

[Service Date September 8, 2004]

September 8, 2004

NOTICE OF HEARING
(To be held on Thursday, September 9, 2004, at 1:30 p.m.)

RE: *In the Matter of the Petition for Arbitration of an Amendment to Interconnection Agreements of Verizon Northwest Inc. with Competitive Local Exchange Carriers and Commercial Mobile Radio Service Providers in Washington Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 252(b), and the Triennial Review Order,*
Docket No. UT-043013.

TO ALL PARTIES OF RECORD:

On August 31, 2004, a number of competitive local exchange carriers (CLECs), Advanced TelCom Inc., AT&T Communications of the Pacific Northwest, Inc., Covad Communications Company, MCI, Inc., and United Communications Inc., d/b/a UNICOM, filed a motion for enforcement of Order No. 05 in this proceeding, as well as enforcement of interconnection agreements and the Triennial Review Order. The CLECs' motion concerns plans by Verizon Northwest Inc. (Verizon) to replace a circuit switch in Mt. Vernon, Washington, with a packet switch.

The CLECs request an order from the Commission by September 10, 2004, enforcing the Commission's order, as well as their interconnection agreements and the Triennial Review Order. In the motion the CLECs state both that the matter is "purely a Verizon pricing decision," and that there is "potential harm to those CLECs whose operational support systems cannot accommodate the resale platform offered." *Motion, ¶¶ 9, 13.*

The Commission convenes a hearing to hear testimony and evidence from parties to this proceeding concerning the balance of harms presented by the switch conversion. **The hearing will be held on Thursday, September 9, 2004, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 108 of the Commission's Offices, Chandler Plaza Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington.** Persons who cannot attend the conference in person, including witnesses who intend to present testimony, may

participate via a teleconference bridge line at 360-709-4803, pin number 2519#. Specifically, the Commission seeks factual information concerning the operational effects of the conversion from the circuit to packet switch as well as any customer affecting aspects of the conversion. The primary issue to be addressed at the hearing is whether the conversion is truly a pricing issue or if customers will be discontinued or affected by the conversion.

The Commission will give priority in presenting testimony to parties who currently provide service and operate out of the Mt. Vernon switch and can testify to any customer affecting aspect of the conversion or whether the conversion results in only a change in price to wholesale customers of Verizon. If time permits, parties who do not provide service or operate out of the Mt. Vernon switch may have the opportunity to provide testimony. **Parties should notify the administrative law judge by e-mail at arendahl@wutc.wa.gov no later than 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, September 9, 2004, of the witnesses they propose to offer and the length of time of the witnesses proposed direct testimony.**

Sincerely

ANN E. RENDAHL
Administrative Law Judge