

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

VERIZON SELECT SERVICES, INC.;)	DOCKET UT-081393
MCIMETRO ACCESS)	
TRANSMISSION SERVICES, LLC;)	
MCI COMMUNICATIONS)	
SERVICES, INC.; TELECONNECT)	
LONG DISTANCE SERVICES AND)	NOTICE OF PREHEARING
SYSTEMS CO. d/b/a TELECOM)	CONFERENCE
USA; AND TTI NATIONAL, INC.,)	(Set for September 24, 2008, at
)	1:30 p.m.)
Complainants,)	
)	
v.)	
)	
UNITED TELEPHONE COMPANY)	
OF THE NORTHWEST, d/b/a)	
EMBARQ)	
)	
Respondent.)	

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1 Verizon Select Services, Inc., MCImetro Access Transmission Services, LLC, MCI Communications Services, Inc., Teleconnect Long Distance Services and Systems Co. d/b/a Telecom USA and TTI National, Inc. (Verizon Access or Complainants) on July 28, 2008, filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a formal complaint against United Telephone Company of the Northwest (Embarq). On August 18, 2008, Embarq filed an answer to the complaint and a motion to dismiss. The complaint alleges that Embarq’s intrastate switched access charges are not just and reasonable, and are in violation of RCW 80.36.140. A more detailed account of the dispute is reflected in the complaint, which is available for inspection at the Commission’s office located at Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington, and on the Commission’s web site at www.utc.wa.gov/081393. It is appropriate that the matters raised in the pleadings be brought for hearing before the Commission.

2 **STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter under RCW Title 80, and has legal authority to regulate the rates, services, and practices of telecommunications companies providing service within the state of Washington. Statutes and rules cited in the complaint include RCW 80.36.140 and RCW 80.36.186. The statutes that apply to this matter, in addition to those previously cited, include those within RCW 80.01, RCW 80.04, RCW 80.36, WAC 480-07, and WAC 480-120, including but not limited to RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04.020, and RCW 80.04.110.

3 The Commission will hear this matter under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), particularly Part IV of RCW 34.05 relating to adjudications. The provisions of the APA that relate to this proceeding include, but are not limited to RCW 34.05.413, RCW 34.05.422, RCW 34.05.431, RCW 34.05.440, RCW 34.05.449, and RCW 34.05.452. The Commission will also follow its procedural rules in WAC 480-07 in this proceeding.

4 **THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That the Commission will hold a prehearing conference in this matter at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 24, 2008, in the Commission's Hearing Room, Second Floor, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington.** If you are unable to attend the prehearing conference in person, you may attend via the Commission's teleconference bridge line, **360-664-3846**.

5 The purpose of the prehearing conference is to consider requests for intervention, resolve scheduling matters including briefing on Embarq's motion to dismiss, and establishing dates for distributing evidence and workpapers, to identify the issues in the proceeding and determine other matters to assist the Commission in resolving the matter, as listed in WAC 480-07-430.

6 **INTERVENTION:** Persons who wish to intervene should file a petition to intervene in writing at least three business days before the date of the prehearing conference. *See WAC 480-07-355(a)*. The Commission will consider oral petitions to intervene during the conference, but strongly prefers written petitions to intervene. Party representatives must file a notice of appearance with the Commission no later than the business day before the conference. *See WAC 480-07-345(2)*. Any party or witness in need of an interpreter or other assistance should fill out the form attached to this notice and return it to the Commission. The Commission will set the time and place for any evidentiary hearings at the prehearing conference, on the record of a later conference or hearing session, or by later written notice.

7 **THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE that any party who fails to attend or participate in the prehearing conference set by this Notice, or any other stage of this proceeding, may be held in default under RCW 34.05.440 and WAC 480-07-450.**

8 The names and mailing addresses of all known parties and their known representatives are as follows:

Complainants: Verizon Select Services, Inc.
1 Verizon Way
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

MCImetro Access Transmission Services, LLC
22001 Loudoun County Parkway
Ashburn, VA 20147

MCI Communications Services, Inc.
22001 Loudoun County Parkway
Ashburn, VA 20147

Teleconnect Long Distance Services and Systems Co.
22001 Loudoun County Parkway
Ashburn, VA 20147

TTI National, Inc.
22001 Loudoun County Parkway
Ashburn, VA 20147

Representative: Gregory M. Romano
General Counsel – Northwest Region
Verizon
1800 41st Street; WA0105GC
Everett, WA 98201
(425) 261-5460
Gregory.m.romano@verizon.com

Respondent: United Telephone Company of the Northwest
d/b/a Embarq
902 Wasco Street
Hood River, OR 97031-3105

Representative: William E. Hendricks, III, Esq.
United Telephone Company of the Northwest
d/b/a Embarq
902 Wasco Street
Hood River, OR 97031
(541) 387-9439
Tre.hendricks@embarq.com

Commission Staff: Washington Utilities and
Transportation Commission
Richard Hemstad Building
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Representative: Jonathan Thompson
Assistant Attorney General
1400 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
P.O. Box 40128
Olympia, WA 98504-0128
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Public Counsel: Simon J. ffitc
Assistant Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
Public Counsel Section
800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000
Seattle, WA 98104-3188
(206) 389-2055
simonf@atg.wa.gov

- 9 Administrative Law Judge Ann E. Rendahl, from the Commission's Administrative Law Division, will preside during this proceeding, pending reassignment to a different administrative law judge.
- 10 The Commission will give parties notice of any other procedural phase of the proceeding in writing or on the record, as appropriate during this proceeding.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective August 27, 2008.

WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER
Executive Director and Secretary

Inquiries may be addressed to:

Executive Secretary
Washington State Utilities and
Transportation Commission
Richard Hemstad Building
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250
(360) 664-1160

- or - Public Counsel Section
Office of the Attorney General
800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000
Seattle, WA 98104-3188
(206) 464-7744

NOTICE

Hearing facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Smoking is prohibited. If limited English-speaking, hearing-impaired parties or witnesses are involved in a hearing and need an interpreter, a qualified interpreter will be appointed at no cost to the party or witness.

If you need an interpreter, or have other special needs, please fill out this form and return it to Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission, Attention: David W. Danner, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW, P. O. Box 47250, Olympia, WA 98504-7250. (PLEASE SUPPLY ALL REQUESTED INFORMATION)

Docket : _____

Case Name: _____

Hearing Date: _____ Hearing Location: _____

Primary Language: _____

Hearing Impaired (Yes) _____ (No) _____

Do you need a certified sign language interpreter:

Visual _____ Tactile _____

Other type of assistance needed: _____

English-speaking person who can be contacted if there are questions:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No.: (____) _____