

Service Date: July 16, 2002

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

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IN THE MATTER OF BLACKFOOT)	UTILITY DIVISION
TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.)	
Application for Approval of Disaggregation)	DOCKET NO. D2002.5.55
Pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.315(c))	ORDER NO. 6429a

FINAL ORDER

On May 13, 2002, Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (BTC), filed an application before the Public Service Commission (PSC) requesting approval of disaggregation pursuant to Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rule 47 CFR § 54.31. Disaggregation is the creation of cost zones within service areas for purposes of receipt of federal universal service funds. Disaggregation allows universal service funds received to be assigned on a specific cost basis to zones within a service area rather than on an average cost basis throughout a service area. Disaggregation does not, in an of itself, affect the amount of universal service funds a carrier receives or rates to customers. BTC has selected path 2 disaggregation pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.31(c). Path 2 disaggregation must be approved by the PSC.

On June 11, 2002, the PSC noticed BTC's application to the public, with a response date of July 1, 2002. No comments have been received. The PSC has reviewed BTC's application, finds in proper in form, finds it is in accordance with FCC rules, and determines that it should be approved.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED the application of BTC for disaggregation pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.31(c) is approved as filed.

Done and dated this 9th day of July, 2002, by a vote of 5-0.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

GARY FELAND, Chairman

JAY STOVALL, Vice Chairman

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rhonda J. Simmons
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

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