



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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May 25, 2000

COMMENTS INVITED ON U S WEST'S APPLICATION TO DISCONTINUE OPERATION OF ITS TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES WITHIN THE SISSETON EXCHANGE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

NSD File No. W-P-D-465

Section 214 Application

Applicant: U S WEST Communications, Inc.

On May 8, 2000, U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST) filed an application requesting authority under section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. § 214(a), and section 63.71 of the Federal Communications Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue operation of its Sisseton exchange in South Dakota. U S WEST states it has agreed to transfer those facilities to Venture Communications, Inc. (VCI).

U S WEST states that the Sisseton exchange serves approximately 2400 access lines. U S WEST also states that the planned transfer of the exchanges and the associated assets will have no known immediate or substantial effect on the service provided to customers within the Sisseton exchange. U S WEST anticipates that service will improve over time, because VCI has substantial expertise in providing telecommunications services in rural communities and this experience will ultimately inure to the benefit of telecommunications subscribers within the Sisseton exchanges.

U S WEST's application appears to be complete. U S WEST states that it has notified all affected customers in South Dakota by letter of its proposed discontinuance and has submitted a copy of its application to the Secretary of Defense, the Governor of South Dakota, and the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

In accordance with 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(c), the application will be deemed to be automatically granted on the 60th day after the application is accepted for filing without any Commission notification to the applicant, unless the Commission has notified the applicant that the grant will not be automatically effective. The FCC will normally authorize proposed discontinuances of service unless it is shown that customers or other end users would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier, or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected.

Comments objecting to this application must be filed with the Commission by **June 14, 2000**. Such

comments should refer to application file number **W-P-D-465**. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance on the commenter, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service. Comments should be sent to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554. Two copies of the comments should also be sent to the Network Services Division, 445 12th Street, SW, Room 6-A207, Washington, DC 20554. The application will be available for review and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-A257, Washington, DC 20554, (202) 418-0270.

For further information, contact Al McCloud, (202) 418-2499 (voice), amcccloud@fcc.gov or Marty Schwimmer, (202) 418-2320 (voice), mschwimm@fcc.gov, of the Network Services Division, Common Carrier Bureau. The TTY number is (202) 418-0484.

-FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION-

ATTACHMENT A

Exchanges being transferred by U S West Communications, Inc. to Citizens Telecommunications Company of Iowa, Inc.:

<u>Exchange</u>	<u>Number of Access Lines</u>
Algona	4,693
Anthon	609
Blairsburg	279
Britt	1,573
Cherokee	4,237
Correctionville	635
Danbury	454
Estherville	4,528
Garner	2,197
Gilmore City	605
Hamburg	1,108
Humboldt	4,237
Jewell	850
Lansing	974
Laurens	1,234
Livermore	898
Luverne	325
Manly	883
Mapleton	1,105
Nashua	1,298
Northwood	1,742
Onawa	2,310
Pocahontas	1,593
Renwick	398
Sioux Rapids	685
Storm Lake/Alta**	7,892
Stuart	1,450
Wesley	460
Whiting	557
Whittemore	532
Williams	445

**The Storm Lake wire center includes the Storm Lake and Alta exchanges.

