

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting
Thursday, September 6, 2007, at 1:30 p.m.

Attendees

Commissioners: Deputy Chairman Steve Oxley, presiding
Commissioner Mary Byrnes

Bruce Asay, counsel for Pinedale Natural Gas
Alex Davison, counsel for Sage Telecom, Inc.
Andrew Karl, Sage Telecom, Inc. (by telephone)
Robert McCausland, Sage Telecom, Inc. (by telephone)

Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA): Bryce Freeman, David McMullian,
Tom Wilson

Commission Staff: Blair Bales, Angie Elliott, Mike Korber, Luy Luong,
Steve Mink, Marci Norby

CONSENT AGENDA FOR ROUTINE ACTION ITEMS

1. **Docket Nos. 70000-1345-TK-07 and 74618-4-TK-07 (Record No. 11290) Joint application of Qwest Corporation and American Fiber Network, Inc., for Commission authority to enter into a Wireline Interconnection Agreement.**
2. **Docket Nos. 70000-1346-TK-07 and 70071-22-TK-07 (Record No. 11291). Contract filing of Qwest Corporation for authority to enter into a Local Number Portability (LNP) amendment to the Interconnection Agreement with DIECA Communications, Inc. d/b/a Covad Communications Company.**

Deputy Chairman Oxley introduced the consent agenda items and asked if there were any requests to withdraw an item for further consideration. There were no such requests nor any further comments or questions. Steve Mink, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of both items by Order only, effective immediately. Commissioner Byrnes moved to take action as recommended, and Deputy Chairman Oxley concurred.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

1. **Docket No. 30016-41-GR-06 (Record No. 10400) Second amended general rate application of Pinedale Natural Gas, Inc., for authority to establish a revised overall rate of return of 11.5% to reflect changes in the costs of providing natural gas**

service and increase revenues \$93,000 per annum. Commission to consider establishing deadlines after the issuance of the Amended Order in this docket for the filing of any Amended Petition for Rehearing, and any Amended Response to Petition for Rehearing. Blair Bales, Commission Counsel, said this is a unique situation which is not addressed by Rule 116. She said a petition for rehearing was filed properly by Pinedale Natural Gas within 30 days of the hearing, but the Commission is issuing an amended Order. Ms. Bales requested approval of a 10-day deadline after issuance of the amended Order for Pinedale Natural Gas to file a new petition for rehearing and additional days for the OCA to respond if such a petition is submitted. Bruce Asay, counsel for Pinedale Natural Gas, said the company has no objection and believes an amended petition for rehearing could be filed within a 10-day time frame. Bryce Freeman, OCA, said he had not yet seen the amended Order but anticipates a response to the Order and any petition for rehearing could be filed within 10 days of receiving such a petition. There were no further comments or questions. Ms. Bales recommended issuance of an Order setting a deadline for filing of an amended petition for rehearing as 10 days after issuance of an amended Order and that the OCA be allowed 10 days after filing of such petition for filing of a response. Commissioner Byrnes moved to issue an Order as recommended and, after discussion, amended the motion to include a statement in the Order that the deadlines are consistent with agreement of the parties. Deputy Chairman Oxley seconded the amended motion.

2. **Docket No. 70124-1-TA-07 (Record No. 11314). Application of Sage Telecom, Inc., for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide local telecommunications services in Wyoming and Petition for Confidential Treatment of Exhibit C.** Art Schmidt, Commission Advisory Staff, provided a technical memo dated September 4, 2007. Robert McCausland, Sage Telecom, said the company currently operates in 12 states providing local telephone service, dial-up internet and long distance in AT&T territories. Mr. McCausland said confidential treatment of Exhibit C is being requested to protect financial information. He responded to Commission questions regarding trouble call handling, 911 service and other tariff provisions. Bruce Asay, counsel for several independent telephone companies, said he would like an opportunity to review the application and the financial data provided. Mike Korber, Commission Advisory Staff, said that, under the revised Telecommunications Act of 1995, the inclusions and protections upon which Mr. Asay previously depended no longer exist, and it is his belief the request to review the confidential data is no longer relevant. Alex Davison, counsel for Sage Telecom, said a statewide certificate is being requested which would involve territories of several companies, and the Commission was upheld in granting such a certificate to another telephone service provider by the Wyoming Supreme Court. Mr. McCausland said the company is willing to work with existing local providers and believes approval of this application would provide more consumer choices and foster competition. There were no further comments or questions. Steve Mink, Commission Counsel, recommended approval of the application by Notice and Order, effective September 13, 2007, and approval of the petition for confidential treatment. Commissioner Byrnes moved to approve the application as recommended, and Deputy Chairman Oxley seconded the motion.

A full audio transcript is available upon request.

Next Open Meeting: Friday, September 7, 2007, at 10:30 a.m.

Prepared by: Deborah McFerrin.

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on the 31st day of October 2007.

Kathleen A. "Cindy" Lewis, Chairman

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting
Friday, September 7, 2007, at 10:30 p.m.

Attendees

Commissioners: Chairman Kathleen A. "Cindy" Lewis, presiding
Deputy Chairman Steve Oxley

Michael Fox, RT Communications
Kelley Pearson, counsel for Qwest Corporation
Liz Zerga, counsel for Alltel Wireless

Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA): Bryce Freeman, Denise Parrish,
Ivan Williams

Commission Staff: Blair Bales, Don Biedermann, Vicky Hansen, Mike
Korber, Dave Lucero, Luy Luong, Barbara Taylor-Iversen

CONSENT AGENDA FOR ROUTINE ACTION ITEMS

1. **Docket No. 70009-294-TT-07 (Record No. 11253) Tariff filing of United Telephone Company of the West-Wyoming, d/b/a Embarq, for authority to reduce local access line rates and consumer and business bundled packages and increase intrastate switched access rates. Consider and act on AT&T Communications of the Mountain States, Inc.'s Petition to Intervene.**
2. **Docket Nos. 70000-1347-TK-07 and 70095-12-TK-07 (Record No. 11299) Qwest Corporation petition for authority to enter into a Triennial Review Order and Triennial Review Remand Order Interconnection Agreement with Budget PrePay Inc. f/k/a Budget Phone Inc.**
3. **Docket No. 70042-11-TA-07 (Record No. 11348) WWC Holding Co., Inc., dba Alltel Communications, 2007 Annual ETC Certification Filing Pursuant to PSC Rule Section 514;**
Docket No. 70000-1354-TA-07 (Record No. 11346) Qwest Corporation, 2007 Annual ETC Certification Filing Pursuant to PSC Rule Section 514, and
Docket No. 70008-45-TA-07 (Record No. 11362) Union Telephone Company, DBA Union Cellular, 2007 Annual ETC Certification Filing Pursuant to PSC Rule Section 514
Commission to consider and act on petitions for confidential treatment pursuant to Section 120 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

4. **Multiple Dockets. Commission to consider issuing a Special Order Authorizing One Commissioner or Hearing Examiner to preside over the hearing set for September 25, 2007, at 9:00 a.m.**

Docket No.	Company	Docket No.	Company
74507-3-TI-07	Access One, Inc.	74260-4-TI-07	Net One International
74122-24-TI-07	Business Telecom, Inc.	74524-8-TI-07	Network US, Inc. d/b/a CA Affinity
74376-12-TI-07	Clear World Communications	74282-3-TI-07	PNG Telecommunications, Inc.
74484-4-TI-07	Comtech21, LLC.	74539-4-TI-07	QX Telecom, LLC
74591-3-TI-07	Entrix Telecom, Inc.	74601-3-TI-07	Telrite Corporation
74431-13-TI-07	Legacy Long Distance International, Inc.	74096-29-TI-07	Touch 1 Communications, Inc

Chairman Lewis introduced the consent agenda and asked if there were any requests to withdraw an item for fuller consideration. There were no such requests nor any further comments or questions. Dave Lucero, Commission Counsel, provided the following recommendations: Item 1, issue an Order granting the petition to intervene; Item 2, issue an Order only approving the agreement; Item 3, grant the petitions for confidential treatment; and Item 4, issue a Special Order authorizing one Commissioner or Hearing Examiner. Deputy Chairman Oxley moved to act as recommended, and Chairman Lewis seconded the motion.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

1. **Docket No. 20003-90-ER-07 (Record No. 11070) Application of Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power Company (Cheyenne Light) for a General Rate Increase of \$8,437,064 per annum (a 10.34% overall increase) in its Retail Electric Service Rates; and**

Docket No. 30005-112-GR-07 (Record No. 11071) Application of Cheyenne Light Fuel and Power Company for a General Rate Increase of \$4,553,554 per annum (a 9.0% overall increase) in its Retail Natural Gas Sales and Transportation Rates

Commission to hear arguments of the parties, consider and take action on Cheyenne Light Fuel and Power Company's Motion to Compel Responses to its First Set of Interrogatories.

Chris Petrie, Commission Chief Counsel, said Cheyenne Light has filed to withdraw the Motion to Compel, and all parties have indicated the issue has been resolved with no

further action requested. There were no further comments or questions. Mr. Petrie said no action motion is required as the record will reflect withdrawal of the Motion to Compel. Deputy Chairman Oxley agreed the Commission should take no action, and Chairman Lewis accepted the recommendation.

A full audio transcript is available upon request.

Next Open Meeting: Wednesday, September 12, 2007, at 1:30 p.m.

Prepared by: Deborah McFerrin.

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on the 29th day of November 2007.

Kathleen A. "Cindy" Lewis, Chairman

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting

Wednesday, September 19, 2007, at 10:00 a.m.

Attendees

Commissioners: Chairman Kathleen A. "Cindy" Lewis, presiding
Deputy Chairman Steve Oxley
Commissioner Mary Byrnes

Chris Davidson, Tri County Telephone and TCT West
Mike Rosenthal, counsel for Tri County Telephone and TCT West
Don Jackson, Tri County Telephone and TCT West
Liz Zerga, counsel for WWC Holding Co., Inc., d/b/a Alltel
Communications
Jeff Hubbard, Qwest Corporation

Commission Staff: David Piroutek, Dave Lucero, Blair Bales, Art
Schmidt, Vicky Hansen, Mike Korber

Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA): Denise Parrish, David McMullian,
Ivan Williams, Tom Wilson

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

1. **Commission to consider 2007 Annual Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) certification filings submitted pursuant to Section 514 of the Commission's Procedural Rules and Special Regulations, and issuance of letters to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) certifying companies as Wyoming ETCs.** Mike Korber, Commission Advisory Staff (CAS), provided a technical memo regarding the annual process of reviewing and determining his recommendations regarding certification, generally, for each of the ETC matters. Intervener, OCA, was represented by Ivan Williams and Tom Wilson. Mr. Wilson provided a summary of OCA's analysis of each ETC applicant and its certification. OCA feels there were several ETC's who needed to supplement their applications with additional detail regarding expenditures for 2006 supported services rendered to their customers. After questions and discussion with all in attendance, Commissioner Byrnes moved to approve certification for those companies whose applications were complete and for which the CAS and the OCA made positive recommendations for ETC certification pursuant to Section 514 and issuance of certification letters to the FCC and USAC. (Specific companies listed below). Included in the motion was the recommendation of a Procedural Order to be issued for those companies who need to supplement their application with additional information that

they do so no later than close of business Friday, September 21, 2007. (Specific companies listed below.) Deputy Chairman Oxley seconded the Motion.

- a. **Docket No. 70042-11-TA-07 (Record No. 11348) WWC Holding Co., Inc., d/b/a Alltel Communications.** Liz Zerga, attorney representing Alltel, discussed several issues including Alltel's aggressive measures to meet the guidelines needed for certification. Alltel was granted certification by the Commission.
- b. **Docket No. 70000-1354-TA-07 (Record No. 11346) Qwest Corporation.** Qwest Corporation was included in the Procedural Order and directed to provide additional information.
- c. **Docket No. 70008-45-TA-07 (Record No. 11362) Union Telephone Company, DBA Union Cellular.** Union Cellular was granted certification by the Commission.
- d. **Docket No. 70011-30-TA-07 (Record No. 11365) Tri County Telephone Association.** Tri County Telephone was included in the Procedural Order and directed to provide additional information.
- e. **Docket No. 70014-22-TA-07 (Record No. 11355) TCT West.** TCT West was included in the Procedural Order and directed to provide additional information.
- f. **Docket No. 70006-68-TA-07 (Record No. 11351) Silver Star Communications.** Silver Star Communications was included in the Procedural Order and directed to provide additional information.
- g. **Docket No. 70006-69-TA-07 (Record No. 11352) Silver Star Communications.** Silver Star Communications was included in the Procedural Order and directed to provide additional information.
- h. **Docket No. 70096-16-TA-07 (Record No. 11350) Advanced Communications Technology.** Advanced Communications Technology was included in the Procedural Order and directed to provide additional information.
- i. **Docket No. 70009-297-TA-07 (Record No. 11356) United Telephone Company of the West/Embarq Communications.** Embarq Communications was included in the Procedural Order and directed to provide additional information.
- j. **Docket No. 70015-59-TA-07 (Record No. 11363) RT Communications.** RT Communications was included in the Procedural Order and directed to provide additional information.
- k. **Docket No. 70008-44-TA-07 (Record No. 11361) Union Telephone Company.** Union Telephone Company was granted certification by the Commission.
- l. **Docket No. 70007-46-TA-07 (Record No. 11359) Dubois Telephone Exchange.** Dubois Telephone Exchange was included in the Procedural Order and directed to provide additional information.

- m. **Docket No. 70005-23-TA-07 (Record No. 11360) Chugwater Telephone Company.** Chugwater Telephone Company was included in the Procedural Order and directed to provide additional information.
- n. **Docket No. 70104-18-TA-07 (Record No. 11345) VCI Company.** VCI Company was granted certification by the Commission.
- o. **Docket No. 70003-114-TA-07 (Record No. 11344) CenturyTel of Wyoming.** CenturyTel of Wyoming was included in the Procedural Order and directed to provide additional information.
- p. **Docket No. 70001-63-TA-07 (Record No. 11349) Range Telephone Cooperative.** Range Telephone Cooperative was granted certification by the Commission.
- q. **Docket No. 70013-21-TA-07 (Record No. 11341) All West Communications.** All West Communications was included in the Procedural Order and directed to provide additional information.

A full audio transcript is available upon request.

Next Open Meeting: September 25, 2007, at 1:30 p.m.

Prepared by: Angie Elliott

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on this 12th day of October, 2007.

Kathleen A. "Cindy" Lewis, Chairman

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting

Thursday, September 20, 2007, at 9:30 a.m.

Attendees

Commissioners: Chairman Kathleen A. "Cindy" Lewis, presiding
Deputy Chairman Steve Oxley

Dave Mosier, Rocky Mountain Power
Dale Cottam, counsel for Wyoming Gas Company
Gordon Neumann, Wyoming Gas Company (by telephone)
Janeen Capshaw, Wyoming Gas Company (by telephone)

Commission Staff: Dave Lucero, Blair Bales, Vicky Hansen, Steve Mink,
Chris Petrie, Luy Luong

CONSENT AGENDA FOR ROUTINE ACTION ITEMS

1. **Docket No. 20000-283-EA-07 (Record No. 11261) Application of Rocky Mountain Power for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct the new 99 MW Glenrock Wind Energy Project. Consider and act on Rocky Mountain Power's petition for confidential treatment of certain cost information.**
2. **Docket No. 20000-285-EA-07 (Record No. 11297) Application of Rocky Mountain Power for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct the new 99 MW Seven Mile Hill Wind Energy Development Project. Consider and act on Rocky Mountain Power's petition for confidential treatment of certain cost information.**
3. **Docket Nos. 70000-1350-TK-07 and 70097-14-TK-07 (Record No. 11316) Joint application of Qwest Corporation and Orbitcom, Inc., for Commission authority to enter into a Single Point of Presence (SPOP) Amendment to a Wireline Interconnection Agreement.**
4. **Undocketed. Minutes for review by the Commission for the Regular Open Meeting of July 13, 2007.**

