1	BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
2	TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
3	In the Matter of the Petition ) for Arbitration of an )
4	Interconnection Agreement ) Between:
5	LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, LLC, ) and )Docket No. UT 023042
6	QWEST CORPORATION )Volume I Pursuant to 47 USC, Section 252)Pages 1-26
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8	A prehearing conference in the above matter was
9	held on September 24, 2002, at 8:30 a.m., at 1300 South
10	Evergreen Park Drive Southwest, Room 206, Olympia,
11	Washington, before Administrative Law Judge MARJORIE
12	SCHAER.
13	The parties were present as follows:
14	QWEST CORPORATION, by ADAM SHERR, Attorney
15	at Law, 1600 Seventh Avenue, Suite 3206, Seattle,
16	Washington 98191, Telephone (206) 398-2507, Fax
17	(206) 343-4040, E-mail, asherr@qwest.com; and by
18	LISA ANDERL, Attorney at Law, via Bridge Line,
19	Telephone (206) 345-1574, E-mail, landerl@qwest.com;
20	and by JOHN DEVANEY, Attorney at Law, Perkins Coie,
21	607 14th Street, Northwest, Washington, D.C.
22	2000-2011; Telephone, (202) 434-1624; Fax,
23	(202) 434-1690; E-mail, devaj@perkinscoie.com.
24	Deborah L. Cook
25	Court Reporter

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LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, LLC, by ROGELIO E.
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       PENA, Attorney at Law, Pena & Associates, 1919 14th
       Street, Suite 330, Boulder, Colorado 80302,
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       Telephone, (303) 415-0409, Fax, (303) 415-0433,
 5
       E-mail, repena@boulderattys.com; and by GREG ROGERS,
 6
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 8
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1	PROCEEDINGS
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3	JUDGE SCHAER: Let's be on the record.
4	We're here this morning for a pre-arbitration
5	conference in docket UT excuse me, I am looking
6	at a different docket UT-023042, and this is a
7	proceeding wherein Level 3 Communications, LLC, has
8	filed a petition in arbitration under the Telecom
9	Act of 1996, and would like to arbitrate that issue
10	with Qwest Corporation.
11	We're here today on September 24th in the
12	Commission's hearing room in Olympia, Washington.
13	It's 8:40 in the morning, and appearing in the
14	hearing room are Mr. Pena for Level 3, and Mr. Sherr
15	for Qwest.
16	We also have joining us on the bridge line
17	at this time Mr. Devaney with the Perkins Coie firm
18	in Washington, D.C.
19	Also representing Qwest, Lisa Anderl who is
20	in-house counsel for Qwest. And Greg Rogers who is
21	with Level 3.
22	Is there anyone else who has joined us on
23	the bridge line?
24	(No response.)
25	JUDGE SCHAER: I would like to start this

- 1 morning by taking appearances, starting with
- 2 petitioner.
- 3 MR. PENA: Good morning. This is Rogelio
- 4 Pena, Pena & Associates, for Level 3 Communications.
- 5 MR. ROGERS: Greg Rogers, entering an
- 6 appearance as well, with Level 3.
- JUDGE SCHAER: Are you employed by Level 3,
- 8 or outside counsel?
- 9 MR. ROGERS: I am in-house counsel. I am
- 10 an attorney at Level 3.
- JUDGE SCHAER: Usually at a first
- 12 conference like this one we have you put in a big
- 13 appearance in the sense that you give me your
- 14 address, you provide me and other parties with your
- 15 fax number, and with your e-mail address so if we
- need to correspond quickly, we have those tools
- 17 available.
- 18 So would you, Mr. Pena, give us the rest of
- 19 that information.
- 20 MR. PENA: Yes, Your Honor. I am with
- Pena & Associates, LLC. My address is 1919 14th
- 22 Street, Suite 330, Boulder, Colorado 80302. My
- telephone number is (303) 415-0409. My fax number
- 24 is (303) 415-0433, and my e-mail address is
- 25 r-e-p-e-n-a, at boulder attorneys -- that's

