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FRANK C. McNEIL  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Direct Line: 602-542-3935  
Fax: 602-542-0752

E-mail: WMUNDELL@CC.STATE.AZ.US

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WILLIAM A. MUNDELL  
COMMISSIONER

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

November 30, 2000

Arizona Corporation Commission  
**DOCKETED**

NOV 30 2000

DOCKETED BY [Signature]

Blaine Donaldson, President  
Sun City Home Owners Association  
10401 West Coggins Drive  
Sun City, AZ 85351

Re: Reply to your letter of November 7<sup>th</sup> regarding Qwest Corporation's rate settlement; Docket No. T-01051B-99-0105

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

Thank you for your letter of November 7, 2000. It is inaccurate to suggest that there is any effort by the commissioners to grant a \$43,000,000 rate increase to Qwest without a full scale public hearing. The staff of the Corporation Commission, including the representatives of the Utilities Division have the right to intervene as an official party in appropriate cases brought before the Commission. The Division routinely does so in matters of importance to Arizona ratepayers such as the Qwest rate application. The staff of the Commission is separate from the commissioners, and their recommendation is merely that and nothing more.

The process of getting any matter approved by the Commission includes the filing of: an initial application, relevant written and spoken testimony, exhibits and other evidence. I have never been a rubber stamp in my 18 months as a commissioner and will certainly not change my approach now. I have stated on numerous occasions that I would not consider any settlement until a careful and thorough consideration of the rate case issues were conducted in a public forum.

The process for this particular case is, in fact, going to include a number of public comment sessions after the recommended order and opinion is issued and in advance of the Open Meeting, during which the Commissioners would consider the rate application and the proposed settlement

I encourage you to participate in the process by sending representatives to the public comment sessions on the proposed settlement and to the open meeting once scheduled, and to file any written comments your members wish to have made a part of the record. Active participation by affected parties is a most appropriate means of

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getting your issues before the Commission. Your organization is an effective and welcome participant before the Commission and I look forward to receiving further input from your membership, in advance of the open meeting, which will have the rate case of Qwest on its agenda.

Thank you for your participation in this important matter.

Very truly yours,



William A. Mundell  
Commissioner

cc: Docket Control

Mayor Celestino Arias  
City of El Mirage  
14405 North Palm Street  
El Mirage, AZ 85335

Mayor John Keegan  
City of Peoria  
8401 W. Monroe Street  
Peoria, AZ 85345

Mayor Joan Shafer  
City of Surprise  
12425 West Bell Road, Suite D-100  
Surprise, AZ 85374

Mayor Eugene Russell  
Town of Youngtown  
12030 Clubhouse Square  
Youngtown, AZ 85363

Lyla Schwartz  
League of Women Voters  
20003 N. 146<sup>th</sup> Drive  
Sun City West, AZ 85375

Lola Boan  
League of Women Voters

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11022 W. Canyon Creek Drive  
Sun City, AZ 85351

Mr. Phil Garner, President  
PORA  
1381515 Camino del Rio  
Sun City, AZ 85735

Mr. Raymond Dare, President  
Sun City Taxpayers Association  
12630 N. 103<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Room 221  
Sun City, AZ 85351

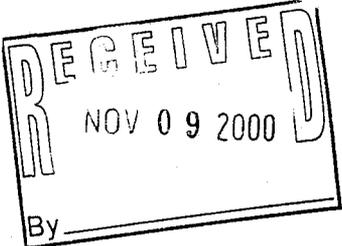
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**Sun City's Advocate Since 1963**

SUN CITY HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION

*City of Volunteers*



November 7, 2000

Arizona Corporation Commission  
Attention: Commissioner William Mundell  
1200 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Commissioner Mundell:

It has come to our attention that your staff and US West, aka Qwest, have come to an agreement allowing the company a \$43,000,000 rate increase without a public, full-scale hearing.

Please be advised that this organization is adamantly opposed to this rate settlement. It is not in the public interest for your office to make a decision of this magnitude without a full-scale public hearing.

Your action represents a radical change in the manner in which rate changes are imposed on our citizens and we cannot in good conscience not voice our opposition.

Therefore we are requesting that you reject this "settlement" and proceed to a complete hearing so every party can be heard.

Cordially yours,

SUN CITY HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Blaine Donaldson'.

Blaine Donaldson, President

- cc: El Mirage
- League of Women Voters
- Peoria
- PORA
- SCTA
- Surprise
- Youngtown