Chairman Lewis introduced the consent agenda items and asked if there were any requests to withdraw an item for consideration on the regular agenda. There were no such requests or any further comments or questions. Mr. Luong recommended approval of Items 1 through 3 with an Order only, effective immediately. Deputy Chairman Oxley

moved to approve Items 1 through 3 as recommended and further moved to approve the Open Meeting Minutes as submitted. Chairman Lewis seconded the motion.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Docket No. 30009-46-GP-07 (Record No. 11342) Application of Wyoming Gas Company for authority to pass on a wholesale gas cost decrease of \$0.13780 per ccf through its commodity balancing account, to petition for confidential treatment under section 120 of transaction contracts, and to change tariff language regarding scheduling and frequency of commodity balancing account filing.** Luy Luong, Commission Advisory Staff (CAS), provided a technical memo dated September 14, 2007. Dale Cottam, counsel for Wyoming Gas Company was present with Mr. Gordon Neumann and Ms. Janeen Capshaw of Wyoming Gas Company participating by telephone. Mr. Cottam stated that the previous application was withdrawn and that this is a new filing which, he feels, simplifies and better addresses the issues noted above. Mr. Luong briefly questioned Mr. Neumann and Ms. Capshaw regarding the over-collected balance and the hedging policy. He recommended the Commission approve the request for authority to pass on a wholesale gas cost decrease, approve the change to the tariff language regarding scheduling and frequency of filings, and finally, to approve the request for confidential treatment under Section 120 of the Commission's Rules. Deputy Chairman Oxley moved to take action as recommended. Chairman Lewis seconded the motion.

A full audio transcript is available upon request.

Next Open Meeting: September 25, 2007, at 1:30 p.m.

Prepared by: Angie Elliott

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on this 12th day of October, 2007.

Kathleen A. "Cindy" Lewis, Chairman

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting

Thursday, September 20, 2007, at 1:30 p.m.

Attendees

Commissioners: Deputy Chairman Steve Oxley, presiding
Commissioner Mary Byrnes

Paul Hickey, counsel for Qwest Corporation
Mike Ceballos, Qwest Corporation
Tom Harper, Qwest Corporation
Jeff Hubbard, Qwest Corporation
Kelly Pearson, Qwest Corporation

Commission Staff: Dave Lucero, Blair Bales, Vicky Hansen, Art Schmidt, David Piroutek, Shirley McCown, Luy Luong

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Docket No. 70000-TC-03-938 (Record No. 8654) Complaint of Crandall Valley residents against Qwest Corporation. Mike Ceballos and other Qwest representatives will provide an update of Qwest's efforts in providing telecommunications services to Crandall Valley residents.** Dave Lucero, Commission Counsel, stated this matter came before the Commission as a result of certain calls and emails from Crandall Valley residents complaining about inadequate service, requesting a hearing, and inquiring about Qwest Corporation and the status of their work in that area. Shirley McCown, Complaint Analyst, updated the Commission on the efforts she has made in contacting the Crandall Valley residents; however, none of the residents were available for today's discussion. Ms. McCown has documented the telephone conversations with the Crandall Valley residents and has kept all emails. Mr. Lucero questioned Qwest regarding previous emails that represented they were going to complete the upgrade of service to that area before the end of 2006. Mike Ceballos and Tom Harper spoke in detail of problems in that area and the current progress that is being made. Mr. Harper indicated that Qwest did not fully understand the conditions last summer because fixing existing cable in these remote areas took longer than planned. He stated that, even though the area is now easier to access, there are still a few problem areas that are difficult to get to, not to mention it is still a very high outage area, with many outages being caused by lightning strikes. Qwest feels they will be able to complete pending work orders by the end of the year. Obtaining needed equipment is currently slowing things down. All equipment has been ordered, just not received. Mr. Ceballos committed Qwest to contacting all of the customers and advising them that they

would have service by the end of the year, if not sooner. Mr. Ceballos also stated he would mail that information to the customers and would copy the Commission. He will also advise the Commission when all of the work has been completed given that there is still an open complaint. Qwest stated that the Crandall Valley residents would not be charged by the upgrades needed to give them more reliable service.

A full audio transcript is available upon request.

Next Open Meeting: September 25, 2007, at 1:30 p.m.

