Decision No. C03-0423

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.

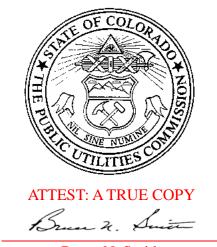
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II. ORDER

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.

(SEAL)



Bruce N. Smith Director

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

GREGORY E. SOPKIN

POLLY PAGE

JIM DYER

Commissioners

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