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STATE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250
(360) 664-1160 • TTY (360) 586-8203

November 16, 1998

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Magalie R. Salas, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

Subject Ex Parte Disclosure Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §1.1206
CC Docket No. 96-45, DA 98-1691
Petition of Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission and Twenty Rural
Telecommunications Companies Re: ETC Designation

Dear Ms Salas:

Pursuant to the Public Notice issued in the above-referenced matter on August 24, 1998, and 47 C.F.R. §1.206, I wish to disclose that at the annual meeting of the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners, in Orlando, Florida, on November 10, 1998, I discussed the need for expedited consideration of the Petition of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission and Twenty Rural Telecommunications Companies Re: ETC Designation with Commissioner Tristani, Kathy Brown, and Jim Schlichting of the Federal Communications Commission staff.

My discussions were limited to matters contained in our Petition and the Reply Comments filed in this matter, and in addition, statements urging the expedited consideration of our Petition because a clear ruling on this matter is needed as a basis for other interrelated universal service decisions we currently face at the state level.

Very truly yours,

William R. Gillis
Commissioner

cc: Commissioner Gloria Tristani
Kathy Brown, Chief of Staff
Jim Schlichting, Deputy Chief

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