

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

<p>IN RE:</p> <p>RON LUDWIG,</p> <p style="padding-left: 100px;">Complainant,</p> <p style="padding-left: 100px;">v.</p> <p>LEAST COST ROUTING, INC.,</p> <p style="padding-left: 100px;">Respondent.</p>	<p>DOCKET NO. FCU-00-5 (C-00-148)</p>
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ORDER GRANTING RESPONDENT'S MOTION

(Issued November 29, 2000)

On November 28, 2000, Least Cost Routing (LCR) filed a Motion to Suspend Procedural Schedule in Light of Imminent Settlement. In its motion, LCR stated that it and the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) have agreed to settle this case, and that Mr. Ludwig has offered settlement terms that are acceptable to LCR. LCR also stated that the Consumer Advocate joins in the motion. LCR further stated that the parties would be filing a settlement agreement for approval the week of November 27, 2000. LCR filed the motion in lieu of its prepared testimony and exhibits due November 27, 2000.

In its motion, LCR moved to suspend the procedural schedule in this matter for a period of 30 days. LCR stated if the settlement is not approved, the procedural

schedule would be revived. LCR states that counsel for the Consumer Advocate supports the suspension of the procedural schedule.

Since it appears that settlement by all parties appears imminent and there are no objections to suspension of the procedural schedule, the motion by LCR should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The procedural schedule established in the Order Establishing Procedural Schedule and Notice of Hearing issued September 20, 2000, and amended by Orders on October 9, 2000 and November 6, 2000, is hereby suspended for a period of 30 days.

2. The requirement that LCR file prepared testimony by November 27, 2000 is also suspended for the 30-day period.

3. If the parties fail to reach a settlement, they are to immediately notify the undersigned administrative law judge.

4. The parties will file a written settlement agreement for approval during the week of November 27, 2000.

5. The hearing set for December 19, 2000 is cancelled.

6. If the undersigned and the Board fail to approve the settlement, a new procedural schedule will be established.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Amy L. Christensen
Amy L. Christensen
Administrative Law Judge

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary, Deputy

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 29th day of November, 2000.