

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

In the Matter of the Petition of)	DOCKET NO. UT-030883
)	
Qwest Corporation)	ORDER NO. 01
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
Seeking Temporary Exemption)	
from the Provisions of WAC 480-)	ORDER GRANTING
120-161(5)(b) Relating to)	TEMPORARY EXEMPTION
Description of Billed Charges)	FROM RULE
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On June 6, 2003, Qwest Corporation (Qwest or the Company) filed a petition requesting a temporary exemption from WAC 480-120-161(5)(b).

- 2 WAC 480-120-161(5)(b), requires telecommunications companies to “identify and set out separately, as a component of the charges for the specific service, any access or other charges imposed by order of or at the direction of the Federal Communications Commission”.

- 3 Qwest stated that it is requesting a temporary waiver of the rule from the effective date of July 1, 2003, until September 30, 2003. This will allow for the replacement of the Interstate Subscriber Line Charge, Federal Universal Service Fund, and Federal Number Portability Charge from the current location on the bill to a location separately listed as a component of exchange service charges. Qwest also plans to make other bill formatting changes during September 2003. Qwest requests this exemption in order to achieve the efficiency of making multiple bill format changes at one time and to reduce expenses by altering the bill statement once.

4 Commission Staff reviewed the request and recommended granting the
Company's request for a temporary exemption.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of
the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate
rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of
public service companies, including telecommunications companies.
RCW 80.01.040; Chapter 80.04 RCW and Chapter 80.36 RCW.
- 6 (2) Qwest is engaged in the business of providing telecommunications
services within the state of Washington and is a public service company
subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission under the provisions of
Chapter 80.36 RCW.
- 7 (3) Qwest is subject to the provisions of WAC 480-120-161, requiring
telecommunications companies to format and describe the billed charges in
accordance with the rule.
- 8 (4) WAC 480-120-015 provides that the Commission may grant an exemption
from the provisions of any rule in Chapter 480-120 WAC, if consistent with
the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation and applicable
statutes.
- 9 (5) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled
meeting on June 27, 2003.

- 10 (6) After review of the petition filed in Docket No. UT-030883 by Qwest on June 6, 2003, and giving due consideration, the Commission finds that the temporary exemption is reasonable and should be granted.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11 (1) After the effective date of this Order, Qwest Corporation is granted a temporary exemption from WAC 480-120-161(5)(b).
- 12 (2) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Qwest Corporation to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 27th day of June, 2003.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary