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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

Arizona Corporation Commission  
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1  
2 CARL J. KUNASEK  
Chairman  
3 JAMES M. IRVIN  
Commissioner  
4 WILLIAM MUNDELL  
5 Commissioner

6  
7 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION  
8 OF U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.,  
9 A COLORADO CORPORATION, FOR A  
10 HEARING TO DETERMINE THE EARNINGS  
11 OF THE COMPANY, THE FAIR VALUE OF  
12 THE COMPANY FOR RATEMAKING  
PURPOSES, TO FIX A JUST AND  
REASONABLE RATE OF RETURN THEREON  
AND TO APPROVE RATE SCHEDULES  
DESIGNED TO DEVELOP SUCH RETURN.

DOCKET NO. T-01051B-99-0105

**QWEST'S RESPONSE TO RUCO'S  
MOTION FOR CLARIFICATION OF  
THE PROCEDURAL ORDER**

13 Qwest Corporation ("Qwest") hereby responds to the  
14 Residential Utility Consumer Office's ("RUCO") motion for  
15 clarification of the procedural order issued by the Arizona  
16 Corporation Commission (the "Commission") on October 17, 2000  
17 (the "Procedural Order").

18 Qwest believes that the Procedural Order is clear and  
19 appropriate and does not require further explanation. The  
20 hearing on November 29, 2000 is not intended to be an  
21 adjudication of the merits of the rate case. Rather, it is a  
22 hearing to determine whether the settlement agreed to by  
23 Commission Staff and Qwest is reasonable. Thus, the hearing  
24 should be limited to the presentation of testimony and evidence  
25 that addresses the reasonableness of the settlement.

26 The Procedural Order directs all Intervenors to "file

1 specific disagreements/testimony/comments regarding the  
2 [settlement] Agreement by 4:00 p.m. on November 13, 2000." The  
3 Order further instructs that "cross-examination/direct testimony  
4 by Intervenors shall be limited to those areas filed as specific  
5 disagreements/testimony/comments." Thus, the Order clearly and  
6 appropriately limits the Intervenors' cross-examination and  
7 direct testimony to issues relating to the reasonableness of the  
8 settlement agreement. Accordingly, the Procedural Order need not  
9 be clarified and should not be modified.

10 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 31st day of October, 2000.

11 QWEST Law Department  
12 Thomas Dethlefs

13 and

14 FENNEMORE CRAIG, P.C.

15  
16 By Jenif Prendiville for  
17 Timothy Berg  
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21 Attorneys for Qwest Corporation

22 ORIGINAL AND TEN of the foregoing  
23 filed this 31st day of  
24 October, 2000, with:

25 Docket Control  
26 ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION  
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27 COPY of the foregoing hand-delivered  
28 this 31st day of October, 2000, to:

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Director, Utilities Division  
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4 Jerry L. Rudibaugh, Chief Administrative Law Judge  
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7 COPY of the foregoing mailed  
8 this 31st day of October, 2000, to:

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