

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition of)	
)	DOCKET UT-020032
Tel West Communications, LLC)	
)	ORDER GRANTING WAIVER
For Waiver of WAC 480-120-139)	OF RULES
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On January 10, 2001, Tel West Communications, LLC (Tel West) filed with the Commission a petition requesting waiver from WAC 480-120-139. The reason for the waiver is due to an executed Agreement between Tel West and MetroNet Service Corporation (MetroNet) which assigns Tel West as Agent for MetroNet's customers in facilitating all their telecommunications services.

- 2 The reason for this request is prompted by Tel West's transfer of the customer base of MetroNet, whose accounts comprise local service and intraLATA and interLATA toll services. Under WAC 480-120-139, "Changes in local exchange and intrastate toll services," Tel West would not be able to submit a change in a customer's intrastate telecommunications service without confirming the customer's authorization in accordance with requirements in the rule.

- 3 This request is limited specifically to the transference of Metro Net's customer base. Customer notices have been reviewed by Staff and will be mailed to all affected customers informing them of their options. Tel West will continue to serve MetroNet customers through the same MetroNet carrier identification code (CIC code) thereby causing no charge to MetroNet's customers. Additionally, Tel West will continue to bill for service to MetroNet customers under the MetroNet name. Tel West will provide the same products and services as those offered by MetroNet. For a period of at least 30 days, Tel West will provide MetroNet customers rates that are the same as MetroNet's existing rates.

- 4 This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled open meeting on January 30, 2002. The Commissioners, having been fully advised in the matter, and having determined the following order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter the following order and related provisions.

FINDINGS

- 5 (1) Tel West Communications, LLC and MetroNet Service Corporation are public service companies subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission under the provision under the provisions of chapter 80.36 RCW.
- 6 (2) The waiver of WAC 480-120-139 as described above, is reasonable and consistent with the public interest, subject to the mailing of the customer notice, and should therefore be approved.

ORDER

7 After the effective date of this Order, Tel West Communications, LLC is hereby granted a waiver of WAC 480-120-139, for the initial transfer of local service and intraLATA and interLATA toll customers from MetroNet Service Corporation subject to the mailing of the customer notice.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 30th day of January, 2002.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary