

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC., AND HEART OF IOWA COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	DOCKET NO. NIA-00-5
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**ORDER APPROVING NEGOTIATED
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT**

(Issued March 21, 2000)

On January 14, 2000, U S WEST Communications, Inc., and Heart of Iowa Communications, Inc., filed a negotiated interconnection agreement for review by the Utilities Board (Board) pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e). The Board issued an order identifying the proceeding as Docket No. NIA-00-5 and giving notice to any interested party of an opportunity to submit written comments supporting approval or rejection of the agreement within 30 days of the filing, pursuant to 199 IAC 38.7(4). No comments were filed.

Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A), the Board may reject a negotiated interconnection agreement if it finds either (1) the agreement (or a portion thereof) discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement, or (2) the implementation of the agreement (or a portion thereof) is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. Based upon the record made in this

docket, the filed agreement does not discriminate against any other carrier and is not inconsistent with the public purpose and will be approved.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The negotiated interconnection agreement filed on January 5, 2000, by U S WEST Communications, Inc., and Heart of Iowa Communications, Inc., and reviewed by the Utilities Board in a proceeding identified as Docket No. NIA-00-5, is approved to be effective upon issuance of this order.

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 21st day of March, 2000.