

Service Date: July 9, 1999

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)	UTILITY DIVISION
COMMUNICATIONS, INC., Application)	
for Approval of a Project Area Designation)	DOCKET NO. N99.6.156
for Yellowstone River Ranch, Columbus)	ORDER NO. 6188

FINAL ORDER APPROVING PROJECT AREA DESIGNATION

On June 21, 1999, U S West Communications, Inc. (USWC) filed an application before the Public Service Commission (PSC), requesting approval of a project area designation within a Yellowstone River Ranch (YRR) development near Columbus, Montana. Project area designations are a means through which USWC extends telephone service to areas not having service.

USWC's proposal extends to only 90 lots within the YRR development. USWC's proposed project area fees for the area are lot specific, ranging between approximately \$1,750 and \$3,770 per lot, the average fee per lot being approximately \$2,875. The terms and conditions for customer payment of the project area fees will be subject to contracts between USWC and each customer requesting service within the project area.

On June 23, 1999, the PSC issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing on USWC's proposal, establishing the means for any interested person to request a hearing or provide comments on the matter. In response to the notice the PSC received several letters and phone inquiries. No person has requested a hearing or provided comments in opposition to USWC's proposal.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that USWC's proposed project area designation for the YRR development is approved, as filed.

Done and dated this 8th day of July, 1999, by a vote of 5-0.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DAVE FISHER, Chair

NANCY MCCAFFREE, Vice Chair

BOB ANDERSON, Commissioner

GARY FELAND, Commissioner

BOB ROWE, Commissioner

ATTEST:
Kathlene M. Anderson
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.