- b-o-u-l-d-e-r-a-t-t-y-s -- dot com.
- JUDGE SCHAER: Thank you. And Mr. Rogers,
- 3 would you like to give us the rest of your contact
- 4 information, please.
- 5 MR. ROGERS: I am Level 3 Communications.
- 6 Our address is 1025 Eldorado, E-l-d-o-r-a-d-o,
- Boulevard in Broomfield, B-r-o-o-m-f-i-e-l-d,
- 8 Colorado, Zip code, 80021. My phone number,
- 9 (720) 888-2512. My fax number is (720) 888-5134.
- 10 And my e-mail address is Greg, G-r-e-g, dot, Rogers,
- 11 R-o-g-e-r-s, at Level 3, the number 3, dot com.
- 12 JUDGE SCHAER: Thank you. Then we will
- take appearances from the respondent starting with
- 14 you, Mr. Sherr.
- 15 MR. SHERR: Adam Sherr, S-h-e-r-r, in-house
- 16 attorney at Qwest. Address is 1600 7th Avenue, Room
- 3206, Seattle, Washington 98191. Telephone number
- 18 (206) 398-2507. Fax number, (206) 343-4040, and
- e-mail is a-s-h-e-r-r, at Qwest dot com.
- JUDGE SCHAER: Thank you. And then
- Mr. Devaney.
- MR. DEVANEY: Yes, Your Honor. It's John
- Devaney, D-e-v-a-n-e-y. I am with the law firm of
- 24 Perkins Coie, and second name C-o-i-e. And the
- address is 607 14th Street, Northwest, Washington

- 1 D.C., Zip code, 20005-2011; Telephone,
- 2 (202) 434-1624; Fax, (202) 434-1690; and the e-mail
- 3 address is d-e-v-a-j, at Perkins Coie, dot com.
- 4 JUDGE SCHAER: Thank you. And you,
- 5 Ms. Anderl?
- 6 MS. ANDERL: Lisa Anderl, in-house attorney
- 7 representing Qwest. My address information is the
- 8 same as Mr. Sherr's. My telephone number is
- 9 (206) 345-1574. And my e-mail is L-a-n-d-e-r-l, at
- 10 Qwest dot com.
- 11 JUDGE SCHAER: Thank you. Has anyone else
- joined us on the bridge line?
- 13 (No response.)
- JUDGE SCHAER: Thank you. Then
- at this point what I had talked with the parties
- 16 about before we went on the record was -- the agenda
- 17 I had in mind was to talk about, first, whether
- 18 there are factual issues that need to be resolved in
- 19 this matter. And then with knowledge of what we did
- or did not need to do at that point, discussion on
- 21 the schedule for the remainder of the proceeding,
- 22 which schedule would include at some point answers
- 23 to Qwest's motion to dismiss.
- 24 And we will need to talk about whether
- 25 there's going to be reply to those. It's my

- 1 understanding that the statutory time line for me to
- 2 have a report issued is December 28 -- not December,
- 3 November 28. And I am thinking that's fairly close.
- 4 Actually, I need to look at this again, because you
- 5 are showing 11/27. So we need to make certain we
- 6 all agree on what that date is.
- 7 So I would like you, Mr. Pena, to first
- 8 address what factual issues you see that need to be
- 9 determined as part of the Commission's determination
- 10 in this matter, and I will note you have filed your
- 11 petition and supporting information.
- 12 And it appears to me, Mr. Sherr, that in
- 13 response Qwest has not filed any affidavits or other
- 14 statements of fact. Am I correct in that
- 15 understanding?
- MR. SHERR: That was John Devaney on the
- 17 line, Your Honor. John Devaney is lead counsel.
- JUDGE SCHAER: So Mr. Devaney, are you
- 19 speaking for Qwest today?
- MR. DEVANEY: Yes, primarily I am, Your
- Honor.
- JUDGE SCHAER: So I guess what I want to
- 23 know is apparently you have made the factual
- 24 statements in your materials. Qwest has not sought
- to file any factual information to contest those.

