

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 12b-25

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0058
Expires: May 31, 1997
Estimated average burden
hours per response ... 2.50

NOTIFICATION OF LATE FILING

SEC FILE NUMBER

CUSIP NUMBER

(Check One):

Form 10-K Form 20-F Form 11-K Form 10-Q Form N-SAR

For Period Ended: June 30, 1997

- Transition Report on Form 10-K
- Transition Report on Form 20-F
- Transition Report on Form 11-K
- Transition Report on Form 10-Q
- Transition Report on Form N-SAR

For the Transition Period Ended: _____

Read Instruction (on back page) Before Preparing Form. Please Print or Type.

Nothing in this form shall be construed to imply that the Commission has verified any information contained herein.

If the notification relates to a portion of the filing checked above, identify the Item(s) to which the notification relates:

PART I -- REGISTRANT INFORMATION

THE WEST COMPANY

Full Name of Registrant

N/A

Former Name if Applicable

101 Gordon Drive

Address of Principal Executive Office (Street and Number)

Lionville, Pennsylvania 19341

City, State and Zip Code

PART II -- RULES 12b-25(b) AND (c)

If the subject report could not be filed without unreasonable effort or expense and the registrant seeks relief pursuant to Rule 12b-25(b), the following should be completed. (Check box if appropriate)

- / / | (a) The reasons described in reasonable detail in Part III of this
| without unreasonable form could not be eliminated effort or
| expense;
- /XX/ | (b) The subject annual report, semi-annual report, transition
| report on Form 10-K, Form 20-F, Form 11-K or Form N-SAR, or
| portion thereof, will be filed on or before the fifteenth calendar
| day following the prescribed due date; or the calendar day
| following the prescribed due date; and subject quarterly report
| of transition report on Form 10-Q, or portion thereof will be
| filed on or before the fifth calendar day following the
| prescribed due date; and

/ / | (c) The accountant's statement or other exhibit required by Rule
| 12b-25(c) has been attached if applicable.

PART III -- NARRATIVE

State below in reasonable detail the reasons why Forms 10-K, 20-F, 11-K, 10-Q, N-SAR, or the transition report or portion thereof, could not be filed within the prescribed time period.

Registrant's converted word processing document in an ASCII format could not be read by SEC's EDGAR software because of invalid characters. The invalid characters made it impossible to submit a timely TEST or LIVE filing from registrant's place of business.

(Attach Extra Sheets if Needed)

SEC 1344 (6/94)

PART IV--OTHER INFORMATION

(1) Name and telephone number of person to contact in regard to this notification

Mark Pesta	(610)	594-3344
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(Name)	(Area Code)	(Telephone Number)

(2) Have all other periodic reports required under Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 during the preceding 12 months or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such report(s) been filed? If answer is no, identify report(s).

Yes No

(3) Is it anticipated that any significant change in results of operations from the corresponding period for the last fiscal year will be reflected by the earnings statements to be included in the subject report or portion thereof?

Yes No

If so, attach an explanation of the anticipated change, both narratively and quantitatively, and, if appropriate, state the reasons why a reasonable estimate of the results cannot be made.

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THE WEST COMPANY, INCORPORATED

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

has caused this notification to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: March 31, 1998

By: /s/ Steven A. Ellers

Steven A. Ellers, Sr. Vice-President
Finance and Administration

INSTRUCTION: The form may be signed by an executive officer of the registrant or by any other duly authorized representative. The name and title of the person signing the form shall be typed or printed beneath the signature. If the statement is signed on behalf of the registrant by an authorized representative (other than an executive officer), evidence of the representative's authority to sign on behalf of the registrant shall be filed with the form.

-----ATTENTION-----

Intentional misstatements or omissions of fact constitute Federal Criminal Violations (See 18 U.S.C. 1001).

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. This form is required by Rule 12b-25 (17 CFR 240.12b-25) of the General Rules and Regulations under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.
2. One signed original and four conformed copies of this form and amendments thereto must be completed and filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, D.C. 20549, in accordance with Rule 0-3 of the General Rules and Regulations under the Act. The information contained in or filed with the form will be made a matter of public record in the Commission files.
3. A manually signed copy of the form and amendments thereto shall be filed with each national securities exchange on which any class of securities of the registrant is registered.
4. Amendments to the notifications must also be filed on form 12b-25 but need not restate information that has been correctly furnished. The form shall be clearly identified as an amended notification.
5. Electronic Filers. This form shall not be used by electronic filers unable to timely file a report solely due to electronic difficulties. Filers unable to submit a report within the time period prescribed due to difficulties in electronic filing should comply with either Rule 201 or Rule 202 of Regulation S-T (ss.232.201 or ss.232.202 of this chapter) or apply for an adjustment in filing date pursuant to Rule 13(b) of Regulation S-T (ss.232.13(b) of this chapter).