

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Review of)	DOCKET NO. UT-023003
Unbundled Loop and Switching Rates and)	
Review of the Deaveraged Zone Rate)	NOTICE OF PREHEARING
Structure)	CONFERENCE
.....)	(March 7, 2002)

- 1 On November 21, 1996, the Commission initiated Docket Nos. UT-960369, UT-960370, and UT-960371 to establish rates for interconnection, unbundled network elements (UNEs), transport and termination, and resale. The eighth, seventeenth, and twenty-sixth supplemental orders (April 16, 1998, August 30, 1999, and September 1, 2000, respectively), established rates for unbundled loops and switching. In the Twenty-fourth and twenty-seventh Supplemental Orders in the proceeding (May 4, 2000 and September 1, 2000, respectively), the Commission established deaveraged loop rates based on the UNE-loop costs established in the earlier proceeding.

- 2 On February 17, 2000, the Commission initiated Docket No. UT-003013 to address issues arising out of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 and Docket Nos. UT-960369, et al. Docket No. UT-003013 proceeded in several parts. At a September 24, 2001 prehearing conference, MCI WorldCom, Inc. proposed the Commission revisit the rates for loops and local switching that were established in Docket Nos. UT-960369 *et al.* arguing that Washington loop rates are based on outdated data and assumptions. In addition, Commission Staff proposed to file testimony regarding further loop deaveraging arguing that the current manner of deaveraging creates a barrier to economically viable residential and small business competition. In the Twenty-sixth Supplemental Order, issued on October 19, 2001, the Commission indicated that a new docket should be opened to revisit UNE loop and switching rates for Qwest Corporation and Verizon Northwest, Inc., in addition to reexamination of the current deaveraged zone rate structure.

- 3 This proceeding is a necessary and anticipated continuation of the Generic Costing and Pricing proceeding and is initiated to address issues arising out of that proceeding.

- 4 Hearing in this matter is being held pursuant to Part IV of chapter 34.05 RCW pertaining to adjudicative proceedings, including but not limited to RCW 34.05.413, RCW 34.05.422, RCW 34.05.440, RCW 34.05.449, and RCW 34.05.452. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter under Title 80 RCW, having the legal authority to regulate the rates, services, and practices of telecommunications companies pursuant to chapter 80.36 RCW. Statutes involved, in addition to those previously cited, include those within chapter 80.04 RCW, chapter 80.20 RCW, and chapter 80.36 RCW, including but not limited to RCW 80.20.020, RCW 80.36.080, and RCW 80.36.140.

5 **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That a prehearing conference will be held at on**
March 7, 2002, at 1:30 p.m., in the Commission's Hearing Room, Second Floor,
Chandler Plaza Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia,
Washington

6 The time and place for the evidentiary hearing will be set at the prehearing conference or
by later written notice. The purpose of this prehearing conference is to consider
formulating the issues in the proceeding and determine other matters to aid in its
disposition, as specified in WAC 480-09-460. Petitions to intervene should be made in
writing prior to the hearing date or made orally at the hearing. Appearances will be
taken.

7 If a limited English-speaking or hearing-impaired party or witness needs an interpreter,
please fill out and return the form attached to this notice.

8 NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT ANY PARTY WHO FAILS TO ATTEND OR
PARTICIPATE IN THE HEARING SET BY THIS NOTICE, OR ANY OTHER
STAGE OF THIS PROCEEDING, MAY BE HELD IN DEFAULT IN ACCORDANCE
WITH RCW 34.05.440. THE PARTIES ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT THE
SANCTION PROVISIONS OF WAC 480-09-700(4) ARE SPECIFICALLY INVOKED.

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

Respondent: AT&T Communications of the Pacific Northwest
1501 South Capitol Way, Suite 204
Olympia, WA 98501

Representative: Gregory J. Kopta
Attorney at Law
Davis Wright Tremaine
2600 Century Square
1501 Fourth Avenue
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(206) 622-3150

Respondent: Covad Communications Company
2330 Central Expressway
Santa Clara, CA 95050

Representative: Brooks Harlow
Attorney at Law
Miller Nash Wiener, Hager & Carlsen
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Respondent: MCI Worldcom, Inc.
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Representatives: Brooks Harlow
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Respondent: Teligent Services, Inc.
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Vienna, VA 22182

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Respondent: TRACER
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Respondent: Qwest Corporation
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Representative: Lisa Anderl
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Respondent: Verizon Northwest, Inc.
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Everett, WA 98201

Representative: Jennifer McClellan
Attorney at Law
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Respondent: XO Washington, Inc.
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Representative: Gregory J. Kopta
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Respondent: Yipes Transmission, Inc.
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- 10 Lawrence J. Berg has been designated as the Administrative Law Judge from the Utilities and Transportation Commission's Administrative Law Section, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington 98504-7250, and will preside at the prehearing conference.
- 11 The Commission will provide at its offices in Olympia, Washington, current records of the hearing for the use of those who may wish to review them. The Public Counsel section of the Office of the Attorney General has been designated by the Attorney General to represent the public. The address of the Commission, shown below, may be used for inquiries of Public Counsel, or Public Counsel may be contacted directly by writing or calling the address or telephone numbers listed below.

- 12 Notice of any other procedural phase will be given in writing or on the record as the Commission may deem appropriate during the course of the proceeding.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN
Executive Secretary

February 12, 2002

Inquiries may be addressed to:

Secretary
Washington Utilities and
Transportation Commission
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