- 1 So what facts remain that need to be discovered in
- 2 this proceeding?
- 3 MR. PENA: May I proceed?
- 4 JUDGE SCHAER: Yes, sir.
- 5 MR. PENA: Your Honor, as I had begun
- 6 before we got on the record, Level 3 would like to
- 7 explore factual issues in this proceeding.
- 8 Level 3 has, in fact, filed discovery in a
- 9 similar proceeding that's ongoing right now in the
- 10 state of Minnesota before that Public Utility
- 11 Commission. And I think the type of issues Level 3
- is seeking to explore in that proceeding are
- 13 precisely the type of issues that Level 3 would like
- 14 to explore in this proceeding.
- 15 Just to give you a for example, some of the
- 16 information and factual information that Level 3 has
- 17 solicited -- and, again, I believe the request for
- information that I am referring to have, in fact,
- 19 been sent out by Level 3. Mr. Rogers can correct me
- if I am wrong.
- 21 But Level 3 would like to explore the
- 22 markets in which Qwest provides service to ISPs.
- 23 Level 3 would like to propound discovery regarding
- 24 whether -- or regarding this service that Level 3
- 25 provides its ISP customers. Level 3 would like to

- 1 explore the methodology that Owest proposes to use
- 2 to measure actual minutes of use at an entrance
- 3 facility.
- 4 And I could go on, if you like. I have a
- 5 list of at least 10 items that Level 3 would like to
- 6 explore, or we can -- I mean, this is just to give
- 7 you an idea of the information, the type of
- 8 information that Level 3 would like to explore in
- 9 this proceeding. And obviously do it through
- 10 discovery, and then filing testimony.
- MR. ROGERS: If I might, this is Greg
- 12 Rogers. I think it's also important to note that I
- 13 think it will be tremendously helpful to have a
- 14 factual basis in which to consider the legal
- 15 questions before the Commission in that this is a
- 16 fairly technical interconnection type argument, and
- it requires factual understanding of how the
- 18 interconnection is set up, and how the traffic flows
- 19 would occur.
- 20 That's how we essentially would explore
- 21 that type of factual issue, just to provide that
- 22 type of background at a hearing as well.
- JUDGE SCHAER: Mr. Rogers, I am somewhat
- 24 confused, because your client has filed with the
- 25 Commission a motion to dismiss, or in the

- 1 alternative, to receive summary determination.
- 2 MR. ROGERS: I am with Level 3.
- JUDGE SCHAER: I am sorry. I do apologize.
- 4 So those things have, however, been filed by Qwest.
- 5 I guess I am still a little bit uncertain of why
- 6 your facts wouldn't be in your petition that
- 7 supports your case in chief.
- 8 MR. ROGERS: I think the question may be in
- 9 our petition in some form or another. Just for
- 10 example, a fundamental question is that Qwest seeks
- 11 to parse out internet traffic and treat it
- differently than mobile traffic in issue that is
- 13 before the Commission.
- 14 And we have fundamental questions about how
- they could possibly identify that type of traffic.
- 16 If they are going to be parsing it out, how do they
- 17 propose to identify it? We don't have an
- understanding of that so that's one fundamental
- 19 factual issue that I can point to off the top.
- 20 JUDGE SCHAER: Now, are you appearing today
- 21 as the primary counsel for Level 3?
- 22 MR. ROGERS: It's either of us. I don't
- 23 know that I am putting myself forth as a primary
- 24 counsel, but I am involved in all of our
- 25 arbitrations. So I am familiar with all of the

- 1 various state proceedings. So it may make sense, I
- guess, to say that I would be the primary counsel.
- JUDGE SCHAER: I am just trying to
- 4 understand, because we usually let one counsel speak
- for one party, and don't take arguments for both.
- 6 If you would like to change that, we could
- 7 talk about it briefly, but I need a clear
- 8 understanding of what we're doing.
- 9 MR. ROGERS: I apologize. I just assumed I
- 10 would have an opportunity to add to what Mr. Pena
- 11 had said.
- 12 JUDGE SCHAER: Is that how you would like
- 13 to proceed, that both of you can speak on behalf of
- 14 Level 3?
- 15 MR. ROGERS: If that's acceptable, I would
- like to be able to have that opportunity.
- JUDGE SCHAER: Mr. Sherr, is Mr.
- Devaney the only speaker for Qwest today, or are
- 19 there points where you might be addressing items
- as well, or Ms. Anderl?
- 21 MR. SHERR: Mr. Devaney would be primarily
- 22 speaking for Qwest, but I would like the opportunity
- for myself or Ms. Anderl to chime in, if you don't
- 24 mind. But my anticipation is Mr. Devaney.
- 25 JUDGE SCHAER: Do you have any objection to

