

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

In the Matter of the Petition for)	DOCKET UT-093035
Arbitration of an Interconnection)	
Agreement Between)	
)	ORDER 03
NORTH COUNTY)	
COMMUNICATIONS)	
CORPORATION OF WASHINGTON)	PREHEARING CONFERENCE
)	ORDER
and)	
)	NOTICE OF STATUS
QWEST CORPORATION)	CONFERENCE
)	(Scheduled for November 20,
Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 252(b).)	2009)
)	
.....)	

- 1 **NATURE OF PROCEEDING.** Docket UT-093035 involves a petition by Qwest Corporation (Qwest) for arbitration and approval of an interconnection agreement with North County Communications Corporation of Washington (North County) pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §252(b) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

- 2 **CONFERENCE.** The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) convened a prehearing conference in this docket at Olympia, Washington on October 20, 2009, before Administrative Law Judge Patricia Clark.¹

- 3 **APPEARANCES.** Lisa A. Anderl, Associate General Counsel, Seattle, Washington, represents Qwest. Chris Reichman, Dicks & Workman, APC, San Diego, California, represents North County. Contact information provided at the conference for the parties' representatives is attached as Appendix A to this order.

¹ Administrative Law Judge Ann E. Rendahl is assigned to this matter but, due to illness, was unable to preside at this prehearing conference.

4 **STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS.** During the prehearing conference, the parties reported that they are actively pursuing settlement negotiations and believe they will be able to resolve the outstanding issues in this matter to their mutual satisfaction within 30 days. The parties requested that the Commission continue to hold this matter in abeyance as they pursue negotiations. The Commission favors the resolution of disputed issues through the alternate dispute resolution process. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that it is reasonable to afford the parties additional time to pursue negotiations and to schedule a status conference in thirty days. The purpose of the status conference is to have the parties report on the progress of their negotiations and to address procedural matters, including a procedural schedule, if the parties are unable to reach agreement.

5 **NOTICE OF STATUS CONFERENCE.** The Commission will hold a status conference in this matter beginning **November 20, 2009, at 1:30 p.m.** in Room 108, First Floor, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington.

6 **NOTICE TO PARTIES: Any objection to the provisions of this Order must be filed within ten (10) days after the service date of this Order, pursuant to WAC 480-07-430 and WAC 480-07-810. Absent such objection, this Order will control further proceedings in this matter, subject to commission review.**

Dated at Olympia, Washington, and effective October 21, 2009.

WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

PATRICIA CLARK
Administrative Law Judge

APPENDIX A				
PARTIES' REPRESENTATIVES				
DOCKET UT-093035				
PARTY	REPRESENTATIVE	PHONE	FACSIMILE	E-MAIL
QWEST	LISA A. ANDERL Associate General Counsel Qwest Services Corporation 1600 7 th Ave. – Room 3206 Seattle, WA 98191	206-345-1574	206-343-4040	lisa.anderl@qwest.com
NORTH COUNTY	JOSEPH G. DICKS Dicks & Workman, APC 750 B Street, Suite 2720 San Diego, CA 92101	619-685-6800	619-288-6850-	jdicks@dicks- workmanlaw.com
	CHRIS REICHMAN Dicks & Workman, APC 750 B Street, Suite 2720. San Diego, CA 92101	619-6785-6800	619-288-6850	chris_reichman@yahoo.com
Presiding Admin. Law Judge	ANN E. RENDAHL 1300 S. Evergreen Pk Drive SW PO Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250	360-664-1144	360-664-2654 (ALD fax only – do not use to file)	arendahl@utc.wa.gov