

March 17, 2004

VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Ms. Carole J. Washburn, Executive Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW
Post Office Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Re: Docket No. UT-043013

Dear Ms. Washburn:

This responds to the Commission's March 15, 2004 Notice to Respond to Request for Extension of Time to File Responses to Petition. WorldCom, Inc., on behalf of its regulated subsidiaries in Washington ("MCI"), does not object to Verizon's request for an extension of time for parties to respond to its Petition for Arbitration.

While MCI does not oppose the extension of time, we do not agree with Verizon that the District of Columbia Circuit Court's opinion gives rise to change of law provisions in interconnection agreements, given that the Court's decision has been stayed. The decision is not in effect today, and because we and the majority of the FCC intend to seek a stay, it may not become effective during this arbitration proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

Michel L. Singer Nelson

Cc: Service List