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From the Desk of
MICHAEL PLUNKETT
Edmonds City Council
121 5th Avenue North
Edmonds, WA 98020

March 8, 2002

Chairman Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington D.C. 20554

WC DOCKET NO. 02-189

Re: Section 271 Relief for Qwest Communications

Dear Mr. Powell,

It has come to my attention that the Washington Utilities and Telecommunications Commission has been asked to consider granting relief from the 1996 Telecommunications Act to Qwest Communications.

I support the requested relief and urge your support.

Washington State consumers need the benefits of full, free competition.

Not only does Qwest have a strong record of success in the telecommunications business, they are the local phone provider for many Washington residential and business consumers. Because of that, they have the unique ability to consolidate long distance and local billing into one convenient statement for those customers who might choose Qwest as their long distance provider.

Additionally, Washington is on the leading edge of technological innovation, and technology adoption.

The ability to consolidate local, long distance, broadband and other services will facilitate even greater innovation in our local economy.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter. I hope you will add this comment to the public file and consider promoting Section 271 relief for Qwest.

Sincerely,



Michael Plunkett
Councilmember, City of Edmonds

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