

# STATE OF COLORADO

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**Department of Regulatory Agencies**

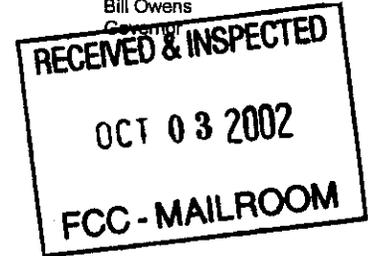
Raymond L. Gifford, Chairman  
Polly Page, Commissioner  
Jim Dyer, Commissioner  
Bruce N. Smith, Director

M. Michael Cooke  
Executive Director



September 19, 2002

Bill Owens  
Governor



Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC. 20554

**RE: CC Docket No. 96-45; Colorado's Certification of Carrier Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313; Universal Service Support for High-Cost Areas**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules provide that all states desiring non-rural incumbent local exchange carriers within their jurisdiction receive federal universal service support for high-cost areas must annually file a certification with the FCC and the administrator of the high-cost universal service support mechanism. 47 C.F.R. §54.313(a). The annual certification must identify which carriers in Colorado are eligible to receive federal support and must certify that those carriers will only use the support for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

Qwest Corporation is the only non-rural local exchange carrier in Colorado, which is currently eligible to receive universal service support for high-cost areas. Therefore, The Colorado Public Utilities Commission hereby certifies that Qwest Corporation, the non-rural incumbent local exchange carrier, will use all federal high-cost support provided to it through the federal non-rural high-cost funding mechanism for and only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support in intended.

A copy of this certification has been provided to the Universal Service Administrative Company, administrator of the federal high-cost universal service support mechanism. If you have any questions or comments regarding this certification, please feel free to contact Jamie Jack at (303) 894-2043.

Very truly yours,

Raymond L. Gifford  
Chairman

Polly Page  
Commissioner

Jim Dyer  
Commissioner

Cc: USAC  
Attention: Irene Flannery  
2120 L Street NW, Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20037