

P-999/CI-90-373 ORDER ESTABLISHING FURTHER COMMENT PROCEDURE

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Darrel L. Peterson	Chair
Cynthia A. Kitlinski	Commissioner
Dee Knaak	Commissioner
Norma McKanna	Commissioner
Patrice M. Vick	Commissioner

In the Matter of a Commission
Initiated Investigation into
Open Network Architecture

ISSUE DATE: January 10, 1991
DOCKET NO. P-999/CI-90-373

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PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Between September, 1988 and March 16, 1990, Northwestern Bell Telephone Company (NWB or the Company) made four filings regarding Open Network Architecture (ONA), including proposed tariffs and price lists for seven new ONA services.

On July 5, 1990, the Commission initiated an investigation into the provision of ONA but permitted the proposed tariffs/price lists to go into effect pending the Commission's findings at the conclusion of its ONA investigation.

In response to the Commission's July 5, 1990 Order, eleven parties filed comments, including AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. (AT&T), GTE North, Inc. (GTE), MCI Telecommunications Corporation (MCI), McCaw Cellular Communications, Inc. (McCaw), the Minnesota Independent Coalition (MIC), the National Association of Telecommunications Dealers (NATD), Norstan, Northwestern Bell Telephone Company¹, United Telephone Company (United), the Residential Utilities Division of the Office of the Attorney General (RUD-OAG), and the Minnesota Department of Public Service (the Department).

On January 2, 1991, the Commission met to consider this matter.

¹ Effective January 1, 1991, NWB was officially reconstituted as U S West Communications, Inc. (USWC). Hereafter in this proceeding, the company shall be referred to as USWC.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The Commission, having reviewed the comments of the parties, concludes that the optimum manner of proceeding in this matter is as follows:

1. Interested parties will be authorized to submit reply comments within 90 days of this Order. These comments shall address both the disputed issues and discuss ONA activities at the federal level and the implications for the Minnesota ONA proceeding.
2. Responsive comments to the reply comments will be due within 135 days of the date of this Order, i.e. 45 days after the reply comments are due. The purpose of the responsive comments is to have the parties identify the issues that can be stipulated to and the issues that remain the subject of controversy.
3. Following receipt of the responsive comments, the Commission will schedule oral presentations by the parties on the contested issues. Based on these oral arguments, the Commission will decide whether it will issue an order resolving the controversial issues or set them for hearing.

ORDER

1. The foregoing three point procedure for the Open Network Architecture (ONA) investigation is hereby adopted.
2. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Richard R. Lancaster
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)