

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application of	)	
VERIZON NORTHWEST INC.	)	DOCKET UT-011410
for an Order Granting Authority to	)	
Acquire Facilities from VERIZON	)	ORDER GRANTING
ADVANCED DATA INC.	)	APPLICATION
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1        On October 17, 2001, Verizon Northwest Inc. (Verizon Northwest) filed an application with the Commission pursuant to the provisions of chapter 80.12 RCW for an order authorizing the acquisition of assets from Verizon Advanced Data Inc.
  
- 2        The property to be acquired consists of advanced data services facilities as described in Exhibit "1" of the application herein. The advanced data services facilities will be transferred at net book value. The aggregate net book value of the property was \$15,095,593 as of August, 2001.
  
- 3        The Federal Communications Commission (FCC), in its order approving the merger of GTE Corporation and Bell Atlantic Corporation, required the company to form a separate data affiliate to provide advanced services instead of the Verizon incumbent local exchange companies, including Verizon Northwest. In its "Ascent Decision", the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia invalidated the premise of the FCC's separate data affiliate requirement. The FCC subsequently authorized Verizon Northwest to acquire advanced services facilities and recommence providing advanced services.
  
- 4        This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled open meeting on December 12, 2001. The Commissioners having determined this order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this order.

**FINDINGS**

- 5        (1) Verizon Northwest Inc., a Washington corporation, is a public service company subject to regulation by this Commission under the provisions of chapter 80.12 RCW.
  
- 6        (2) As to form, the application filed herein meets the requirements of chapter 80.12 RCW and the rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto.
  
- 7        (3) It appears, upon investigation, that the acquisition of certain property described herein, is reasonable and consistent with the public interest and should, therefore, be approved.

**ORDER**

- 8           (1) Subject to the conditions of this order, Verizon Northwest Inc. is hereby  
              authorized to acquire assets, as described in Exhibit "1" of the application herein,  
              from Verizon Advanced Data Inc.
- 9           (2) This order shall in no way affect the authority of this Commission over rates,  
              services, accounts, valuations, estimates or determination of costs, or any matter  
              whatsoever that may come before it, nor shall anything herein be construed as an  
              acquiescence in any estimate or determination of cost, or any valuation of  
              property claimed or asserted.

DATED at Olympia, Washington this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2001.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary