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                     BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
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           UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
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                                         )
     QWEST CORPORATION,
                                         )Docket UT-063038
 4
                                         )Volume II
                   Complainant,
                                          )Pages 27-52
 5
               vs.
     LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, LLC;
 6
     PAC-WEST TELECOMM, INC.; NORTHWEST
     TELEPHONE, INC.; TCG SEATTLE;
     ELECTRIC LIGHTWAVE, INC.; ADVANCED
 8
     TELCOM, INC., d/b/a ESCHELON
     TELECOM, INC.; FOCAL COMMUNICATIONS )
 9
     CORPORATION; GLOBAL CROSSING LOCAL
     SERVICES, INC.; and MCI WORLDCOM
10
     COMMUNICATIONS, INC.,
                   Respondents.
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12
                   A pre-hearing conference in the
     above-entitled matter was held at 9:31 a.m. on
13
     Wednesday, April 4, 2007, at 1300 South Evergreen
     Park Drive, S.W., Olympia, Washington, before
14
    Administrative Law Judge THEODORA MACE.
15
                   The parties present were as follows:
16
                   QWEST CORPORATION, by Lisa Anderl,
     In-House Attorney, 1600 Seventh Avenue, Room 3206,
     Seattle, Washington 98191 (via teleconference
17
     bridge.)
18
                   ELECTRIC LIGHTWAVE, LLC, by Charles L.
19
     Best, Associate General Counsel, Electric Lightwave,
     LLC, 4400 N.E. 77th Ave., Vancouver, Washington 98662
20
     (via teleconference bridge.)
21
                   COMMISSION STAFF, by Jonathan Thompson,
     Assistant Attorney General, 1400 South Evergreen Park
22
     Drive, S.W., P.O. Box 40128, Olympia, Washington
     98504-0128.
23
24
    Barbara L. Nelson, CCR
25
    Court Reporter
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1	VERIZON ACCESS, by Gregory M. Romano,
2	Attorney at Law, 1800 41st Street, WA 0105GC, Everett, Washington 98201.
3	ADVANCED TELCOM, INC., d/b/a ESCHELON TELECOM, INC., by Dennis D. Ahlers, Associate General
4	Counsel, 730 Second Avenue South, Suite 900, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402 (via teleconference
5	bridge.)
6	TCG SEATTLE, by Gregory L. Castle, Senior Counsel, 525 Market Street, Room 2022, San
7	Francisco, California 94105 and David Wiley, Attorney at Law, Williams Kastner & Gibbs, Two Union Square,
8	601 Union Street, Suite 4100, Seattle, Washington 98101 (via teleconference bridge.)
9	LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, LLC, and
10	BROADWING, by Greg L. Rogers, Director of State Regulatory Affairs, 1025 Eldorado Boulevard,
11	Broomfield, Colorado 80021 (via teleconference bridge.)
12	LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, by Rogelio
13 14	Pena, Attorney at Law, Pena & Associates, LLC, 1375 Walnut Street, Suite 220, Boulder, Colorado 80302 (via teleconference bridge.)
15	PAC-WEST TELECOMM, INC.; NORTHWEST
16	TELEPHONE, INC.; BROADWING COMMUNICATIONS, LLC; GLOBAL CROSSING LOCAL SERVICES, INC., by Gregory J.
17	Kopta, Attorney at Law, Davis Wright Tremaine, 1501 Fourth Avenue, Suite 2600, Seattle, Washington 98101 (via teleconference bridge.)
18	WASHINGTON INDEPENDENT TELEPHONE
19	ASSOCIATION, by Richard A. Finnigan, Attorney at Law, 2112 Black Lake Boulevard, S.W., Olympia, Washington
20	98512 (via teleconference bridge.)
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- 1 JUDGE MACE: I want to go on the record at
- 2 this point. We do have a reporter in the room. My
- 3 name is Theo Mace, and I'm the Administrative Law
- 4 Judge assigned to this case. The main purpose of our
- 5 time here today is to discuss scheduling regarding
- 6 the settlement agreement that was filed.
- 7 I'd like to take the oral appearances now of
- 8 those on the conference bridge and those who are in
- 9 the hearing room. I'll begin with those in the
- 10 hearing room and I'll begin with you, Mr. Romano.
- 11 MR. ROMANO: Good morning. My name is
- 12 Gregory Romano, and I represent Verizon Access in
- 13 this case.
- 14 JUDGE MACE: Could you check to see if your
- 15 microphone is on? It should be up. No, the red
- 16 button should be up. Okay. Thank you. Mr.
- 17 Thompson.
- MR. THOMPSON: Jonathan Thompson,
- 19 representing the Commission Staff.
- JUDGE MACE: Thank you. Is there anyone on
- 21 the line on behalf of Qwest?
- 22 MS. ANDERL: Yes, Your Honor. This is Lisa
- 23 Anderl, representing Qwest.
- JUDGE MACE: Thank you. Anyone from
- 25 Pac-West, Global Crossing?

- 1 MR. KOPTA: Gregory Kopta, of the Law Firm
- 2 Davis Wright Tremaine.
- JUDGE MACE: Thank you. ELI?
- 4 MR. BEST: Yes, Charles Best, representing
- 5 ELI.
- 6 JUDGE MACE: Broadwing? Anyone from
- 7 Broadwing?
- 8 MR. ROGERS: Greg Rogers is on with Level 3,
- 9 and I represent Broadwing.
- JUDGE MACE: Greg Rogers?
- MR. ROGERS: Yes.
- 12 JUDGE MACE: Thank you. CenturyTel? Anyone
- 13 from CenturyTel? ATG?
- MR. AHLERS: Dennis Ahlers, for ATG.
- 15 JUDGE MACE: Thank you. And Mr. Finnigan,
- 16 are you on the line?
- 17 MR. FINNIGAN: Yes, I am.
- JUDGE MACE: Mr. Finnigan, for WITA. All
- 19 right.
- 20 MR. ROGERS: Judge, if I could, this is Greg
- 21 Rogers again.
- JUDGE MACE: Mr. Rogers, you're going to
- 23 have to speak up. It's really hard for me to hear
- 24 you in here.
- 25 MR. ROGERS: Okay. I apologize. I'm

- 1 representing Level 3, as well.
- JUDGE MACE: Level 3, thank you.
- 3 MR. PENA: And Your Honor, this is Rogelio
- 4 Pena, I'm also calling on behalf of Level 3.
- 5 JUDGE MACE: On behalf of Level 3, okay.
- 6 Thank you. All right. Is there anyone else on the
- 7 conference bridge that I missed?
- 8 MR. CASTLE: Yes, Your Honor. This is Greq
- 9 Castle, and I'm representing TCG Seattle.
- 10 JUDGE MACE: TCG, all right. Thank you.
- 11 MR. WILEY: Judge Mace, this is Dave Wiley,
- 12 and I'm also representing TCG Seattle.
- JUDGE MACE: Thank you. Anyone yet from
- 14 CenturyTel? I didn't hear a beep, so I guess not.
- 15 All right. I think that's everyone, then. Anybody
- 16 else on the conference bridge who wants to enter an
- 17 appearance? All right. I hear no response.
- 18 Well, as I said at the outset, this is the
- 19 Qwest versus Level 3, et al, complaint regarding
- 20 VNXX, and although there was some confusion about it,
- 21 we've ended up here today to talk about scheduling
- 22 regarding the settlement agreement that was filed,
- 23 and so I don't know if you've done any talking
- 24 amongst yourselves, but if you have, let me ask, I
- 25 quess Ms. Anderl, maybe you know about this, what

