

#### Rob McKenna

## ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON

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April 22, 2008

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

Re:

WUTC v. Westgate Communications d/b/a WeavTel Dockets UT-060762, UT-060920 and UT-060921

Dear Ms. Washburn:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket are the original and 10 copies of Commission Staff's Response to the Westgate Communications, LLC d/b/a WeavTel Motion to Extend Existing Revenue Objective, and Certificate of Service.

Sincerely,

SALLY BROWN

Senior Assistant Attorney General

SGB:klg Enclosures cc: Parties

# BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In re the Petition of

WESTGATE COMMUNICATIONS LLC, d/b/a WEAVTEL,

For extension of current WCAP Revenue Objective and extension on time to file new Revenue objective **DOCKET UT-060762** 

**DOCKET UT-060920** 

**DOCKET UT-060921** 

COMMISSION STAFF'S RESPONSE TO THE WESTGATE COMMUNICATIONS, LLC D/B/A WEAVTEL MOTION TO EXTEND EXISTING REVENUE OBJECTIVE

### BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

On March 1, 2007, the Administrative Law Judge entered Initial Order 03 in these consolidated dockets, approving a Settlement Agreement between Westgate Communications, LLC d/b/a WeavTel (WeavTel or the Company) and the Staff of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission). Initial Order 03 became a final order by operation of law on March 22, 2007. The Settlement Agreement established a temporary Washington Carrier Access Plan (WCAP) Revenue Objective of \$253,572, which will expire on June 30, 2008, unless action is taken by the Commission.

The Order at ¶ 21 provides:

This Revenue Objective, if approved, will expire on June 30, 2008, at which time WeavTel will be required to file for a new Revenue Objective giving the Commission an opportunity to review relevant facts and circumstances after more than a year of company operations. WeavTel is also expected to receive federal high cost loop funding by that time, which should reduce the amount of subsidy from the Washington Carrier Access Plan.

On April 10, 2008, WeavTel filed a petition to extend the June 30, 2008, expiration date of the current Revenue Objective to February 28, 2009. WeavTel states that the additional time is needed to allow for the completion of 2007 audited financial statements and to accommodate a delay in the implementation of traffic measurement.

Commission Staff does not oppose the Company's request to extend the Company's current WCAP Revenue Objective of \$253,572 until February 28, 2009, at which time WeavTel will be required to file for a new Revenue Objective. The extension, if granted, would allow the Company to submit meaningful data in order to determine a final WCAP Revenue Objective.

Commission Staff recommends the Company file its 2007 audited financial statements by August 31, 2008, and its updated traffic studies and proposal for a permanent Revenue Objective by October 15, 2008. This schedule would afford Commission Staff adequate time to review the data and recommend to the Commission a fair, just, and reasonable WCAP Revenue Objective in January 2009. This, in turn, would allow time for the Washington Exchange Carriers Association to file any necessary tariff revisions in

February 2009, to become effective on March 1, 2009. If imposed by the Commission, WeavTel has indicated its intention to comply with the deadlines recommended by Staff.

DATED this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT M. MCKENNA Attorney General

SALLY BROWN

Senior Assistant Attorney General Counsel for Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

### Dockets UT-060762, UT-060920 and UT-060921 CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served Commission Staff's Response to the Westgate Communications, LLC d/b/a Weavtel Motion to Extend Existing Revenue Objective upon the persons and entities listed on the Service List below by depositing a copy of said document in the United States mail, addressed as shown on said Service List, with first class postage prepaid.

DATED at Olympia, Washington this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2008.

KISTĂ L. GROSS

For Westgate Communications d/b/a WeavTel:

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