

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

DOCKET NO. 99A-407T

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF QWEST COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION, LCI INTERNATIONAL TELECOM CORP., USLD COMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF THE MERGER OF THEIR PARENT CORPORATIONS, QWEST COMMUNICATIONS INTERNATIONAL INC. AND U S WEST, INC.

ORDER GRANTING VARIANCE

Mailed Date: April 25, 2003
Adopted Date: April 23, 2003

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. On March 21, 2003, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed a Motion for Variance related to the timely filing of its local network investment audit. This audit is a requirement of Qwest included in decision No. C00-41 related to the merger of Qwest Communications International, Inc., and U S WEST, Inc. Qwest requests an extension of time up until July 31, 2003 to file its year 2002 audit. The 2002 audit would normally have been due on March 31, 2003.

2. Qwest states in its motion that its external auditor, KPMG, is unable to conduct the audit and attestation on a timely basis due to other urgent projects. KPMG has informed Qwest that it will be able to perform and complete the audit by July 31, 2003.

3. Good cause has been stated for the requested variance, and we will grant the motion.

II. ORDER**A. The Commission Orders That:**

1. The motion filed by Qwest Corporation for a variance from the Commission requirement that the annual audit of Qwest Corporation's local network investments is due no later than the first quarter of 2003, is granted.

2. The Commission modifies the audit requirement of Decision No. C00-236 to require that the audit of Qwest Corporation's local network investments for the year 2002 is due no later than July 31, 2003.

3. This Order is effective on its Mailed Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
April 23, 2003.**

(S E A L)



ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

**Bruce N. Smith
Director**

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

GREGORY E. SOPKIN

POLLY PAGE

JIM DYER

Commissioners