

April 4, 2003

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL & FIRST CLASS MAIL

Carole Washburn
Executive Secretary
Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Pk. Dr. S.W.
PO Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Re: ***AT&T Communications of The Pacific Northwest, Inc. v. Verizon
Northwest, Inc.
Docket No: UT-020406***

Dear Secretary Washburn:

Pursuant to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Schaer's direction at yesterday's prehearing conference Public Counsel, WeBTEC, and the Citizen's Utility Alliance of Washington are filing with the Commission these recommendations regarding the scheduling of this proceeding. We continue to object to the proposed settlement of this case, if one still exists, as now appears to be in doubt. Assuming the proposed settlement is no longer in effect, we concur with the *Joint Comments On Procedural Issues of AT&T, WorldCom and Commission Staff* regarding the scheduling of an access charge only hearing in this docket, reserving the right to object to scheduling conflicts previously shared with ALJ Schaer during yesterday's prehearing conference.

If the proposed settlement is in fact withdrawn, then the Commission will presumably return the parties to "status quo ante" and the 5th Supplemental Order will once again be in effect. Hearings and testimony will be limited as set forth in that order. In the event the Commission thereafter issued an order requiring Verizon to lower its access charges, Verizon would be free to file a general rate case at any time. No further proceeding in this docket would be required.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to make recommendations regarding the further procedural development of this docket.

Sincerely,

ROBERT W. CROMWELL, JR.
Assistant Attorney General
Public Counsel
(206) 464-6595

RWC:cjw

cc: Parties (e-mail & first class mail)