

- BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH -

In the Matter of the 2001 Price Cap)	<u>DOCKET NO. 01-049-43</u>
Compliance Filing of QWEST)	
CORPORATION Pursuant to)	<u>ORDER GRANTING EXTENSION FOR</u>
R746-352-7)	<u>COMMENTS ON COMPLIANCE FILING</u>

ISSUED: October 3, 2001

By the Commission:

On August 16, 2001, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed an amended 2001 Price Cap Compliance Filing. Under Rule R746-352-7, interested persons have 30 days from the filing date to submit comments upon the Compliance Filing and the Commission has 45 days from the filing date to approve, suspend or reject the Compliance Filing. On September 21, 2001, the Division of Public Utilities (Division) requested that the Commission extend the comment period an additional 30 days (and implicitly, extending the date for Commission approval, suspension or rejection). The Division states that the basis for the extension is due to: 1. Qwest's submitted supporting information, filed with the Compliance Filing, was incomplete and possibly inaccurate. The Division has sought further information from Qwest, but as of the date of the extension request, the Division had not received responses to its inquiries. 2. The Division will need additional time in which to analysis the additional Qwest information when supplied. And 3. As Qwest has already implemented price reductions, and prices are to be retroactive to February 17, 2001, any extension will not adversely harm customers.

The Commission is aware of the difficulties encountered by all parties in implementing the new price index regime under the rule during this first year of application. It will be difficult to approve, suspend or reject Qwest's Compliance Filing, under the time table of Rule R746-352-7, when interested persons have been unable to prepare and submit their comments within the time frame contemplated by the rule. The Commission concludes that the Division must have the requested information before the Commission can approve Qwest's filing. Comments should be based upon complete and accurate information. The regulatory process is best served where Qwest and interested persons are able to ensure that the supporting information for the Compliance Filing is such that it supports the Commission's ultimate decision and order on the filing.

Wherefore, the Commission ORDERS that interested persons may file comments on Qwest's August 16, 2001, Compliance Filing, on or before October 30, 2001. The date for the Commission to approve, suspend or reject the Compliance filing is similarly extended.

DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, this 3rd day of October, 2001.

/s/ Stephen F. Mecham, Chairman

/s/ Constance B. White, Commissioner

/s/ Richard M. Campbell, Commissioner

Attest:

/s/ Julie Orchard
Commission Secretary

G#26602