

- BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH -

In the Matter of the Revisions to Uintah Basin Telephone Association, Inc. and UBET Telecom's PSC Utah No. 4)	<u>DOCKET NOS. 01-053-T01, 01-2304-T02</u>
)	
)	<u>ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFF</u>
)	

ISSUED: December 28, 2001

By The Commission:

For reasons stated in the memorandum from the Division of Public Utilities, Utah Department of Commerce (DPU), attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference, we issue the following:

ORDER

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that:

- The proposed changes to UBTA's and UBET Telecom's P.S.C. Utah No. 4 Revised Sheet Nos. 25, 26, 27, 31, 33, 35, 42, 68, 70, and 75 be, and they are, suspended pending further Order of the Commission, all existing provisions to remain effective in the interim.

Dated at Salt Lake City, Utah, this 28th day of December, 2001.

/s/ Stephen F. Mecham, Chairman

/s/ Constance B. White, Commissioner

/s/ Richard M. Campbell, Commissioner

Attest:

/s/ Julie Orchard

Commission Secretary

DPU LETTERHEAD]

To: Public Service Commission

From: Lowell Alt, Director
 Ingo Henningsen, Manager, Telecommunications
 Peggy N. Egbert, Technical Consultant
 Krystal Fishlock, Technical Consultant

Date: December 28, 2001

Subject: UBTA/UBET Tariff Filing Dockets 01-053-T01, 01-2304-T02

BACKGROUND

On November 11, 2001, Uintah Basin Telephone Association, Inc. (UBTA) and UBET Telecom (an affiliate company of UBTA) filed a joint tariff. The purpose of the tariff was "an effort by the companies to move toward the same rates for both companies." UBTA is a telephone cooperative, UBET, an investor owned telephone corporation, was created in 1999 to facilitate the purchase of Qwest exchanges, Docket No. 99-049-65. UBET adopted Qwest's tariff rates for the newly acquired exchanges and subsequently filed the tariff with the Commission. UBET agreed in its purchase of the exchanges, to charge Qwest's current rates for at least six months following the close of the purchase. The 6th month period expired in October 2001.

Shortly after the filing of the joint tariff, the Division advised the Company that separate tariffs' would have to be filed for UBTA and UBET since they were individual entities.

RECOMMENDATION

The Division and the Company have numerous outstanding issues surrounding the UBTA and UBET tariff filings. Many of the issues are still under investigation and require further clarification. The Company representative has requested that this tariff be held in suspension for an additional thirty (30) days. The Division agrees with the request for suspension so long as the Company does not implement the proposed tariff rates for UBTA or UBET until a recommendation by the Division is filed with the Commission at the end of the thirty days, or when the issues have been resolved.