- two representatives of Level 3 addressing these
- 2 issues?
- 3 MR. SHERR: I don't.
- 4 JUDGE SCHAER: Then for purposes of this
- 5 hearing, we will allow multiple counsel to address
- 6 the same issues, as you have been doing at this
- 7 point. And I will try very hard to keep track of
- 8 the names of the parties.
- 9 So we've heard that Level 3 needs some
- 10 factual information to develop its case. What kind
- of discovery have you already delivered in
- 12 Washington?
- MR. PENA: We have not ordered any
- 14 discovery in Washington, Your Honor.
- 15 JUDGE SCHAER: What are the reasons for
- 16 that?
- MR. PENA: Greg, I will defer to you.
- 18 MR. ROGERS: We've been simply looking to
- 19 see what the procedural schedule would be before we
- issued information requests. But we are, as Mr.
- 21 Pena has said, prepared to do that. We have done
- that already in Minnesota, and anticipate doing it
- 23 in the other states where we have arbitration
- 24 proceedings under way.
- JUDGE SCHAER: Did you receive the

- 1 Commission's order on arbitration procedure that was
- 2 served on August 16 of this year?
- 3 MR. ROGERS: Yes, I believe I did.
- 4 JUDGE SCHAER: I believe that lays out, in
- 5 paragraph 4, the information that the nine-month
- 6 time line for resolution is November 27, 2002. Is
- 7 it your understanding that under the law that's the
- 8 correct date?
- 9 MR. ROGERS: This is Greg Rogers. I
- 10 believe that is correct. We would say Level 3 would
- 11 be willing to work with the Commission to extend
- that date. We are not necessarily of the mindset
- 13 that we would require the Commission to reach a
- 14 decision by that day, even though that is the
- 15 statutory deadline.
- 16 JUDGE SCHAER: Is there any part to that
- 17 statute that gives the Commission authority to waive
- 18 those dates, to your knowledge?
- MR. ROGERS: I can't point you to a
- 20 specific clause to that effect, except to say it is
- 21 something that we have done elsewhere in the past,
- 22 the stipulation between the parties. And being a
- 23 petitioner, we have had the practice of having the
- 24 prerogative, I guess, of either holding to that
- date, or agreeing to an extension of that date.

- 1 JUDGE SCHAER: Has that happened in the
- 2 state of Washington?
- MR. ROGERS: Not to my knowledge.
- 4 JUDGE SCHAER: Well, I have heard from
- 5 Level 3 about the reasons they think they would need
- 6 to have discovery, and explore factual issues in
- 7 this proceeding. And I would like to hear a
- 8 response now from Qwest.
- 9 MR. DEVANEY: Thank you, Your Honor. This
- is John Devaney speaking for Qwest.
- 11 What I would like to do is begin by
- defining the issue that is raised in this
- 13 arbitration, because I think once we define the
- issue, it becomes apparent that there really aren't
- 15 material facts that bear on the issue.
- And the issue is this, essentially: The
- 17 FCC has a rule that is called the Relative Use Rule
- 18 relating to who pays for the interconnection trunks
- 19 that connect carriers together. And that rule is
- something that Level 3 and Qwest agree applies in
- 21 this circumstance.
- 22 And the only disagreement between the
- 23 parties is whether internet traffic should be
- 24 included in determining each party's relative use of
- 25 the interconnection trunks. That is the issue

