U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.'s Compliance with Section 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Docket No. UT-003022;

In the Matter of U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.'s Statement of Generally Available Terms Pursuant to Section 252(f) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Docket No. UT-003040.

**TO ALL WASHINGTON COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANIES:**

On February 28, 2002, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) issued Bench Request Nos. 43, 44, and 45 in this proceeding to all competitive local exchange companies (CLECs) registered as competitive carriers with the Commission. In those bench requests, the Commission requested company-specific information of the type that might impose a serious business risk if disseminated without heightened protection. Access to the data was restricted to the Commission and its advisors.

The bench requests stated that upon conclusion of the proceeding, the Commission would return all highly confidential data to the CLEC that provided it, or at the option of the CLEC, would destroy all such data.

The Commission requests instructions from all CLECs who provided highly confidential data in response to Bench Request Nos. 43, 44, and 45, as to whether the Commission should return the data to the CLEC that provided it, or should destroy the data by shredding or incinerating the data.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE That the Commission will destroy all highly confidential data provided to the Commission in response to Bench Request Nos. 43, 44, and 45, unless the Commission receives other instructions by Friday, September 5, 2003, from the CLEC that provided the data.**

Sincerely,

ANN E. RENDAHL  
Administrative Law Judge

cc: All Parties