- 1 discussions you might have had about scheduling?
- MS. ANDERL: Yes, Your Honor. We've spoken
- 3 at length with --
- 4 JUDGE MACE: Ms. Anderl, can I ask you to
- 5 try to speak up? I don't know what facility you're
- 6 using for a microphone. It's really hard to hear
- 7 you.
- 8 MS. ANDERL: Oh, that's bad, because I'm on
- 9 the handset.
- JUDGE MACE: Well, that's better, whatever
- 11 you did now.
- 12 MS. ANDERL: Okay. We have spoken at length
- 13 with Verizon, I think more briefly with Staff, maybe
- 14 less so, if at all, with the other parties, but I
- 15 think that we have agreed with Verizon -- and Mr.
- 16 Romano, please jump in here if I misrepresent it, but
- 17 that it would be okay to consider the settlement
- 18 concurrently with the hearing on the merits.
- 19 In other words, we could just set aside some
- 20 time or carve out some time to the extent there were
- 21 specific questions or specific cross-examination
- 22 about the settlement agreement and resulting
- 23 interconnections agreement amendment, and we could do
- 24 that during the time allocated for hearings the week
- 25 of April 23rd.

- 1 JUDGE MACE: All right.
- 2 MR. ROMANO: Your Honor.
- JUDGE MACE: And you agree with that, Mr.
- 4 Romano?
- 5 MR. ROMANO: To some degree. I mean, I
- 6 think what we would propose is perhaps the Commission
- 7 could actually approve the settlement on a
- 8 conditional basis, without even having a hearing on
- 9 it, such that the Commission could approve the
- 10 settlement subject to possible changes in the
- 11 approval at the end of this proceeding in response to
- 12 Commission Staff's arguments that it may or may not
- 13 be in the public interest to approve the settlement.
- 14 That way, we avoid any sort of procedural
- 15 issues, the Commission could approve it
- 16 conditionally, and then, at the end of the
- 17 proceeding, look back at the settlement document.
- 18 That way, Verizon, we wouldn't need to have a special
- 19 hearing on the particular settlement right now. We
- 20 would show up at the evidentiary hearing, but not
- 21 likely participate, and that, to me, is the proposed
- 22 solution here.
- JUDGE MACE: Well, let me just say about
- 24 that, before I hear from other parties, that the
- 25 problem I perceive from that is even if -- let me

- 1 back up.
- I would be the judge who would be holding a
- 3 hearing with -- or would make some type of
- 4 determination about the settlement, whether it met
- 5 the public interest, and whether I do that through a
- 6 hearing or through an initial order on whatever
- 7 documents you file, there would have to be an order
- 8 in order to approve it conditionally or otherwise.
- 9 The preparation of such an order is not a lightly
- 10 done task here at the Commission, and so the chance
- 11 that it would be completed prior to the hearing is
- 12 almost nothing.
- So the only -- that's why I think the
- 14 proposal, if you want, to have cross-examination
- 15 allotted to the settlement agreement during the
- 16 hearing is -- I think would be fine. There won't be
- 17 any order on the settlement until after it's
- 18 considered in some fashion, you know, where a
- 19 considered judgment can be made of it.
- 20 I don't know if I'm clear on that. In other
- 21 words, I can't do this before the hearing takes
- 22 place. That just isn't going to happen.
- MR. ROMANO: I understand.
- JUDGE MACE: I can't make any kind of
- 25 conditional approval. I can't make any kind of

- 1 conditional anything prior to the hearing. It just
- 2 -- it can't happen.
- 3 MR. ROMANO: Okay. I understand, Your
- 4 Honor.
- JUDGE MACE: There's not enough time.
- 6 MS. ANDERL: Your Honor, this is Lisa
- 7 Anderl. May I jump in here --
- 8 JUDGE MACE: Surely.
- 9 MS. ANDERL: -- to discuss a related matter?
- 10 The settlement is actually, you know, a couple of
- 11 different documents, and included as a part of the
- 12 settlement agreement was an agreement by the parties
- 13 to enter into an interconnection agreement amendment.
- 14 Subsequent to the filing of the settlement, the
- 15 parties did that and have now filed that ICA
- 16 amendment in both this docket and in the ordinary
- 17 docket that governs the relationship between Verizon
- 18 Access and Qwest for approval.
- 19 Under the Commission's rules, the Commission
- 20 has to act on that within 90 days, and that's, you
- 21 know, not by initial order, but by Commission order,
- 22 and I think that's a rule that implements the
- 23 requirements of Section 252.
- 24 So I think what Mr. Romano raises, to some
- 25 extent, might be a workable solution, even if it

- 1 doesn't comport with the timeline you were
- 2 discussing. There may be at some point a desire by
- 3 the Commission itself to enter an order either
- 4 approving or conditionally approving the ICA
- 5 amendment just so that there's no question there
- 6 about the Commission's compliance with Section 252.
- 7 And I just wanted to make sure that that's
- 8 an issue that's raised and out there and we go
- 9 forward with a full understanding of kind of all the
- 10 moving parts.
- 11 JUDGE MACE: Thank you. Is there a docket
- 12 number for that agreement case?
- MS. ANDERL: I'm sorry.
- JUDGE MACE: Agreement approval?
- MS. ANDERL: Yeah, I don't have it, though,
- 16 right at my fingertips.
- 17 JUDGE MACE: If you e-mail that to me, I'd
- 18 appreciate it.
- 19 MS. ANDERL: I'll work on getting it before
- 20 we're off the record here.
- JUDGE MACE: Thank you. Let me first ask
- 22 Staff to address this and then the other parties. Go
- 23 ahead, Mr. Thompson.
- MR. THOMPSON: Well, I should say that the
- 25 -- as a matter of fact, the executive secretary has

- 1 already issued an order -- well, an initial order, I
- 2 guess, approving the interconnection agreement, and
- 3 -- but that is still -- we're still within a 14-day
- 4 period within which I think Staff could request that
- 5 the Commission reconsider that and possibly, you
- 6 know, approve -- do this conditional approval subject
- 7 to, you know, the ICA being subject to whatever the
- 8 outcome of this complaint docket is. That might be
- 9 something that we could do there.
- 10 JUDGE MACE: Do you have the docket number,
- 11 Mr. Thompson?
- 12 MR. THOMPSON: I think Jing Roth just went
- 13 out to track it down, so here she comes.
- MS. ANDERL: I take it I'm going to be off
- 15 the hook on this one, then.
- 16 JUDGE MACE: If you'll just wait a moment
- 17 online.
- 18 MR. THOMPSON: It's UT-063055.
- 19 JUDGE MACE: Thank you. Do you have
- 20 anything else to say with regard to what Mr. Romano
- 21 is proposing here?
- 22 MR. THOMPSON: Well, I'm not sure -- I guess
- 23 my view is that I'm not sure it makes sense, really,
- 24 to dismiss Verizon from this case since we're at a
- 25 point where Verizon's agreeing that they would be

- 1 bound by the outcome of the case with respect to
- 2 whether, you know, VNXX would be allowed with respect
- 3 to ordinary voice traffic. And I think that the
- 4 issues involved in settlement are necessarily going
- 5 to be involved in the hearing of this case, and it
- 6 sort of changed the backdrop of all the issues that
- 7 are going to be testified to.
- 8 So I think it -- maybe it doesn't make sense
- 9 to deal with this procedural matter of whether or not
- 10 to dismiss Verizon, but just to carry it with the
- 11 case and decide the policy issues with the case, if
- 12 that makes sense.
- 13 JUDGE MACE: Is there anybody on the
- 14 conference bridge that wants to address this issue?
- MR. BEST: Yes, Your Honor, this is Chuck
- 16 Best for Electric Lightwave. This has kind of thrown
- 17 this whole proceeding into a cocked hat of sorts. I
- 18 mean, I think we need to take a step back and remind
- 19 ourselves that, first of all, Qwest filed a complaint
- 20 in this case making very specific allegations.
- 21 What's now happening is is that we're being
- 22 kind of drawn away from the original part of the
- 23 complaint by this proposed settlement, and I would
- 24 remind everyone that we've already filed testimony
- 25 and done discovery on the initial issues in the