- 1 presented in the arbitration.
- 2 And the Commission has addressed this issue
- 3 in its 32nd Supplemental Order of the Cost Docket,
- 4 and ruled that internet traffic should not be
- 5 included in relative use calculations, because the
- 6 FCC has found that traffic to be interstate in
- 7 nature. And I understand that just yesterday the
- 8 Commission affirmed that ruling in the 38th
- 9 Supplemental Order.
- 10 The factual issues that Mr. Pena and
- 11 Mr. Rogers suggested were at issue earlier, and that
- would be the subject of discovery requests really
- don't bear on this issue at all. The issue is very
- 14 straightforward, should internet traffic be included
- in relative use, or should it not? And that's a
- 16 matter of looking, number one, at the Washington
- 17 Commission's ruling, specific ruling on this issue,
- 18 and number two, the FCC rules. They are binding on
- 19 this issue.
- 20 And questions about what type of ISP
- 21 service Qwest provides, what markets Qwest is in,
- they have nothing to do with the fundamental issue
- 23 that is presented here. And not surprisingly, the
- 24 facts that Level 3 says it will explore in
- discovery, to my knowledge, aren't raised in their

- 1 petition anywhere, which, in my mind, anyway,
- 2 affirms that they are not relevant to the issue.
- 3 So this is one of those classic legal
- 4 issues that is keyed up to be decided based on
- 5 application of clearly established law in
- 6 Washington, and by the law established by the FCC.
- 7 So, yeah, I haven't heard anything or seen
- 8 anything that suggests there are any material issues
- 9 that bear on this issue, that is, issues of fact.
- 10 So we feel strongly that this is a case
- 11 that is ripe for decision based on a dispositive
- 12 motion, such as the one we filed. And we would urge
- 13 the Court to establish a procedural schedule that
- 14 requires full briefing of the dispositive motion,
- and a ruling on dispositive motion relatively
- 16 quickly, obviously at the Court's convenience.
- 17 With respect to whether Qwest would be
- 18 willing to waive the statutory deadline, I think any
- 19 waiver, to the extent a waiver would be permissible,
- 20 would have to be by mutual consent of the parties.
- 21 And Qwest, in this case, is not willing to waive the
- 22 statutory deadline.
- 23 And one of the reasons why is we think the
- law is so fundamentally clear on this, particularly
- in Washington, there's nothing to be served by

- 1 waiving the statutory deadline.
- 2 I think that addresses all the issues that
- 3 Level 3 raised. If Your Honor would like me to
- 4 respond to anything else, I would obviously be happy
- 5 to.
- 6 JUDGE SCHAER: Thank you. I think what I
- 7 would suggest we do is that we go off the record for
- 8 a bit to discuss schedules. And I would like us to
- 9 try to find a schedule that meets the statutory time
- 10 lines at this point.
- 11 And if that means that we are not arguing
- 12 this -- arguing dispositive motions until a later
- 13 time, and perhaps having to do some duplicate work,
- 14 I think with the compressed time frame we have that
- may be our only option.
- So it's 9:00, and we're going off the
- 17 record to discuss scheduling.
- 18 (Discussion off the record.)
- 19 JUDGE SCHAER: Let's be back on the record
- 20 after our morning recess.
- During the time we were off the record
- 22 there were extended discussions about scheduling the
- 23 remainder of the proceeding, and discussions have
- 24 continued between the parties. And it's my
- 25 understanding that they have reached some agreement

- 1 that they can now share with the Commission.
- 2 And I understand you, Mr. Pena, are going
- 3 to be the spokesman; is that correct?
- 4 MR. PENA: Yes, Your Honor.
- JUDGE SCHAER: Go ahead, please.
- 6 MR. PENA: Thank you. While we were off
- 7 the record, the parties did discuss a possible
- 8 procedural schedule that accommodates everybody's
- 9 calendar. And for the remainder of this proceeding,
- 10 the parties would like to follow the following
- 11 schedule:
- 12 Parties would like to have Level 3's
- 13 response to Qwest's motion to dismiss and/or summary
- determination to be filed no later than October 9.
- On that same day, the parties would file
- 16 simultaneous direct testimony. Simultaneous
- 17 rebuttal testimony would be due October 16. And
- 18 Qwest's reply to Level 3's response to its motion
- 19 would also be filed on October 16.
- 20 A prehearing conference, a telephonic
- 21 conference, just to discuss logistics of the actual
- hearing, could be held on October 28th. And the
- 23 hearing, should the Court decide to have one, would
- 24 be on October 29th. And simultaneous post-hearing
- 25 briefs would be filed November 8th. And, of course,