Prepared by: Angie Elliott

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on this 12th day of October, 2007.

Kathleen A. "Cindy" Lewis, Chairman

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting
Wednesday, September 12, 2007, at 1:30 p.m.

Attendees

Commissioners: Chairman Kathleen A. "Cindy" Lewis, presiding
Deputy Chairman Steve Oxley

Matt Kaufman, counsel for Tri-County Telephone/TCT West
Dave Mosier, Rocky Mountain Power
Jim Roberts, Embarq

Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA): Bryce Freeman, Tom Wilson

Commission Staff: Blair Bales, Meridith Bell, Don Biedermann, Vicky Hansen, Chris Petrie

CONSENT AGENDA FOR ROUTINE ACTION ITEMS

1. 2007 Annual ETC Certification Filing pursuant to Commission Rule Section 514

- a. **Docket No. 70011-30-TA-07 (Record No. 11365) Tri County Telephone,**
- b. **Docket No. 70014-22-TA-07 (Record No. 11355) TCT West,**
- c. **Docket No. 70006-68-TA-07 (Record No. 11351) Silver Star Communications,**
- d. **Docket No. 70006-69-TA-07 (Record No. 11352) Silver Star Communications, 2007 Annual ETC Certification Filing pursuant to Commission Rule Section 514,**
- e. **Docket No. 70096-16-TA-07 (Record No. 11350) Advanced Communications Technology,**
- f. **Docket No. 70009-297-TA-07 (Record No. 11356) United Telephone of the West/Embarq Communications,**
- g. **Docket No. 70015-59-TA-07 (Record No. 11363) RT Communications,**
- h. **Docket No. 70008-44-TA-07 (Record No. 11361) Union Telephone,**
- i. **Docket No. 70007-46-TA-07 (Record No. 11359) Dubois Telephone; and**
- j. **Docket No. 70005-23-TA-07 (Record No. 11360) Chugwater Telephone**

Commission to consider and act on petitions for confidential treatment pursuant to Section 120 of the Commission's Rules .

Chairman Lewis introduced the consent agenda and asked if there were any requests to withdraw an item for further consideration. Chris Petrie, Commission Chief Counsel, confirmed all requests were filed in compliance with the Commission's rules and recommended the requests for confidential treatment all be granted by Order only. Mr. Petrie said a single Order for all the listed requests could be issued even though the proceedings have not been consolidated. Deputy Chairman Oxley moved to grant the

requests with one Order only for Items 1.a through 1.j. Chairman Lewis seconded the motion.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

1. **Docket No. 20000-289-EA-07 (Record No. 11347) Rocky Mountain Power (RMP) and High Plains Power, Inc. (HPP), request permission for HPP to serve Mr. Mickey Simmons in RMP's certificated territory.** Don Biedermann, Commission Advisory Staff (CAS), provided a technical memo dated August 31, 2007. Dave Mosier, RMP, said the Simmons residence is located in RMP territory, and it would cost Mr. Simmons approximately \$2,000 more for HPP service. However, he said RMP's line extension policy requires the customer to obtain an unencumbered right of way for the extension. Since Mr. Simmons is unable to obtain right of way through the adjacent subdivision for underground service, the parties have agreed that HPP would be better able to meet Mr. Simmons' needs. Mr. Biedermann added that the rights and territories of the utilities will not change as a result of the agreement. There were no further comments or questions. Mr. Biedermann recommended the request be approved by Order only, effective immediately. Deputy Chairman Oxley moved to act as recommended, and Chairman Lewis seconded the motion.

2. **Docket No. 10020-32-CR-06 (Record No. 10931) General Rate Application of High Plains Power, Inc., for Authority to increase its Retail Rates by \$1,715,905 per annum in Fremont, Hot Springs, Washakie, Big Horn, Johnson, Natrona, Carbon and Park Counties and Revise Certain Tariffs. Commission to consider reopening the hearing in this matter for the purpose of taking additional public comment pursuant to Section 115(b)(ix) of the Commission's Rules.** Chris Petrie, Commission Chief Counsel, said reopening the hearing proceedings would allow for further comment from a different segment of High Plains' customers. It was suggested by Chairman Lewis that a summary of prior events could be presented to those attending, and each party could provide a summary of its positions to expedite the hearing. There was no further comment or questions. Deputy Chairman Oxley moved to issue an Order to reopen the hearing with a schedule commencing September 24, 2007, at 4:00 p.m. in Thermopolis. He included direction that High Plains and the OCA be prepared to set forth their positions in summary form. Chairman Lewis seconded the motion.

