



NEWS RELEASE

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**NEW PARADIGM RESOURCES GROUP
NAMES J. SCOTT BONNEY
TO HEAD NEW WEST COAST OPERATIONS**

Former NEXTLINK and Ameritech Executive Joins Nation's Top Research And Consulting Firm Focusing On Competitive Local Telecommunications

CHICAGO, IL, OCTOBER 23, 1997 -- New Paradigm Resources Group (NPRG), Inc., the nation's leading research and consulting organization focused exclusively on the competitive local telecommunications industry, today named J. Scott Bonney to be Vice President - West Coast Operations, a new division based in Seattle, WA.

Bonney, an industry veteran with 18 years of experience in telecommunications, will be responsible for managing NPRG's West Coast office, providing consulting services to competitive local exchange carriers (CLECs) as well as to manufacturers and suppliers involved in the multibillion dollar competitive local telecommunications business.

"We are delighted to welcome Scott Bonney to NPRG," said Terry Barnich, President of New Paradigm Resources Group, Inc. "As the competitive local telecommunications market continues its explosive growth, there is rapidly increasing demand for knowledgeable professionals who can advise carriers and their vendors, and steer them toward new opportunities. With the addition of Scott Bonney, NPRG enhances our 'knowledge bandwidth' and geographic range to meet this burgeoning demand."

Bonney is a nationally-recognized authority on local telecommunications competition who has provided expert testimony before state and federal regulatory authorities, as well as the United States Congress.

Prior to joining NPRG, Bonney served as Vice President - Regulatory Affairs for NEXTLINK, a CLEC, from its inception in 1994. At NEXTLINK, Bonney spearheaded the company's successful regulatory strategies, leading interconnection negotiations with incumbent providers and securing state regulatory authority to offer competitive local service. Before NEXTLINK, Bonney was Vice President of Regulatory and External Affairs for Ameritech in Illinois from 1992-1994, and from 1988-1992 served as Director of Regulatory Affairs for Teleport Communications Group. During the Reagan Administration, Bonney was a Policy Advisor for the National Telecommunications and

Information Administration (NTIA). He is a 1979 magna cum laude graduate of Manhattan College.

In addition to providing research and consulting on the CLEC industry, NPRG produces the Annual Report on Local Telecommunications Competition -- a compendium of in-depth profiles of the fast-growing companies that are transforming the \$105 billion local telephone market.

The nearly 600-page 1997 Annual Report covers 90 providers that represent the current competitive local industry, and also includes a "Watch List" section on companies that offer the potential to provide competitive local service. The 1998 Annual Report will be available in January, 1998.

New Paradigm Resources Group, Inc., based in Chicago, IL, has provided regulatory advice, competitive assessment, strategic planning and governmental representation to leading competitive telecommunications and energy companies since 1993. New Paradigm Resources Group, Inc., can be reached at 312-980-7848, or on the Internet at <http://www.nprg.com>