

REGULATION OF YOUR COLORADO TELEPHONE SERVICE MAY END

No matter which company provides your telephone service, regulation may end for most Colorado telephone services because of a proposal filed by Qwest with the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC). The PUC has decided that Qwest's proposal could affect **all** telephone customers within Qwest's service area even though customers may be obtaining the services from a different company than Qwest. The PUC has decided that when it considers Qwest's proposal, it will be deciding whether to end regulation of most telephone services offered by all companies within Qwest's service area. According to Qwest, its proposal does not affect the state law that caps the rate for residential telephone service at approximately \$15 per line.

QWEST PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE REGULATION OF TELEPHONE SERVICES WITHIN ITS SERVICE AREA

The Qwest proposal would eliminate all of the PUC's price and service quality regulation for services such as your local telephone service; features such as call-waiting; non-optional operator services; operator services necessary to provide basic local telephone service; bundled and packaged services which may include combinations of services; tariffed and customer specific contracts; public access lines for pay telephones, and analog private lines with a capacity of less than 24 voice grade circuits such as those used for traffic signals and burglar alarms. The Qwest proposal would also end regulation of in-state long-distance service offered by Qwest. If granted by the PUC, there would be no PUC oversight on any of the above services. This means that the PUC would no longer set the prices or terms of service for the above-named telephone services.

The PUC would still regulate the telecommunication services that provide 9-1-1, N11 services such as 2-1-1, and switched access service, which is a service that enables telephone companies to use each other's networks. The PUC would also still regulate long-distance service within the state offered by companies other than Qwest.

Qwest's proposal was filed with the PUC on October 1, 2004. If you wish to file comments, you may send written comments addressed to the PUC, ATTN: Docket No. 04A-411T, 1580 Logan Street, Office Level 2, Denver, Colorado 80203. Written comments may be submitted up until a hearing is held, likely to be sometime next spring.