A full audio transcript is available upon request.

Next Open Meeting: Tuesday, September 25, 2007, at 1:30 p.m.

Prepared by: Deborah McFerrin.

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on the 7th day of November 2007.

Kathleen A. "Cindy" Lewis, Chairman

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WYOMING

Minutes of Regular Open Meeting
Tuesday, September 25, 2007, at 1:30 p.m.

Attendees

Commissioners: Chairman Kathleen A. "Cindy" Lewis, presiding
Deputy Chairman Steve Oxley

Bruce Asay, Associated Legal Group
Becky Dooley, RT Communications
Michael Fox, RT Communications
Tre Hendricks, United Telephone Company of the West, dba Embarq (by telephone)
Paul Hickey, counsel for Qwest Corporation
Calvin Hoy, Wyrulec Company
Isabel Hoy, Wyrulec Company
Jeff Hubbard, Qwest Corporation
Don Jackson, Tri-County Telephone/TCT West
Mike Kenney, Dubois Telephone Exchange
Rollie Miller, Wyrulec Company
Jim Roberts, United Telephone Company of the West, dba Embarq (by telephone)
Mike Rosenthal, counsel for Tri-County Telephone/TCT West
Liz Zerga, counsel for Alltel Wireless

Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA): Bryce Freeman, David McMullian, Tom Wilson

Commission Staff: Mike Korber, Marci Norby, Chris Petrie, Barbara Taylor-Iversen

CONSENT AGENDA FOR ROUTINE ACTION ITEMS

- Docket Nos. 70000-1349-TK-07 and 70108-11-TK-07 (Record No. 11315) Qwest Corporation petition for authority for a Triennial Review Order and Triennial Review Remand Order Interconnection Agreement with Granite Telecommunications LLC.** Chairman Lewis introduced the consent agenda item and asked if there were any requests to withdraw it for further consideration. There were no such requests no any comments or questions. Mike Korber, Commission Advisory Staff (CAS), recommended approval of the petition by Order only, effective immediately. Deputy Chairman Oxley moved to take action as recommended, and Chairman Lewis seconded the motion.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Docket No. 10016-47-CR-06 (Record No. 10832) General Rate Application of Wyrulec Company for authority to increase its retail rates by \$631,412 or 5.96% to its member consumers. Commission to consider and act on Motion for Extension of Time.** Rollie Miller, Wyrulec Company, said the company feels it cannot meet the deadline set by the Commission's Order for filing of an amended application and avoided cost tariff and is requesting an extension of the deadline. Mr. Miller said the request was for an extension to October 17, but he would like to verbally amend the motion to extend the date to October 26. David McMullian, OCA, said his office would like 30 days after filing to review the amended application and tariff. Chris Petrie, Commission Chief Counsel, suggested the following possible schedule: filing of avoided cost tariff by October 23, filing of amended application by October 26, filing of intervenor testimony by November 23, and a hearing beginning on December 26 or January 7. Both Mr. Miller and Mr. McMullian said this schedule was acceptable, although the OCA would prefer completing the process prior to year end. There were no further comments or questions. Deputy Chairman Oxley moved to revise the schedule to: file avoided cost tariff by October 23, file amended application by October 26, file OCA testimony by November 23, and set hearing dates of December 10-13, 2007. Chairman Lewis seconded the motion.

