

August 17, 2004

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO
FILE RESPONSES TO PROPOSALS
TO RESCHEDULE HEARING DATES
(Responses due on Tuesday, August 24, 2004, by Noon)**

RE: *WUTC v. Advanced Telecom Group, Inc., et al;*
Docket No. UT-033011

TO PARTIES OF RECORD:

On August 13, 2004, the Commission issued a notice in this proceeding granting an extension of time to file responsive testimony until August 30, 2004, and an extension of time until October 25, 2004, to file reply testimony. The notice invited the parties to jointly propose a change to the hearing schedule in this proceeding, should the testimony filing dates and need for further settlement discussions require a change in the hearing schedule.

There is limited time in the Commissioners' schedules in November and December 2004 to accommodate a five-day hearing. The only available dates are November 8 and 9, with a half-day on November 10, and November 22 and 23, 2004. The next available five-day period is the week of January 10, 2004.

On August 13, 2004, Qwest filed a letter expressing its preference for rescheduling the hearing from November 1-5, 2004, until January 10-14, 2005, to allow additional time to conduct discovery and engage in settlement negotiations. In addition, Qwest cites the problems with travel preceding the Thanksgiving holiday, and the unavailability of certain witnesses on November 22 and 23, 2004.

On August 16, 2004, Staff filed a letter with the Commission requesting that the hearings be rescheduled to November 8-10, and 22-23, 2004. Staff requests that the Commission not delay resolution of the proceeding, but schedule the hearing in November to encourage timely settlement of issues. If the Commission reschedules the hearing until January, Staff requests a discovery cut-off date of November 15, 2004, to avoid protracted discovery and holiday scheduling conflicts.

In order to expeditiously address Qwest's and Staff's rescheduling proposals, any responses to the proposals must be filed with the Commission by Noon on Tuesday, August 24, 2004. Given the shortened time for responses, parties may submit responses with the Commission electronically or via facsimile pursuant to WAC 480-07-145(6) and file paper copies the next business day.

Sincerely,

ANN E. RENDAHL
Administrative Law Judge