

January 9, 2007

Carole J. Washburn, Secretary  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW  
P. O. Box 47250  
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Re: *MCI metro Access Transmission Service, LLC*  
Docket No. UT-061420

Dear Ms. Washburn:

On November 30, 2006, the parties (Staff and MCI metro) notified the commission that they had reached a settlement in principle, and requested postponement of the prehearing conference to allow the parties time to reduce the settlement to writing. A prehearing conference has been rescheduled for January 11, 2007.

As of this notice, the parties are unable to reach a settlement in writing and expect that the scheduled prehearing conference will therefore be necessary. However, the parties jointly wish to inform the commission in advance that MCI metro will request at the prehearing conference the appointment of a settlement judge to assist the parties in mediation. Having discussed this matter with counsel for MCI metro, Staff supports the request for appointment of a settlement judge. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL A. FASSIO  
Assistant Attorney General

MAF:emd  
cc: Parties