**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON**

**UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

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| In the Matter of the Contract Filed for the Operation of the Data Distribution Center and the replacement of the WASHINGTON EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION with Mr. Craig J. Phillips, CPA  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | ) ) ) ) ) )  ) | DOCKET UT-951081  ORDER 03  ORDER APPROVING CONTRACT AMENDMENT |

## **BACKGROUND**

1. On September 15, 1995, the Washington Exchange Carrier Association (WECA or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) an agreement in Docket UT-951081 concerning the operations of the Data Distribution Center (DDC) to reconcile the exchange of intrastate switched access minutes related to intraLATA long distance traffic as part of the Primary Toll Carrier environment established as a result of the consolidated Dockets in UT-921462, et al. The Commission approved the contract with WECA as the initial administrator of the DDC on November 30, 1995.
2. On October 14, 2015, an amendment was filed requesting the replacement of WECA with the subsequent appointment of Mr. Craig J. Phillips, CPA. The major signatories including WECA, CenturyLink (fka U S WEST Communications, Inc.), and Frontier Communications (GTE Northwest, Incorporated) all agree to this amendment and respectfully request approval by December 1, 2015, to ensure a smooth transition.
3. The contract amendment is reasonable because it will not result in any changes to the administrative functions being provided. The administrative responsibilities will transfer from WECA to Mr. Craig J. Phillips, CPA.
4. Commission Staff has reviewed the proposed contract and found it to be fair, just and reasonable and is consistent with the public interest. Commission Staff recommends the Commission approve the contract amendment with an effective date of November 30, 2015.

### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

1. (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including telecommunications companies. RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04, RCW 80.08, RCW 80.12, RCW 80.16 and RCW 80.36.
2. (2) CenturyLink and Frontier Communications are telecommunications companies and public service companies subject to Commission jurisdiction.
3. (3) Commission Staff has reviewed the October 14, 2015, request in Docket UT-951081 and recommended the Commission grant the contract amendment.
4. (4) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on November 13, 2015.
5. (5) After reviewing the contract amendment filed on October 14, 2015, and giving due consideration to relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds the proposed contract should become effective November 30, 2015.

## **O R D E R**

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS:**

1. (1) The contract amendment filed on October 14, 2015, is approved.
2. (2) The contract amendment should become effective on November 30, 2015.

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 November 13, 2015.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

# STEVEN V. KING, Executive Director and Secretary