

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Application of)	
)	
U S WEST Communications, Inc.)	File No. W-P-D-420
)	
To discontinue service over facilities)	
in 32 Minnesota exchanges)	
pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 214.)	

ORDER AND CERTIFICATE

Adopted: April 17, 1997

Released: April 21, 1997

By the Chief, Network Services Division, Common Carrier Bureau:

1. On February 14, 1997, U S WEST Communications, Inc. filed the above-referenced application (the "application") pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214, and Part 63 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. Part 63, seeking (1) Commission authority to discontinue service from 32 Minnesota exchanges (Baudette, Beardsley, Beaver Creek, Brewster, Campbell, Clinton, Dundee, Fairfax, Fulda, Gibbon, Graceville, Gunflint Trail, Heron Lake, Hovland, Humbolt, Itasca State Park, Jeffers, Kellog, Lafayette, Lambertson, Minneota, Orr, Pierz, Preston, Renville, Roseau, Roundlake, Rushmore, Spring Valley, Warroad, Westbrook-Storden, and Wilmont), described more fully in the application; (2) a waiver of Section 63.90 of the Commission's rules (publication and posting of notices), 47 C.F.R. § 63.90; and (3) a waiver of Section 63.505(l) of the Commission's rules (data on toll messages and revenues), 47 C.F.R. § 63.505(l). U S WEST Communications, Inc. requested that the sought authority be conditional upon receipt of Part 36 Study Area Waiver approval. No comments or oppositions were filed in response to our public notice of the application published on February 21, 1997.

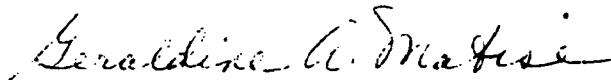
2. Having reviewed the application, we find that it complies with the requirements of Section 214 of the Communications Act and Part 63 of our rules. Furthermore, for the reasons stated in the application, we find that the transactions described will not adversely affect the present or the future public convenience and necessity.

3. Accordingly, **IT IS ORDERED**, pursuant to Sections 0.91 and 0.291 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.91 and 0.291, that Sections 63.90 and 63.505(l) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 63.90, 63.505(l), **ARE WAIVED** and the above-referenced application, File No. W-P-D-420, **IS GRANTED**. U S WEST Communications, Inc. **IS AUTHORIZED** to discontinue service over the facilities described in this application.

4. **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that our grant of this application **IS SUBJECT TO THE CONDITION** that U S WEST Communications, Inc. receives approval of its Petition for Waiver (File No. AAD 97-37, filed February 26, 1997) of Section 61.41(c)(2) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 61.41(c)(2), and the Definition of "Study Area" contained in Part 36 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. Part 36, before it discontinues service over these facilities.

5. This Order and Certificate **IS EFFECTIVE** upon release. Failure of the applicant to decline the authorization in writing within thirty-one days from the release date will be construed as formal acceptance.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION



Geraldine A. Matise, Chief
Network Services Division
Common Carrier Bureau