

presentations. Interested persons have already had the opportunity to submit written comments reflecting their positions, and, as discussed below, are invited to submit additional comments. Participants should feel free to discuss or debate all topics during the course of the roundtable debate.

The composition of the roundtable panel is as follows:

Dena Wiggins, Process Gas Consumers Group, et al.  
Representative to be designated, Ad Hoc Marketers Group  
Thomas Riley, Independent Oil & Gas Assoc. of West Virginia  
Alice Curtis, American Gas Association  
Craig Goodman, National Energy Marketers Assoc.  
Joan Dreskin, Interstate Natural Gas Assoc. of America  
Jeff Holligan, Amoco Production Company and BP Energy Company  
Denise Goulet, National Assoc. of State Utility Consumer Advocates  
John Smith, The Williams Companies  
Mark Haskell, Natural Gas Supply Assoc.  
Leslie Lawner, Enron North America Corporation  
Paul Koonce, Dominion Resources, Inc.  
Michael Linn, Independent Petroleum Assoc. of America  
Ed Ross, Dynegy, Inc.  
Phillip Teumim, New York Public Service Commission  
Kirby Bosley, Reliant Energy Services, Inc.  
Mike Reidy, California Dairy Coalition of Concerned Energy Consumers

The Capitol Connection patrons in the Washington, DC area will receive notices regarding the broadcast of the conference. The conference will be available, for a fee, live over the Internet, via C-Band Satellite, and via telephone conferencing. Persons interested in receiving the broadcast, or who need further information, should contact David Reininger or Julia Morelli at the Capitol Connection (703-993-3100) as soon as possible or visit the Capitol Connection web site at <http://www.capitolconnection.org> and click on "FERC."

The Commission invites interested persons and participants to submit additional comments on the affiliate issues debated at the conference including any related matters or alternative proposals that commenters may wish to discuss and must be received by the Commission before 5 p.m. on April 30, 2001.

After-conference comments may be filed either in paper format or electronically. Those filing electronically do not need to make a

paper filing. For paper filings, the original and 14 copies of such comments should be submitted to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426 and should refer to Docket No. PL00-1-000.

Comments filed via the Internet must be prepared in WordPerfect, MS Word, Portable Document Format, or ASCII format. To file the document, access the Commission's website ([www.ferc.fed.us](http://www.ferc.fed.us)) and click on "Make An E-Filing," and then follow the instructions for each screen. First-time users will have to establish a user name and password. The Commission will send an automatic acknowledgment to the sender's E-Mail address upon receipt of comments.

User assistance for electronic filing is available at 202-208-0258 or by E-Mail to [efiling@ferc.fed.us](mailto:efiling@ferc.fed.us). Comments should not be submitted to the E-Mail address. All comments will be placed in the Commission's public files and will be available for inspection in the Commission's Public Reference Room at 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426 during regular business hours. Additionally, all comments may be viewed, printed, or downloaded remotely via the Internet through FERC's Homepage using the RIMS link. User assistance for RIMS is available at 202-208-2222, or by E-Mail to [rimsmaster@ferc.fed.us](mailto:rimsmaster@ferc.fed.us).

Questions about the conference should be directed to: Robert Flanders, Office of Markets Tariffs and Rates, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, 202-208-2084, [Robert.flanders@ferc.fed.us](mailto:Robert.flanders@ferc.fed.us)

**Linwood A. Watson,**  
*Acting Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 01-5518 Filed 3-6-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6717-01-M**

## **FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

### **47 CFR Part 43**

**[CC Docket No. 98-137; FCC 01-68]**

### **1998 Biennial Regulatory Review—Review of Depreciation Requirements for Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers**

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; denial.

**SUMMARY:** In this document the Commission denied US West, Inc. (now Qwest) petition for reconsideration of our December 30, 1999 Depreciation Order. The US West, Inc. petition

sought reconsideration of: our denial of United States Telephone Association petition for forbearance; the methodology for certain equipment life ranges, and the accounting treatment in waiver situation. The Commission concluded that US West, Inc had not provided any new information or arguments that required us to alter our prior rulings.

**ADDRESSES:** Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445-12th Street, SW, TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** JoAnn Lucanik, Accounting Safeguards Division, Common Carrier Bureau, at (202) 418-0873.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a summary of the Commission's Order on Reconsideration adopted February 21, 2001, and released February 26, 2001. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room CY-A257), 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554. The complete text may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Service, Inc., 1231 20th Street, Washington, DC 20036, telephone (202) 857-3800.

### **Summary of Order on Reconsideration**

In this order, we deny a petition for reconsideration filed on May 10, 2000, by US West, Inc. (now Qwest) of our December 30, 1999 Order (*Depreciation Order*) (which was not published in the **Federal Register**). In the *Depreciation Order*, which was part of our 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review proceeding, we undertook an extensive review of our depreciation requirements for price cap incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs). Although we denied a petition filed by the United States Telecom Association (USTA) to forbear from imposing depreciation requirements on price cap ILECs, we significantly streamlined our depreciation requirements, and set out specific conditions under which ILECs could seek waiver of these requirements.

