BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Penalty Assessment Against MCIMETRO ACCESS TRANSMISSION SERVICES LLC D/B/A VERIZON ACCESS TRANSMISSION SERVICES, in the Amount of \$85,000

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DOCKET NO. UT-061420

COMMISSION STAFF'S RESPONSE TO MCIMETRO'S REQUEST FOR HEARING

Pursuant to WAC 480-07-370(1)(c), Commission Staff (Staff) submits this response to MCImetro's Request for Hearing.

On October 6, 2006, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) assessed a penalty of \$85,000 against MCImetro Access Transmission Services LLC d/b/a Verizon Access Transmission Services (MCImetro) for violations of WAC 480-120. On October 20, 2006, MCImetro filed a Request for Hearing to allow MCImetro and Staff a reasonable amount of time to pursue settlement negotiations. Staff does not oppose the company's Request for Hearing, will appear at a hearing and is amenable to settlement discussions with the company in advance of a hearing.

DATED this 27th day of October, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

ROB MCKENNA Attorney General

MICHAEL A. FASSIO Assistant Attorney General Counsel for Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission Staff