- 2. Multiple Dockets. Commission to consider unresolved 2007 Annual Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) certification filings, submitted pursuant to Section 514 of the Commission's Rules, and issuance of Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) certification letters in the following matters:**
 - a. **Docket No. 70000-1354-TA-07 (Record No. 11346) Qwest Corporation**
 - b. **Docket No. 70011-30-TA-07 (Record No. 11365) Tri-County Telephone Association;**
 - c. **Docket No. 70014-22-TA-07 (Record No. 11365) TCT West;**
 - d. **Docket No. 70006-68-TA-07 (Record No. 11351) Silver Star Communications;**
 - e. **Docket No. 70006-69-TA-07 (Record No. 11352) Silver Star Communications;**
 - f. **Docket No. 70096-16-TA-07 (Record No. 11350) Advanced Communications Technology;**
 - g. **Docket No. 70009-297-TA-07 (Record No. 11356) United Telephone Company of the West/Embarq Communications;**
 - h. **Docket No. 70015-59-TA-07 (Record No. 11363) RT Communications;**
 - i. **Docket No. 70007-46-TA-07 (Record No. 11359) Dubois Telephone Exchange;**
 - j. **Docket No. 70005-23-TA-07 (Record No. 11360) Chugwater Telephone Company**
 - k. **Docket No. 70003-114-TA-07 (Record No. 11344) CenturyTel of Wyoming; and**

I. Docket No. 70013-21-TA-07 (Record No. 11341) All West Communications.

Chris Petrie, Commission Chief Counsel, said all companies have submitted responses to the OCA's comments as requested. Tom Wilson, OCA, confirmed receipt of the responses and said all but two companies, Qwest Corporation and Embarq, have adequately addressed the OCA's comments. Bruce Asay, counsel for several telecommunications companies, expressed the concern of his clients for the timing and appropriateness of the requests for further information. Chairman Lewis and Deputy Chairman Oxley agreed the process for responding to OCA's comments may not have allowed sufficient time to address them and expressed their intent that the process go more smoothly next year. Deputy Chairman Oxley moved to issue certifications for the following companies whose applications were no longer contested: Tri-County Telephone (70011-30-TA-07), TCT West (70014-22-TA-07), Silver Star Communications (70006-68-TA-07 and 70006-69-TA-07), Advanced Communications Technology (70096-16-TA-07), RT Communications (70015-59-TA-07), Dubois Telephone Exchange (70007-46-TA-07), Chugwater Telephone Company (70005-23-TA-07), CenturyTel of Wyoming (70003-114-TA-07), and All West Communications (70013-21-TA-07). Chairman Lewis seconded the motion.

Mr. Wilson then addressed the OCA's concerns with the Embarq application (Docket No. 70009-297-TA-07), saying the company should provide additional meaningful and substantive information on how the federal USF dollars received in 2006 were spent. He said more detailed information should also be provided on outreach efforts for the Lifeline and Linkup programs. Jim Roberts, Embarq, stated his belief that the company has met all requirements and has provided all the data required. Mr. Roberts said much of the financial data requested by the OCA was provided in filings to USAC and NECA. After some discussion on the information provided by Embarq and on its outreach efforts, Deputy Chairman Oxley moved for discussion purposes certify Embarq with the requirement they discuss with the OCA and Commission staff what "substantive, meaningful and detailed" information might include. He also asked Embarq to provide further outreach efforts such as providing brochures and information to social services offices and senior centers in its service area. Chairman Lewis agreed and seconded the motion for approval of certification with the additional requirements.

Regarding the Qwest Corporation application (Docket No. 70000-1354-TA-07), Mr. Wilson said it should include a three-year service quality improvement plan which includes a detailed explanation of how federal USF dollars are used. Mr. Wilson and Mr. Williams of the OCA did not feel this submission of this plan should be waived without an explicit waiver from the Commission. Paul Hickey, counsel for Qwest, said the company has not provided an improvement plan since all federal USF dollars are devoted exclusively to customer bill credits. Mr. Hickey said Qwest would be willing to work with the OCA and Commission staff in the next cycle to provide what is needed. There were no further comments or questions. Deputy Chairman Oxley said this year's certification process has provided a valuable learning experience and moved to certify Qwest as an ETC. Chairman Lewis seconded the motion.

A full audio transcript is available upon request.

Next Open Meeting: Monday, October 1, 2007, at 1:30 p.m.

Prepared by: Deborah McFerrin.

ACCEPTED and APPROVED by the Commission on the 7th day of November 2007.

Kathleen A. "Cindy" Lewis, Chairman