

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC., AND QWEST INC.	DOCKET NO. SPU-99-27
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**ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR  
EXTENSION OF TIME AND REVISING SCHEDULE**

(Issued November 18, 1999)

On November 9, 1999, the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) filed a request for an extension of time to file prepared direct and rebuttal testimony. Consumer Advocate states that on November 5, 1999, the Utilities Board (Board) issued an order requiring the applicants in this docket to file certain additional information by November 19, 1999. Under the existing procedural schedule, Consumer Advocate's prepared direct testimony in this docket is due on November 22, 1999. Consumer Advocate requests an extension of that deadline to December 3, 1999, to permit Consumer Advocate an opportunity to review the additional information to be filed by the applicants.

Consumer Advocate also requests that the filing date for applicants' rebuttal testimony be postponed from December 13, 1999, to December 24, 1999. (The Board notes that December 24, 1999, is an official state holiday and the Board's offices will be closed. The Board will assume the request intended to refer to

December 23, 1999, instead.) Consumer Advocate states that the applicants do not object to the proposed extensions of time.

Also on November 9, 1999, McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc., (McLeodUSA) filed a joinder in Consumer Advocate's request to extend the November 22, 1999, deadline.

The Board will grant the request for extension of time to file direct and rebuttal testimony. At the same time, the Board will reschedule the hearing and briefing in this matter. If the Board were to grant the requested extensions without delaying the hearing, the schedule would not allow adequate time for Board preparation.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. The request for extension of time to file prepared direct and rebuttal testimony, filed in this docket on November 9, 1999, by the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice, is granted.
2. Ordering paragraphs 2.a, 2.b, 2.c, 2.d, and 2.e from the Board's October 26, 1999, scheduling order in this docket are revised to read as follows:
  - a. Consumer Advocate and any intervenors shall file any prepared direct testimony, with supporting exhibits and workpapers, on or before December 3, 1999.
  - b. Applicants shall file any rebuttal testimony, with supporting exhibits and workpapers, on or before December 23, 1999.

c. A hearing for the purpose of receiving testimony and cross-examination of all testimony will commence at 10 a.m. on February 1, 2000, in the Board's hearing room at 350 East Maple Street, Des Moines, Iowa. Parties shall appear at the hearing one-half hour prior to the time of hearing to mark exhibits. Persons with disabilities requiring assistive services or devices to observe or participate should contact the Board at 515-281-5256 to request that appropriate arrangements be made.

d. Any party desiring to file an initial brief may do so on or before February 11, 2000.

e. Any party filing an initial brief may file a reply brief, responding to the arguments raised in any other party's initial brief, on or before February 18, 2000.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Raymond K. Vawter, Jr.  
Executive Secretary

/s/ Diane Munns

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1999.