

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of)	DOCKET UT-071673
)	
QWEST CORPORATION,)	ORDER 01
)	
For Order Approving an Agreement for)	
Transfer of land and building located at)	
1313 E. Columbia Street, Seattle,)	ORDER GRANTING
Washington, to Seattle University)	APPLICATION
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On August 13, 2007, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed an Application pursuant to the provisions of RCW 80.12 seeking Commission approval of an agreement for the transfer of land and building located at 1313 E. Columbia Street, Seattle, Washington, from Qwest to Seattle University (Seattle U).

- 2 Qwest is not required to make this application under the terms of the Alternative Form of Regulation (AFOR) authorized by the Commission in Docket UT-061625. The purchase price is confidential. The assets that are being transferred have been included in Qwest's Washington rate base, and have been used by Qwest in the provision of telecommunications services in Washington. Qwest argues that it can more efficiently conduct its current level of business by selling the assets. The transfer will be made at the higher of net book cost or fair market value which in this case is fair market value.

- 3 The sale agreement states that closing will take place no later than November 30, 2007. Qwest's application states that the purchase and sale agreement requires that Qwest obtain Commission authorization to transfer the property by September 30, 2007.

- 4 Staff has reviewed the materials submitted by Qwest, and Qwest's responses to Staff's inquiries. Staff recommends that Commission approve the property transfer agreement.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public service

companies, including telecommunications companies. *RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04, RCW 80.12, and Chapter 480-143 WAC.*

- 6 (2) Qwest, a Colorado corporation, is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 7 (3) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on September 26, 2007.
- 8 (4) After examination of the petition filed in Docket UT-071673 by Qwest on August 13, 2007, and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Application is consistent with the public interest and should be granted.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 9 (1) Qwest Corporation's request for approval of an agreement for the transfer of land and building located at 1313 E. Columbia Street, Seattle, Washington, to Seattle University is approved.
- 10 (2) This Order shall in no way affect the authority of this Commission over rates, services, accounts, evaluations, estimates, or determination of costs on any matters whatsoever that may come before it, nor shall anything herein be construed as acquiescence in any estimate or determination of costs claimed or asserted.
- 11 (3) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Qwest Corporation to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective September 26, 2007.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Executive Secretary