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VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL

March 17, 2003

Ms. Carole J. Washburn, Executive Secretary  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive, S.W.  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

**Re: In the Matter of the Petition for Arbitration of an Interconnection Agreement Between Level 3 Communications, LLC and Qwest Corporation, Docket No. UT-023042**

Dear Ms. Washburn:

This letter on behalf of Qwest Corporation ("Qwest") responds to the letter filed by Level 3 Communications on March 7, 2003, in the docket referred to above.

In its letter, Level 3 explained that although the parties have filed a signed interconnection agreement with the Commission, Level 3 believes there is still an arbitration issue that requires clarification by the Commission. Specifically, Level 3 suggests that the Commission's final order in the arbitration is ambiguous concerning whether the Commission ordered the parties to adopt Level 3's proposed language for nonrecurring charges in Section 7.3.3.1 of the interconnection agreement. While the executed agreement the parties submitted does not include Level 3's proposed language for this section, Level 3 requests that the Commission order the parties to implement that language.

Qwest respectfully asks the Commission to deny Level 3's request and to confirm that the version of Section 7.3.3.1 included in the signed agreement filed with the Commission shall remain in effect. This result is consistent with the ordering clauses of the Commission's Final Order. Paragraph No. 4 of the ordering clauses identifies the specific sections of the interconnection agreement affected by the Final Order, and it does *not* refer to Section 7.3.3.1. This exclusion is not an oversight. A review of the evidence presented in the hearing demonstrates that as the petitioning party, Level 3 did not address nonrecurring charges or Section 7.3.3.1 in any of its testimony or other evidence. Accordingly, this issue was not arbitrated and properly was not included in the Final Order.

[13141-0513/DA030760.003]

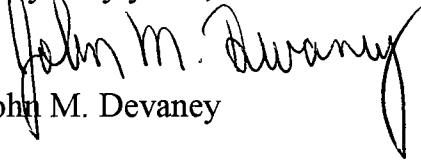
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Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,



John M. Devaney

cc: Honorable Marilyn Showalter, Chairwoman  
Honorable Richard Hemstad, Commissioner  
Honorable Patrick J. Oshie, Commissioner  
Ms. Shannon Smith, Assistant Attorney General  
Mr. Simon ffitch, Office of Attorney General  
Mr. Rogelio Pena, Pena & Associates  
Mr. Adam Sherr, Qwest Communications  
Ms. Lisa Anderl, Qwest Communications  
Ms. Nancy Donahue, Qwest Communications  
Mr. Gregory Rogers, Level 3 Communications  
Ms. Mary Rose Hughes, Perkins Coie LLP