

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

PACIFIC BELL WIRELESS)	DOCKET UT-063048
NORTHWEST, LLC (a/k/a)	
CINGULAR WIRELESS),)	
)	ORDER 04
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	GRANTING JOINT REQUEST
)	FOR CONTINUANCE AND
QWEST CORPORATION,)	CONTINUED SUSPENSION OF
)	PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE
Respondent.)	
)	
.....)	

MEMORANDUM

- 1 **NATURE OF PROCEEDING:** Pacific Bell Wireless Northwest, LLC, more commonly known as Cingular Wireless (Cingular) filed a formal complaint against Qwest Corporation (Qwest). Cingular alleged that Qwest improperly billed Cingular from August 2003 through October 2005 for signaling System 7 (SS7) service on all local calls exchanged between the companies in violation of the parties' interconnection agreement. Qwest disputed the allegations and asserted that much of the service involves interstate circuits outside the Commission's jurisdiction and services provided under tariff, not under an interconnection agreement.
- 2 **PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND:** In Order 03, Granting Joint Request for Continuance and Suspension of Procedural Schedule, the Commission extended, until November 1, 2006, the deadline for the parties to file a settlement agreement or report on the status of settlement negotiations. The Commission also suspended the procedural schedule established by prior order.¹
- 3 **STATUS REPORT:** On November 1, 2006, the parties timely filed a status report on settlement negotiations. In that report, the parties indicated that they have reached

¹ See, Order 02 for the complete procedural schedule.

an agreement in principle but have not yet executed a written document reflecting the agreement. The parties stated that they should be able to execute that document and file it, along with a joint motion for approval of agreement, by November 17, 2006. Therefore, the parties requested that the Commission continue suspension of the procedural schedule until that date.

4 **COMMISSION DECISION:** The joint request for continuance should be granted. According to the status report, the parties have reached a substantive agreement, but have had insufficient time to memorialize the terms and conditions of that agreement in writing. Granting the continuance will not unduly delay this proceeding because the parties requested a reasonable amount of time to draft and execute a written agreement. The parties' request to continue the suspension of the procedural schedule is granted. At this juncture, establishing other procedural deadlines would not serve any useful purpose.

5 The deadline for submission of a settlement agreement is extended to November 17, 2006. If the parties do not file a settlement agreement together with a joint motion for approval of the agreement, a second prehearing conference will be convened to establish a revised procedural schedule to resolve any outstanding matters.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- (1) The joint request for continuance and continued suspension of the procedural schedule is granted.
- (2) By November 17, 2006, the parties shall file a settlement agreement or report on the status of their settlement negotiations.

Dated at Olympia, Washington, and effective November 2, 2006.

WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

PATRICIA CLARK
Administrative Law Judge