

Service Date: August 29, 1989

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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| IN THE MATTER OF U S WEST |) | |
| COMMUNICATIONS' APPLICATION TO |) | UTILITY DIVISION |
| WITHDRAW INTRALATA OPERATOR |) | DOCKET NO. 89.5.22 |
| HANDLED CONFERENCE CALLS AS A |) | DEFAULT ORDER 5423 |
| SERVICE OFFERING. |) | |
| _____ |) | |

On May 25, 1989, U S West Communications (USWC or Company) filed an application requesting withdrawal of its IntraLATA Operator Handled Conference Service tariffs, with the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC or Commission). This service currently provides conference calls between three or more locations wholly within one LATA (calling area).

Having considered the application and documentation furnished by USWC, the Commission makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On July 12, 1989, the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity for Public Hearing. The notice was served on the Montana Consumer Counsel, U S West Communications, and was published in the Livingston Enterprise on July 14, the Miles City Star on July 14, the Bozeman Daily Chronicle on July 16, the Great Falls Tribune on July 16, the Havre Daily News on July 17, the Helena Independent Record on

July 17, the Billings Gazette on July 18, the Missoulian on July 18, and the Montana Standard on July 19. The notice stated that if no requests for a public hearing were received by August 11, 1989, a default order could be issued.

2. No protests or requests for public hearing were received and no hearing was scheduled.

3. On December 31, 1988, USWC's contract with AT&T for handling IntraLATA conference calls expired. AT&T is continuing to provide USWC's Operator Conference Service on a temporary basis. A decision has been made by USWC not to renew the contract and to discontinue offering IntraLATA Operator Conference Service. USWC maintains that this decision has been made for several reasons:

1) it would be extremely costly and inefficient for USWC to install its own conferencing equipment due to the low volume of usage; 2) a continuation of the service offering by renewing the contract with AT&T is also a financial loser for USWC due to the low volume of IntraLATA traffic; 3) it is USWC's understanding that AT&T will provide IntraLATA conferencing service in USWC's absence; and 4) other providers are available in the market to also provide conferencing service. AT&T currently provides Operator-Handled Conference Service under Section 4, Page 8 of its Montana tariffs.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. U S West Communications furnishes regulated telecommunications services within the State of Montana and is a public utility under the regulatory jurisdiction of the Montana Public Service Commission. Section 69-3-101, MCA. The Commission has the authority to supervise, regulate, and control public utilities. Section 69-3-102, MCA.

2. The Commission has provided adequate public notice and an opportunity to be heard herein, pursuant to the Montana Administrative Procedure Act and Title 69, MCA.

ORDER

1. U S West Communications' request for authorization to withdraw its IntraLATA Operator Handled Conference Service tariffs is hereby APPROVED.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana, this 28th day of August, 1989, by a 5 - 0 vote.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CLYDE JARVIS, Chairman

HOWARD L. ELLIS, Commissioner

WALLACE W. "WALLY" MERCER, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

JOHN B. DRISCOLL, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Ann Purcell
Acting Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: Any interested party may request that the Commission reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 38.2.4806, ARM.