

November 3, 2003

**NOTICE OF ENDORSEMENT OF
PROPOSED REGIONAL BATCH HOT CUT FORUM,
INCLUDING SCHEDULE AND PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS**

**NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF COMMENTS DUE NOVEMBER 7, 2003, AND
BATCH CUT WORKSHOP SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 12-14, 2003,**

**NOTICE OF EXTENSION OF TIME
TO FILE RESPONSES TO BENCH REQUEST NOS. 1-38
(By Monday, November 17, 2003)**

RE: In the Matter of the Petition of Qwest Corporation to Initiate a Mass-Market Switching and Dedicated Transport Case Pursuant to the Triennial Review Order, Docket No. UT-033044.

In the Prehearing Conference Order, Order No. 01 in this proceeding, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) scheduled a workshop for the morning of Wednesday, November 12, 2003, and all day on Thursday and Friday, November 13 and 14, 2003, to address a batch hot cut migration process for Qwest Corporation (Qwest) within Washington State. The Commission subsequently issued Bench Request Nos. 1-38 concerning batch hot cut issues to the parties, requiring responses to be filed by November 3, 2003. Order No. 01 also required parties to file comments with the Commission by Friday, November 7, 2003, concerning the content and sufficiency of Qwest's current process and recommendations for a batch hot cut migration process.

On October 23, 2003, the Commission also issued Order No. 03, Order Requiring Disclosure of Information, to all competitive local exchange carriers (CLECs) registered in Washington state, requesting responses to questions concerning Qwest's hot cut process and other issues by November 17, 2003.

On Friday, October 31, 2003, Qwest, WorldCom, Inc. on behalf of its regulated subsidiaries (MCI), and AT&T of the Pacific Northwest (AT&T) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a Joint Motion for

Adoption of Batch Hot Cut Forum. In their motion, Qwest, MCI and AT&T propose a multi-state forum, including a schedule and procedural requirements, to allow all interested parties and states to develop a single, uniform batch hot cut process for all states within Qwest's region. Qwest, MCI, and AT&T request all state commissions to endorse the multi-state process and notify CLECs of the process by November 5, 2003.

By this notice, and pursuant to RCW 80.01.070, the Commission endorses the multi-state forum proposed by Qwest, MCI, and AT&T, as well as the schedule and procedural requirements in the joint motion, and encourages all parties to this proceeding and CLECs registered in the state to participate in the forum. The schedule and procedural requirements, as proposed in the joint motion are set forth below:

ACTIVITY	DUE DATE
Commission Notice to all CLECs within respective states regarding batch hot cut forum	November 5, 2003
Qwest submits its batch hot cut proposal which will include a detailed description of the process, including, but not limited to, capacity, Pre-order, Ordering and Provisioning, the proposed cost for the batch hot cut activities, and the intervals.	November 11, 2003
CLECs submit comments/counter proposals to Qwest's batch hot cut proposal	November 18, 2003
Initial Forum – Denver, Colorado	December 1-3, 2003
Weekly conference calls on batch hot cut proposal, if useful. Face-to-face meetings as necessary (in Seattle, Washington & Phoenix, Arizona)	December 4, 2003 - January 15, 2004
Simultaneous filing of direct testimony on impasse issues regarding the batch hot cut process and filing of a Stipulation among parties on areas of agreement/consensus items.	January 20, 2004
Simultaneous filing of rebuttal testimony	February 15, 2004
Hearings & Commission Decision	Per each state's procedural order in the 9-month dockets ¹

¹ The Commission has scheduled hearings in this proceeding for March 1-5 and March 15-19, 2004.

In order to allow all parties to effectively participate in the multi-state forum, and avoid duplicative filings, the Commission will hold in abeyance the Commission's procedural schedule concerning Qwest's batch hot cut process. The Commission cancels the workshop scheduled for November 12-14, 2003, as well as the comments due to be filed on November 7, 2003. The Commission also extends the date for filing responses to Bench Request Nos. 1-38 until Monday, November 17, 2003 to synchronize the filing dates for responses to all bench requests and requests for disclosure of information.

The success of the multi-state forum depends upon the active participation of all states and industry representatives. If the necessary state and industry representatives do not participate in the multi-state forum, or the multi-state effort is not meeting the proposed schedule or otherwise fails to be effective, the Commission will reschedule a Washington state batch hot cut workshop, and reschedule a time for filing comments.

Sincerely,

ANN E. RENDAHL
Administrative Law Judge