

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

DOCKET NO. 00M-197T

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION BY U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR
VARIANCE AND DECLARATORY ORDER OR RULEMAKING.

**DECISION GRANTING VERIFIED
MOTION TO EXTEND VARIANCE**

Mailed Date: July 29, 2003
Adopted Date: July 23, 2003

I. BY THE COMMISSION

A. Statement

1. This matter comes before the Commission for consideration of the Verified Motion to Extend Variance filed by Qwest Corporation (Qwest) on July 15, 2003. The motion requests an extension of the variance granted by prior Commission orders to allow Qwest to continue providing electronic billing to customers choosing this option. Good grounds having been stated, we grant the motion.

2. Rule 10.1.1, 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* 723-2, (Rule 10.1.1) requires local exchange carriers (LECs) to type or machine print their monthly bills to customers. However, in Decision No. C00-440 (Mailed Date of May 2, 2000), we granted Qwest a temporary waiver of the rule to allow it to use e-billing for customers who prefer this billing option. We granted extensions of that waiver to Qwest in Decision Nos. C00-1352, C02-7, and C02-902. The temporary waiver granted in the last decision expires on September 1, 2003.

3. Staff of the Commission has begun the workshops associated with our new rulemaking proceeding which includes the telecommunications rules. We will consider revisions

to Rule 10.1.1 which will allow all LECs to use e-billing. Such a change will obviate the need for continuance of the variance granted here. Therefore, we grant Qwest's request for variance until Rule 10.1.1 is revised to allow e-billing by LECs in general.

II. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

1. The Verified Motion to Extend Variance filed by Qwest Corporation on July 15, 2002 is granted. Response time to the motion is waived. The variance from Rule 10.1.1, 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* 723-2, shall continue until that rule is revised in a new Commission rulemaking docket.

2. This Order is effective on its Mailed Date.

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

(SEAL)



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