

State of Utah Department of Commerce COMMITTEE MEMBERS Dee Jay Hammon, Chair Franz Amussen Kelly Casaday Robert McMullin Andrew Riggle Betsy Wolf

JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR. Governor GARY R. HERBERT Lieutenant Governor Committee of Consumer Services

FRANCINE A. GIANI Executive Director, Commerce

MICHELE BECK Director, Committee of Consumer Services

- DATE: July 10, 2008
- TO: PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
- FROM: COMMITTEE OF CONSUMER SERVICES Michele Beck, Director Eric Orton, Utility Analyst
- CC: David Irvine, Direct Communications Cedar Valley Michael Ginsberg, Division of Public Utilities
- Re: In the Matter of the Petition of Direct Communications Cedar Valley, LLC, for a Rebalance of Rates and Support from the State Universal Service Support Fund. Docket No: 07-2419-01.

Position Statement:

The Committee concurs that the proposed stipulation between the Division and the Company represents a fair resolution of the often conflicting interests of each party. Based upon our review of the overall process and resulting analysis and work papers, the Committee is confident that the residential and small business rate-payers interests were sufficiently represented and recommends that the Commission accept the proposed stipulation as a just and reasonable outcome.

Background and Summary:

The Committee staff became involved in the Cedar Valley case to ensure that the interests of the residential and small commercial customers were protected. The Committee represents both the contributors and the recipients of USF funds. Therefore, in addition to evaluating the process and stipulation in the context of ensuring just and reasonable rates for the small consumers of Cedar Valley, the Committee also had particular interest in the effect Cedar Valley's petition may have

on State Universal Service Funds.

The Committee staff reviewed the work done by the Division and participated in meetings and settlement negotiations with the Division and the Company. The Committee did not undertake an independent investigation, but rather evaluated the analysis and workpapers, both in written form and through briefings with the parties, and was satisfied with the process and outcome.