

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Request For Approval of)	DOCKET NO. UT-003006
Negotiated Agreement Under the)	
Telecommunications Act of 1996 Between)	
)	
SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS)	ORDER APPROVING
COMPANY L.P.)	NEGOTIATED 911 WAIVER
and)	AMENDMENT TO
)	AGREEMENT FOR
QWEST CORPORATION, f/k/a U S WEST)	INTERCONNECTION AND
COMMUNICATIONS, INC.)	RESALE SERVICES
.)	

BACKGROUND

1. This matter comes before the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) for approval of a negotiated 911 waiver amendment to an agreement (Amended Agreement) under the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Telecom Act). The Amended Agreement is between Sprint Communications Company, L.P., (Sprint) and Qwest Corporation (Qwest), f/k/a U S WEST Communications. The Amended Agreement adds a provision related to Sprint’s offering of its new Dial IP product. Dial IP service will carry only one-way internet-bound data traffic; therefore, no special 911 dial trunk is needed for its Dial IP service. The Commission approved an interconnection agreement between the parties on August 8, 2000, and a first amended agreement on March 28, 2001. The Commission ordered that in the event the parties amended their agreement, the amended agreement would be deemed a new agreement under the Telecom Act and must be submitted to the Commission for approval. The parties filed a joint request for approval of the 911 waiver amendment on February 22, 2001.

MEMORANDUM

2. The Amended Agreement between Sprint and Qwest was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled open public meeting of April 25, 2001, at its offices in Olympia, Washington. The Commission granted its approval of the Amended Agreement as negotiated and requested by the parties.

FINDINGS OF FACT

3. The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public service companies, including telecommunications companies.

4. Section 252(e)(1) of the Telecom Act requires parties to a negotiated agreement to submit the agreement to the Commission for approval. Section 252(e)(2)(A) states that the Commission may only reject an agreement (or any portion thereof) adopted by negotiation if it finds that:

- (i) the agreement (or any portion thereof) discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement; or
- (ii) the implementation of such agreement or portion is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

5. Qwest is engaged in the business of furnishing telecommunications services, including, but not limited to, basic local exchange service within the state of Washington.

6. Sprint is authorized to provide telecommunications services to the public in the state of Washington.

7. The Commission approved an interconnection agreement between the parties on August 28, 2000. The Commission ordered that in the event the parties amended their agreement, the amended agreement would be deemed a new agreement under the Telecom Act and must be submitted to the Commission for approval.

8. On February 22, 2001, the parties filed with the Commission a joint request for approval of the 911 waiver amendment to the previously approved interconnection agreement, pursuant to the Telecom Act. The Amended Agreement adds a provision related to Sprint's offering of its new Dial IP product. Dial IP service will carry only one-way internet-bound data traffic; therefore, no special 911 dial trunk is needed for its Dial IP service.

9. Sprint and Qwest voluntarily negotiated the entire amendment.

10. The Amended Agreement does not discriminate against any other telecommunications carrier.

11. The Amended Agreement will facilitate local exchange competition in the state of Washington by enabling Sprint to expand its presence in the local exchange market and increase customer choices for local exchange services.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

12. The Commission has jurisdiction over the subject matter and all parties to this proceeding.

13. The Amended Agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

14. The Amended Agreement meets the requirements of Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecom Act, including Section 252(e).

15. The laws and regulations of the State of Washington, and Commission orders govern the construction and interpretation of the Amended Agreement. The Amended Agreement is subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission and the Washington courts.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

16. The 911 waiver amendment between Sprint Communications Company, L.P. and Qwest Corporation, f/ka/ U S WEST Communications, Inc., which the parties filed on February 22, 2001, is approved and effective.

17. In the event that the parties revise, modify, or amend the agreement approved herein, the revised, modified, or amended agreement will be deemed to be a new negotiated agreement under the Telecom Act and must be submitted to the Commission for approval, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(1) and relevant provisions of state law, prior to taking effect.

18. The laws and regulations of the State of Washington, and Commission orders govern the construction and interpretation of the Amended Agreement. The Amended Agreement is subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission and the Washington courts.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 25th day of April, 2001.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARILYN SHOWALTER, Chairwoman

RICHARD HEMSTAD, Commissioner