BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Request of)	DOCKET NO. UT-980233
)	
Verizon Northwest Inc.,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
For Less Than Required Notice in)	ORDER GRANTING LESS
Connection with Contract)	THAN REQUIRED NOTICE
)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On April 11, 2003, Verizon Northwest Inc. (Verizon or the Company) filed with the Commission a contract for emergency alerting and conferencing service for a term of thirty-six (36) months.
- 2 WAC 480-80-142 requires thirty days' notice prior to the effective date of the contract. The Company requests an earlier effective date of April 23, 2003, as authorized in WAC 480-80-142. The company is requesting less than required notice in order to provide the service to this customer without interruption.
- 3 Since the proposed contract appears to be fair, just, and reasonable, and less than required notice is consistent with the public interest, it is appropriate that the Commission grant Verizon's request with an effective date of April 23, 2003.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

4 (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.

- 5 (2) Verizon is a telecommunications company and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 6 (3) Verizon is subject to the provisions of WAC 480-80-142 requiring telecommunications companies to file contracts for any rate or charge with thirty days' notice, however, for good cause shown the Commission may allow changes without requiring thirty days' notice.
- 7 (4) Staff has reviewed the request in Docket UT-980233 and recommended the less than required notice request of Verizon be granted.
- 8 (5) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on April 23, 2003.
- 9 (6) After examination of the proposed contract filed by Verizon on April 11,
 2003 and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds the proposed contract should become effective April 23, 2003.

O R D E R

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

10 (1) The request sought by Verizon Northwest Inc. for less than required notice is granted.

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

DOCKET NO. UT-980233

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 23rd day of April, 2003.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary