

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

In the Matter of the Petition for)	
Arbitration of an Amendment to)	
Interconnection Agreements of)	
)	
VERIZON NORTHWEST, INC.)	DOCKET NO. UT- 043013
)	
with)	JOINT MOTION FOR
)	EXTENSION OF TIME
COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE)	TO FILE INITIAL BRIEFS
CARRIERS AND COMMERCIAL)	
MOBILE RADIO SERVICE PROVIDERS)	
IN WASHINGTON)	
)	
Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(b), and the)	
<i>Triennial Review Order</i>)	

AT&T Communications of the Pacific Northwest, Inc. and AT&T Local Services on behalf of TCG Seattle, TCG Oregon (collectively “AT&T”) and MCImetro Access Transmission Services LLC (“MCI”) hereby submit this Motion for Extension of Time to File Initial Briefs in the above-captioned matter. As grounds therefore, the Joint Movants state as follows:

1. Verizon Northwest, Inc. (“Verizon”) initiated this mass arbitration in an effort to alter its interconnection agreements in accordance with the Federal Communications Commission’s (“FCCs”) changed and changing rules developed under 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252.

2. As the Commission and Administrative Law Judge (“ALJ”) know well,

the FCC's Triennial Review Order ("TRO"),¹ upon which this arbitration is based, was appealed—rejected in part and sustained in part—the subject of interim rules and much debate. Now, we stand on the precipice of the FCC announcing yet further, “permanent” changes to its TRO decision and rules thereunder. It's latest order is on its agenda for a vote on December 15, 2004.²

3. Through a series of recent e-mails exchanged between the parties and the ALJ, it appears that no hearing in this matter is necessary. Where no hearing is planned, the current procedural schedule requires the parties to file initial briefs on December 21, 2004.

4. The upcoming FCC decision will have an impact on this proceeding and the numerous issues described on the various lists detailing that which the parties anticipate briefing. The Joint Movants fully expect that the parties will alter their respective positions and may need to remove or add issues to the lists. The scope of the initial briefs is determined by the issues lists and when those lists are a moving target based upon changing law, it is exceedingly difficult for the parties to obtain due process.

5. Consequently, it makes little sense for the parties to brief issues and expect the ALJ to make decisions regarding those issues where the very foundation upon which such arguments and decisions are based may be altered so as to make them moot, or worse yet, illegal.

¹ *In the Matter of Review of the Section 251 Unbundling Obligations of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers; Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996; Deployment of Wireline Services Offering Advanced Telecommunications Capability*, Report and Order and Order on Remand and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, CC Docket Nos. 01-338, 96-98, 98-147, FCC 03-36 (Rel. Aug. 21, 2003).

² See **Exhibit A**, “Communications Daily.” Vol. 24, No. 236 re: FCC UNE Order on December 15th Agenda.

6. The parties should be afforded sufficient time to understand the FCC's decisions and alter their respective positions such that they may be adequately "heard" on the issues. Thus, the Joint Movants propose that the Commission grant this extension of time to the parties such that they may re-examine their issues lists and submit initial briefs that are consistent with the best understanding of the FCC's requirements. To keep this proceeding moving within its original time frame, the Joint Movants further suggest that the new due date for the filing of initial briefs be January 5, 2005.

7. WHEREFORE, the Joint Movants respectfully request that the ALJ grant this request to extend the due date for the initial briefing to January 5, 2005.

Submitted this 9th day of December, 2004.

**AT&T COMMUNICATIONS OF THE
PACIFIC NORTHWEST, INC. AND
AT&T LOCAL SERVICES ON
BEHALF OF TCG SEATTLE AND
TCG OREGON**

By: _____

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