

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application ) Application No. C-1874  
of US West Communications, Inc. of )  
Denver, Colorado, seeking authority )  
to increase its residential basic ) PREHEARING CONFERENCE ORDER  
local exchange rates pursuant to )  
Nebraska Revised Statutes Section )  
86-803(9). ) Entered: November 24, 1998

BY THE COMMISSION:

By application filed July 31, 1998, US West Communications, Inc. of Denver, Colorado, seeks authority to increase its residential basic local exchange rates pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statutes Section 86-803(9). Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, on August 3, 1998, pursuant to the rules of the Commission. A protest was filed by Americans for Sound Public Policy, Inc. Formal interventions were filed by MCI Telecommunications Corporation (MCI), AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. (AT&T) and Sprint Communications Company, L.P. (Sprint).

A prehearing conference was held in the Commission Hearing Room on November 9, 1998.

O P I N I O N   A N D   F I N D I N G S

Due to the need to complete discovery and proceed to hearing in the present application, the Commission hereby establishes the procedural time-line in Application No. C-1874. In the present order, the Commission also adopts guidelines that will be followed during the hearing in this matter.

The Commission is of the opinion and finds:

1. The procedural time-line in Application No. C-1874 shall be as follows:

- Nov. 25 - US West pre-filed testimony due.
- Nov. 30 - Discovery request deadline.
- Dec. 7 - Discovery responses due.
- Dec. 10 - Remaining Parties pre-filed testimony due.
- Dec. 17 - Hearing beginning at 9:30 a.m., continuing on Dec. 18 as necessary.
- Jan. 6 - Post-hearing briefs due if requested by the Commission.

Application No. C-1874

PAGE TWO

2. Each witness shall present a summarized version of the testimony previously filed with the Commission.

3. The order of witnesses shall be as follows:

US West (4 witnesses)  
Commission Staff (1 witness)  
Americans for Sound Public Policy (1-2 witnesses)  
AT&T (1 witness)  
MCI (1 witness)  
US West rebuttal

4. Cross-examination shall be governed as follows:

(a) The time allowed for cross-examination of witnesses shall be limited to an average of 30 minutes per witness. For each Party offering more than one witness, the Commission will earmark 30 minutes for cross-examination of each witness. Parties may allocate the total time between questioners and the Party's witnesses as they see fit.

(b) Commissioners and Commission staff will not be bound by any time limitation.

O R D E R

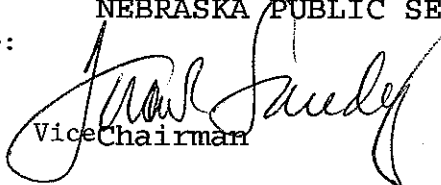
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the above-described procedural time-line be, and is hereby, adopted in Application No. C-1874.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Commission hereby adopts the hearing procedures and guidelines described herein.

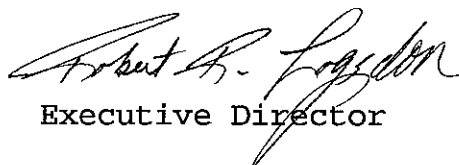
MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 24th day of November, 1998.

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

  
Vice Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director

//s//Frank E. Landis  
//s//Daniel G. Urwiller