

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of	)	DOCKET NO. UT-030538
	)	
The Washington Telephone Assistance	)	ORDER NO. 01
Program (WTAP) Excise Tax.	)	
	)	ORDER DETERMINING THE
	)	WTAP EXCISE TAX RATE
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

1 The Washington Telephone Assistance Program (WTAP) is funded by an excise tax on all switched access lines. *RCW 80.36.410 through 475*. The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) sets the excise tax rate by order and all local exchange companies, including resellers, must identify the tax on bills, collect the tax, and transfer the collection to the telephone assistance fund. *WAC 480-122-060*. The excise tax rate has been \$0.13 per switched access line, per month, since 1992.

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

- 2 (1) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled open meeting held on April 30, 2003.
- 3 (2) The excise tax rate is continued at \$0.13 per switched access line, per month.

**ORDER**

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 4 (1) Each local exchange company, including resellers, must separately identify the WTAP excise tax on each ratepayer's bill; must collect the WTAP excise tax in the amount of thirteen cents (\$0.13) per switched access line per month; and must transfer the amount collected to the Department of Social and Health Services' telephone assistance fund.

- (2) The Commissioners, having determined the Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter the Order and related provisions.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 30th day of April, 2003.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary