

**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 04
NORTH COUNTY)	
COMMUNICATIONS)	
CORPORATION OF WASHINGTON)	PREHEARING CONFERENCE
)	ORDER
and)	
)	
QWEST CORPORATION)	
)	
Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 252(b).)	
)	
.....)	

- 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 November 20, 2009, before Administrative Law Judge Ann E. Rendahl.

- 3 **APPEARANCES.** Lisa A. Anderl, Associate General Counsel, Seattle, Washington, represents Qwest. Joseph Dicks, Dicks & Workman, APC, San Diego, California, represents North County.

- 4 **STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS.** During the prehearing conference, the parties reported that they are close to finalizing a negotiated interconnection agreement. Counsel for North County reported that the company will finalize a draft to send to Qwest by December 1, 2009. The parties intend to resolve the final wording of the

agreement by December 15. The parties intend to file the negotiated agreement with the Commission once it has been finalized.

5 **RESOLUTION OF THE PROCEEDING.** Given that the parties are likely to enter into a negotiated agreement rather than require the Commission to arbitrate all or part of an agreement, the presiding officer suggested that Qwest move to withdraw its petition for arbitration upon filing a negotiated agreement with the Commission. Qwest and North County agreed that such a process would reasonably resolve the arbitration proceeding. The parties also agreed that no further status conference was necessary in this matter.

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 November 25, 2009.

WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

ANN E. RENDAHL
Administrative Law Judge