- the ALJ's decision would be issued -- what is it --
- 2 I believe November 27th.
- JUDGE SCHAER: On or before November 27
- 4 would be my deadline for writing the report about
- 5 this proceeding.
- 6 Do all parties agree to this schedule as
- 7 being workable?
- 8 MR. SHERR: Your Honor, this is Adam Sherr.
- 9 Qwest does, subject to Your Honor believing there
- 10 would be enough time between the end of the briefing
- 11 schedule, October 16, with regard to Qwest's motion,
- 12 and the hearing date for you to render a decision on
- 13 that.
- 14 JUDGE SCHAER: I think there would be. I
- 15 am going to let you know that it may not be decided
- 16 before the hearing. I may let the petitioner
- 17 present their case, and then let you also revive the
- 18 motion at that point if you don't believe there have
- been any facts put on the record we need to concern
- 20 ourselves with.
- I am not deciding either way right now. I
- am just letting you know that with all of the flux
- 23 that is involved in this, that I want to reserve my
- 24 options as well to get this done as well as I can by
- 25 the deadline of the 27th.

- 1 MR. PENA: Your Honor, the parties also
- 2 discussed the need of a protective order, and the
- 3 parties do believe that a protective order should be
- 4 issued.
- 5 JUDGE SCHAER: That will be done. And I
- 6 have heard you discussing records into data, and I
- 7 am wondering if you need the discovery rule and our
- 8 procedural rules to be triggered to allow to you
- 9 have those tools, or if you are going to be able to,
- on an informal basis, to trade information?
- 11 MR. PENA: Unfortunately, we did not
- 12 discuss that off the record as to how to deal with
- 13 that.
- 14 JUDGE SCHAER: If you would like to go off
- the record again so you can discuss that with
- 16 co-counsel, go ahead, please.
- 17 MR. PENA: Okay. Thank you.
- 18 JUDGE SCHAER: The rule is WAC 480.09.480,
- 19 and the time lines for returning information may be
- longer than you can afford in the schedule.
- 21 So sometimes people look at the rule, and
- 22 want the tools there, but they want to have shorter
- 23 times. So I will let the parties discuss that for
- about five minutes, I think should be enough. So
- 25 let's be off the record, and we will begin again at

- 1 10 minutes to 10:00.
- 2 (Discussion off the record.)
- JUDGE SCHAER: We will be back on the
- 4 record after a short recess to discuss discovery
- 5 matters.
- 6 And I am not sure who my reporting attorney
- 7 is this time. Are you reporting, again, Mr. Pena?
- MR. PENA: I am more than happy to, Your
- 9 Honor.
- The parties discussed discovery while we
- 11 were off the record. And while the rules provide
- for a 10-calendar-day response time, the parties
- have agreed to a 7-calendar-day response time on any
- 14 discovery propounded in the proceeding.
- 15 One of the things that the parties would
- 16 like to discuss with Your Honor is discovery
- 17 disputes. Should there be objection to discovery,
- 18 given the time line in the proceeding, Level 3 was
- 19 wondering if those disputes couldn't be brought to
- 20 the Bench's attention via conference call so we can
- 21 expedite resolution, either the objections are
- 22 sustained, or the party is ordered to provide
- responses.
- JUDGE SCHAER: The Commission will make
- someone available to hear discovery disputes on a

