

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of US West Communi-)	Application C-1830
cations, Inc., filing of its)	
notice of intention to file Sec-)	
tion 271(c) application with the)	PROCEDURES
FCC and request for Commission)	PROGRESSION ORDER #2
to verify US West compliance with)	
Section 271(c).)	Entered: July 21, 1998

BY THE COMMISSION:

On June 30, 1998, the Nebraska Public Service Commission (Commission) entered a procedural timeline to be utilized in this docket. Pursuant to the timeline set out in that order, parties have raised numerous issues related to discovery matters. The timeline further anticipates additional discovery issues to be raised as the docket progresses. The Commission is of the opinion and finds that it is in the best interest of both the public and the parties to this docket for procedural disputes to be resolved quickly. The Commission further finds that the appointment of a special master to hear and rule upon discovery issues will facilitate this efficiency, conserve limited staff resources, and provide parties a sound, dispositive ruling on discovery disputes.

Therefore, by its own motion, the Commission hereby appoints Samuel Van Pelt to act as a special master in this docket for the oral arguments scheduled for July 21, 1998, and August 25, 1998. The special master shall have the authority to hear and rule upon all discovery and other related issues appropriately before him. All such rulings shall have the full force and effect of an order of this Commission. The fee to be paid to Samuel Van Pelt shall be \$200 per hour, which will be apportioned between the parties, by the Commission, based upon the degree of involvement in the discovery proceedings by the respective parties.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Samuel Van Pelt be, and he is hereby, appointed to serve as a special master to hear and rule upon discovery and other related issues as set forth above.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 21st day of July, 1998.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Deputy Director

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