May 5, 1997

Mr. Bill Batt

Marshall Batt & Fisher

PO Box 1308

Boise, ID 83702

Mr. Greg Harwood

Davis, Wright, Tremaine

999 Main ST, STE 911

Boise, ID 83702

RE: Schedule for Final Arbitration Decision in U S WEST/AT&T Arbitration

Dear Mr. Batt and Mr. Harwood:

This letter is to confirm the schedule for completing the arbitration by the Commission of the U S WEST/AT&T arbitration, Case No. USW-T-96-15; ATT-T-96-2.  The final briefs are due to the arbitrator and the Commission by May 9, 1997, which will complete the record for the arbitration.  Under the Commission’s Rule of Procedure 258, the arbitrator has fourteen days following the close of the record to submit his final decision to the Commission. I understand Mr. Antonuk probably will  issue an order prior to expiration of the two-week period.  The Commission will review the record and the arbitrator’s decision and, no later than 30 days after its submission, will issue an order approving or modifying the arbitrator’s recommended decision.  The order by the Commission will complete the arbitration of disputed issues pursuant to Section 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Following completion of the arbitration of disputed issues, the parties are expected to prepare a final agreement for submission to the Commission.  I understand Mr. Antonuk is available and will assist the parties in their efforts to complete a final agreement.  Once the agreement is completed, it must be submitted to the Commission for approval, which will then have 30 days to approve the agreement.

If you have any questions regarding this schedule to complete the arbitration, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Weldon B.  Stutzman

Deputy Attorney General

WBS/vld:L:arbitrato.ws

cc:John Antonuk

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