- 1 very accelerated basis, if that is needed. So that
- 2 once I am contacted, or if the Commission is
- 3 contacted, we will look to set up some kind of
- 4 telephone hearing that is addressed to that issue,
- 5 and deal with it as smoothly and quickly as
- 6 possible.
- 7 MR. DEVANEY: Qwest -- Your Honor, Qwest,
- 8 of course, has no objection to that, and supports
- 9 it.
- 10 MR. PENA: Level 3 is fine with that, also.
- 11 JUDGE SCHAER: And I am saying not just me,
- but the Commission, because if I'm not available,
- 13 you need to contact Mr. Wallis or Mr. Moss in my
- section, and they will be able to line up somebody
- in a quick time line, because we recognize the
- importance of keeping these matters moving.
- 17 MR. SHERR: Judge, this is Adam Sherr for
- 18 Qwest. Just to clarify, the Commission expects the
- 19 party propounding discovery to -- that the party
- 20 propounding discovery not satisfied with the
- 21 response to be seeking intervention by the
- 22 Commission?
- JUDGE SCHAER: That's who I would expect to
- 24 hear from is the party who has not received what
- 25 they asked for. And if there are any materials -- I

- 1 won't see most or all discovery materials. So if
- 2 there are some materials I need to see in order to
- 3 understand the issue presented, then you will need
- 4 to fax those to me. And if you need -- if the other
- 5 party wants to fax responses, or you know, what they
- 6 said when they said no, a copy of that, I am not
- 7 asking for a lot of new writing, but copies of what
- 8 exists that can be sent in so that we are all on the
- 9 same page when we hold our discussion.
- 10 MR. SHERR: Thank you, Your Honor. I just
- 11 wanted to make sure we were on the same page.
- MR. PENA: That's fine, Your Honor.
- JUDGE SCHAER: So I will trigger the
- 14 discovery rule in WAC 480.09.480, and make those
- 15 means of discovery available to the parties. And we
- will note that the parties have agreed to shorten
- 17 the time for responses to 7 calendar days.
- I want to encourage the parties to the
- 19 extent possible, to deal with each other informally,
- 20 to deal with each other quickly. If there's part of
- 21 a response you can pull off a shelf and send, and
- 22 something else you need to find, give as quickly as
- 23 possible the part you can prepare immediately, and
- 24 talk to each other about why something else might
- 25 take longer.

1	I have high respect for the counsel whom
2	I've worked with, and look forward to having high
3	respect for the others when I meet you. But I think
4	that a lot of this is not going to require my
5	intervention, because I think you can figure it out
6	between you in a way that a request that seems too
7	broad maybe after conversation can be understood or
8	narrowed. Things that don't exist in a certain
9	form, you can have a conversation about what might
10	be available that meets the same need.
11	I would really like you to be able to run
12	this process yourself, but I am available if needed.
13	And with discovery, as well as with the protective
14	order, it's going to take a little bit of processing
15	time to get orders out of the Commission. I would
16	like you to begin to operate as if those were in
17	existence.
18	If that means that you at this point only
19	share confidential information with attorneys who
20	keep it in a privileged situation, I understand that
21	you might have a need to do that. But to the extent
22	possible, I would, again, like you to act as if
23	these two things were written down in an order right

So we have discussed the schedule. We have

now, and they will be written down quickly.

- discussed the protective order. We have discussed
- discovery. We have a schedule.
- 3 Are there any other items that any party
- 4 would like to bring up before we conclude this
- 5 morning?
- 6 MR. PENA: Level 3 doesn't have anything,
- 7 Your Honor.
- 8 MR. SHERR: John, does Owest have anymore?
- 9 I will take that as a "no."
- 10 JUDGE SCHAER: All right. Thank you all
- 11 then for your conduct this morning, and for working
- out a schedule that I think will be tight for
- everyone, but should be able to work if we all push
- on together.
- MR. DEVANEY: Your Honor, this is John
- Devaney. I had the mute button on, because there
- was a fire engine going on outside.
- 18 JUDGE SCHAER: That's fine. I will ask
- 19 again, is there anything further you think we need
- to discuss this morning?
- 21 MR. DEVANEY: There is not. And I want to
- thank you for allowing us to participate by phone.
- JUDGE SCHAER: You are welcome. And that
- is something the Commission does make available as
- 25 much as it can to help people who are at a distance.