In a subsequent order, released on November 7, 2000, 66 FR 9681 (February 9, 2001), we reviewed an alternative proposal for relieving carriers of our depreciation requirements. We concluded that the alternative proposal to permit an above-the-line accounting treatment of the financial-to-regulatory book differential in lieu of a below-the-line accounting treatment lacked the inherent protections provided for in the waiver process adopted in the *Depreciation*

*Order*. Thus, we declined to relieve carriers of our depreciation requirements in circumstances where they elected above-the-line treatment.

In its petition for reconsideration, Qwest requests (1) that we reconsider our denial of USTA's petition for forbearance of our depreciation requirements; (2) that if USTA's petition is not granted, we reconsider our methodology for establishing service life ranges for telecommunications plant equipment; and (3) that for purposes of seeking a waiver of the depreciation requirements, we permit an above-the-line accounting treatment of the differential between regulatory and financial book reserve levels.

After review of the arguments presented on reconsideration, we conclude that Qwest has not provided any new information or arguments that require us to alter our prior rulings. The precise issues and arguments that Qwest raises on reconsideration were thoroughly considered and examined in the previous proceeding. Our analysis and reasons for our rulings are fully stated in the *Depreciation Order*, and the *November 2000 Order* further underscores the appropriateness of the decision to deny reconsideration.

Accordingly, pursuant to sections 4, 201–205, 218–220, 303(r), and 405 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 154, 201–205, 218–220, 303(r), and 405 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and §§ 1.106 and 1.429 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR 1.106, 1.429, that the petition for reconsideration filed May 10, 2000, by US West, Inc. (now Qwest) is denied.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Magalie Roman Salas,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 01–5489 Filed 3–6–01; 8:45 am]

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## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Part 73

[DA 01–286; MM Docket Nos. 01–33, 01–34; RM–10060, RM–10061]

#### Radio Broadcasting Services; Warsaw, Windsor, MO, and Caro, Cass City, MI

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Commission requests comment on two petitions for rulemaking. One filed by Edwards Communications, L.C., licensee of Station WIDL(FM), Caro, Michigan,

proposes the substitution of Channel 221C3 for Channel 221A at Caro, Michigan, and the reallocation of Channel 221C3 from Caro to Cass City, Michigan. Channel 221C3 can be allotted at Cass City in compliance with the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements, with respect to domestic allotments, at a site 4.9 kilometers (3.0 miles) northeast of the community at coordinates 48–38–20 NL and 83–08–38 WL. The second, filed by D&H Media, permittee of Station KWKJ(FM), Warsaw, Missouri, proposes the reallocation of Channel 253A from Warsaw to Windsor, Missouri. Channel 253A can be allotted at Windsor in compliance with the Commission's minimum distance separation requirements, with respect to domestic allotments, without the imposition of a site restriction at coordinates 38–31–56 NL and 93–31–19 WL.

**DATES:** Comments must be filed on or before April 5, 2001 and reply comments must be filed on or before April 20, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Federal Communications Commission, 445 Twelfth Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20554. In addition to filing comments with the FCC, interested parties should serve petitioner(s) as follows: for MM Docket No. 01–33, Edwards Communications, L.C., C/O John S. Neely, Miller and Miller, P.C., P.O. Box 33003 Washington, DC 20033; for MM Docket No. 01–34, D&H Media, C/O Howard J. Barr, Pepper and Corazzini, LLP, 1776 K Street, NW., Suite 200, Washington, DC 20006–2334.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Victoria M. McCauley, Mass Media Bureau, (202) 418–2180.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a synopsis of the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making, MM Docket Nos. 01–33 and 01–34, adopted January 31, 2001, and released February 9, 2001. The full text of this Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room 239), 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC. The complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Services, Inc., (202) 857–3800, 1231 20th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20036.

#### List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio broadcasting.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Federal Communications Commission proposes to amend 47 CFR part 73 as follows:

## PART 73—RADIO BROADCAST SERVICES

1. The authority citation for part 73 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 47 U.S.C. 154, 303, 334 and 336.

### § 73.202 [Amended]

2. Section 73.202(b), the Table of FM Allotments under Michigan is amended to remove Caro, Channel 221A and add Cass City, Channel 221C3.

3. Section 73.202(b), the Table of FM Allotments under Missouri is amended to remove Channel 253A at Warsaw and add Windsor, Channel 253A.

Federal Communications Commission.

**John A. Karousos,**

*Chief, Allocations Branch, Policy and Rules Division, Mass Media Bureau.*

[FR Doc. 01–4323 Filed 3–6–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### 50 CFR Part 17

RIN 1018–AG71

#### Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reopening of Comment Period and Notice of Availability of the Draft Economic Analysis for Proposed Critical Habitat for 76 Plants From the Islands of Kauai and Niihau, HI

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; reopening of comment period and notice of availability of draft economic analysis.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce the availability of the draft economic analysis for the proposed designations of critical habitat for 76 plants from the islands of Kauai and Niihau, Hawaii. We are also providing notice of the reopening of the comment period for the proposal to designate critical habitat for these 76 plants to allow all interested parties to comment simultaneously on the proposed rule and the associated draft economic analysis. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted as they will be incorporated into the public record as part of this reopened comment period and will be fully considered in the final rule.

**DATES:** We will accept public comments until April 6, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and information should be submitted to Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Islands Office, 300 Ala