On March 5, 1998, US West Communications (US WEST) and AT&T Communications of the Mountain States (AT&T) filed a stipulated motion to sever and reschedule hearing on costs of unbundled network elements. The motion was presented to resolve a dispute relating to the distribution and use of a cost model proposed by US WEST for development of the costs of unbundled network elements. The Commission notified the parties in this docket that an informal telephone conference would occur on March 12, 1998, to discuss the hearing process to be followed during the hearings for Phase III A and B, scheduled for March 30 through April 3, 1998, and what impact, if any, the stipulated motion would have on the scheduled hearings. At the informal telephone conference, the parties proposed that the Commission proceed with Phase III A as scheduled, but that only the consideration of cost models for universal service fund purposes occur in the Phase III B hearings scheduled to begin at the end of March, 1998. The parties proposed that the Commission alter the schedule for Phase III B such that consideration of cost models for use in developing the costs and prices of unbundled network elements occur at a later date. The parties proposed this schedule alteration in order to permit parties to have the time they claimed was necessary to adequately evaluate submitted cost models and their application to unbundled network elements.

In consideration of the information and position of the parties presented during the March 12th telephone conference and the submitted stipulated motion, the Commission will alter the schedule for Phase III B as suggested by the parties. Based thereon, the schedule for Phase III B is altered as follows:

1. Consideration of cost models for purposes of universal service fund purposes will occur during the March 30 - April 3, 1998 hearings, as previously scheduled.

2. Consideration of cost models for use by the Commission in unbundled network element costs and pricing matters will occur at hearings (UNE cost model hearings) set for May 12 - 14, 1998, at 9:00 a.m., to be held before the Commission, in the Commission Hearing Room No. 426, 4th Floor, Heber M. Wells Building, 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah.


4. US WEST, and other parties, will file written responding testimony, responding to AT&T's April 21 filing, on May 5, 1998.

5. The Commission had previously vacated the Phase III C hearing dates (in which the Commission planned to establish UNE costs and prices and resolve other issues remaining in this docket), and will now tentatively schedule Phase III C hearings for August 17 - 21, 1998.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) during this hearing should notify Julie Orchard, Commission Secretary, at 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84111, (801)530-6713, at least three working days prior to the hearing.
DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, this 24th day of March, 1998.

/s/ Stephen F. Mecham, Chairman

(SEAL) /s/ Constance B. White, Commissioner

/s/ Clark D. Jones, Commissioner

Attest:

/s/ Julie Orchard
Commission Secretary