

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

In the Matter of the)	
Development of Universal)	DOCKET NO. UT-011219
Terms and Conditions for)	
Interconnection and Network)	
Elements to be Provided by)	SEVENTH SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER;
)	PREHEARING CONFERENCE ORDER
)	ESTABLISHING SCHEDULE; AND
VERIZON NORTHWEST, INC.)	CLARIFYING STAFF'S ROLE
.....)	

1 **Proceeding.** This matter involves a request that the Commission direct Verizon Northwest Incorporated (Verizon) to provide persons requesting interconnection agreements with Verizon some generally available terms, and that the Commission review the terms for compliance with pertinent law.

2 **History.** On April 24, 2003, the Commission entered its Sixth Supplemental Order in this proceeding granting a joint motion of the parties to amend the procedural schedule and giving notice of a prehearing conference to establish a new schedule of proceedings and to discuss the role of Commission Staff in the proceeding. A prehearing conference was convened at the offices of the Commission on May 12, 2003.

3 **Appearances.** W. Jeffery Edwards and Meredith B. Miles, attorneys, Richmond, Virginia, represent Verizon. Letty S.D. Friesen, attorney, Denver, Colorado, represents AT&T of the Pacific Northwest, Inc. (AT&T). Gregory J. Kopta, attorney, Seattle, represents Fox Communications Corp. (Fox), Time Warner Telecom of Washington, LLC (Time Warner); and XO Washington, Inc. (XO). Dennis D. Ahlers, attorney, Minneapolis, Minnesota, represents Eschelon Telecom, Inc. (Eschelon). Michele Singer-Nelson, attorney, Denver, Colorado, represents WorldCom, Inc. (WorldCom). Karen J. Johnson, attorney, represents Integra Telecom of Washington, Inc. (Integra). Mary M. Tennyson, Senior Assistant Attorney General, represents Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission Staff (Commission Staff).

- 4 **Schedule.** Pursuant to the Sixth Supplemental Order, the parties jointly proposed a schedule of proceedings to replace the previously agreed upon schedule.

The proposed schedule is as follows:

File disputed issues matrix	December 16, 2003
File initial testimony	February 6, 2004
Staff to file response testimony	February 27, 2004
File rebuttal testimony	March 19, 2004
Prehearing Conference	April 7, 2004
Evidentiary Hearing	April 19-28, 2004

This schedule is reasonable and is adopted for purposes of this proceeding.

- 5 **Staff's Role.** Commission Staff has been participating in negotiations among the parties regarding the various provisions of the Verizon statement of general terms and conditions for interconnection. However, Commission Staff and the parties agree that, rather than Staff presenting its own version of a general interconnection agreement, a more productive use of Staff time and resources would be for Staff instead to review the parties' proposals resulting from the negotiations. Staff would then submit testimony, as appropriate, providing Staff's perspective on the proper resolution of the disputed issues, or on the public interest ramifications of the agreed upon provisions.

- 6 To this end, Staff would not participate further in the parties' negotiations, nor would it prepare and file a disputed issues matrix. Rather, Staff would file testimony according to the newly established schedule and that testimony would review and commenting on the parties' filed testimony.

- 7 The parties' agreement regarding Staff's role in the proceeding is reasonable and is adopted for purposes of this proceeding. The other parties to the proceeding

must jointly prepare and file a disputed issues matrix no later than December 16, 2003.

ORDER

- 8 The Commission approves a revised schedule of proceedings for this case. The Commission clarifies and approves Staff's role in the proceeding to be one of reviewing and commenting on the proposals submitted by the other parties. The remaining parties to the proceeding must jointly file a disputed issues matrix according to the newly approved schedule.

Dated at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 13th day of May, 2003.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

THEODORA M. MACE
Administrative Law Judge

NOTICE TO PARTIES: Any objection to the provisions of this Order must be filed within ten (10) days after the date of mailing of this statement, pursuant to WAC 480-09-460(2). Absent such objections, this order will control further proceedings in this matter, subject to Commission review.

APPENDIX A

<u>PARTIES REPRESENTATIVES</u>				
DOCKET NO. UT-011219				
Updated 5/12/03				
COMPANY	REPRESENTATIVE AND ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	FAX NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS
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Fox, Time Warner, XO (CLECs)	GREGORY J. KOPTA Davis Wright Termaine 1501 Fourth Avenue #2600 Seattle, WA 98101	206-628-7692	206-628-7699	gregkopta@dwt.com
WorldCom, Inc.	MICHEL SINGER NELSON WorldCom, Inc. 707-17th Street #4200 Denver, CO 80202	303-390-6106	303-390-6333	michel.singer_nelson@wcom.com
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