- BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH -

In the Matter of the U S WEST)	DOCKET NO. 98-049-05
COMMUNICATIONS, INC. Utah)	ORDER APPROVING PLAN AND
Implementation Plan for Toll Dialing Parity)	RESERVING CERTAIN ISSUES

ISSUED: March 16, 1998

BY THE COMMISSION:

On January 29, 1998, US West Communications, Inc. (US WEST) filed for approval a proposed IntraLATA Toll Dialing Parity (IntraLATA equal access) implementation plan in accordance with Public Service Commission Rule R746-356. The plan proposes to provide equal access in all of US WEST's Utah exchanges by July 30, 1998. On February 2, 1998, AT&T Communications of the Mountain States, Inc. (AT&T) filed comments on the proposed plan. On March 3, 1998, the Division of Public Utilities (DPU) also filed comments on the proposed plan. While AT&T and the DPU express some reservations in the details of various aspects of US WEST's proposed plan, neither advocates rejection of the proposed plan. The DPU recommends that the Commission approve the proposed plan to ensure that the necessary physical aspects be implemented, as proposed by US WEST, in order to provide intraLATA equal access by the July date. The DPU notes that its reservations and recommendations should not be an impediment delaying implementation of equal access. Our review of the matters raised by AT&T leads us also to conclude that AT&T's reservations need not result in delaying the steps US WEST must undertake to be prepared to offer intraLATA equal access by July, 1998.

ORDER

WHEREFORE, the Commission enters the following:

1. US WEST shall proceed and implement the intraLATA equal access plan submitted to the Commission on January 29, 1998, consistent with the time periods identified in the plan.

2. Those aspects of the proposed plan to which AT&T and the DPU have filed comments shall be submitted to the Commission and resolved by the Commission by further order.

3. US WEST, AT&T, the DPU, and any other interested party may appear at a Scheduling Conference to be scheduled by the Commission to establish the procedural schedule to follow in resolving the matters raised by AT&T and the DPU.

DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, this 16th 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