- 1 complaint.
- 2 If we're now going to be required to
- 3 cross-examine on the issues in the settlement,
- 4 there's really no benefit of any evidence, there's --
- 5 we're sort of at a disadvantage.
- 6 And I guess the point that I want to make is
- 7 that I think the complaint needs to proceed as it
- 8 sits, because those are the issues as framed in the
- 9 case and have been for a long time. And now, all of
- 10 a sudden, we have new issues, and I would really urge
- 11 the ALJ not to introduce new issues -- i.e., this
- 12 settlement -- into the hearing itself, because it's
- 13 really inappropriate.
- 14 JUDGE MACE: Well, how would you propose
- 15 that the settlement be handled, then?
- MR. BEST: I think the settlement would be
- 17 handled like any other. I guess my personal opinion
- 18 is is that the settlement should be dealt with by the
- 19 Commission in its order, because, depending on how
- 20 the Commission rules, it may moot the whole thing,
- 21 the parties may have a different view of things, it
- 22 kind of depends on how the ruling comes out.
- JUDGE MACE: I guess just a question I have
- 24 is if the settlement is to be dealt with in the
- 25 order, then we have to have a mechanism to review the

- 1 settlement. And I quess I'm understanding that Qwest
- 2 is proposing that that review take place in
- 3 conjunction with the hearing, and yet you oppose it,
- 4 so I'm wondering where I'm going to consider the
- 5 settlement so that I can address it in the order?
- 6 MR. BEST: Well, I guess what I oppose is
- 7 that -- I don't mind that it's a separate proceeding,
- 8 I mean, that it's separated from the case itself,
- 9 because, you know, we may or may not care about that
- 10 settlement specifically, but what I am nervous about
- 11 is that these issues are getting blended and they
- 12 shouldn't be.
- 13 And I guess I don't care that there's a
- 14 separate proceeding, if you will, on the same day or
- 15 at the end of the hearing, but what I do care about
- 16 is that these cases really -- the approval of the
- 17 settlement and the actual VNXX complaint are really
- 18 two different issues, and I'm worried that they're
- 19 starting to get blended because, you know, Staff's
- 20 suggesting that this now be treated as Qwest's
- 21 position, and that really throws this into a
- 22 troubling situation because, you know, we've not had
- 23 any testimony on it.
- MS. ANDERL: Well, Your Honor, may I respond
- 25 to that?

- 1 JUDGE MACE: Ms. Anderl.
- 2 MS. ANDERL: I think that the pleading that
- 3 we filed, I hoped, made it clear that this is not our
- 4 revised litigation position. And the settlement very
- 5 explicitly states that this does not alter our
- 6 position with regard to the other eight or maybe it's
- 7 now seven respondents in the case.
- 8 I understand Mr. Best's concern, but I don't
- 9 think that that's what's happening, and I don't think
- 10 they have to cross-examine on the settlement if they
- 11 don't want to. There's still Qwest's direct and
- 12 rebuttal testimony that is its case in chief with
- 13 regard to how this Commission ought to handle VNXX.
- JUDGE MACE: Ms. Anderl, are you -- when you
- 15 suggested that the settlement be considered in
- 16 conjunction with the hearing on the merits, were you
- 17 envisioning that there would be a day or a half-day
- 18 that would be allotted to cross-examination on the
- 19 settlement and then the rest of cross-examination
- 20 would take place with regard to the case in chief, or
- 21 were you thinking it would happen some other way?
- 22 MS. ANDERL: You know, what you described is
- 23 one option. The other option is that, you know, we
- 24 don't have any testimony on the settlement. We would
- 25 just propose that our witness, Larry Brotherson, is

- 1 the witness who could testify on behalf of Owest in
- 2 support of the settlement, and if people wanted to
- 3 cross-examine him, you know, whatever suits Your
- 4 Honor, they could do that in a separate part of the
- 5 transcript so that it's easy to find, or they could
- 6 just do it when he's on the stand.
- 7 JUDGE MACE: All right. Thank you. Mr.
- 8 Best, we've heard from you. I'm wondering if there's
- 9 anyone else on the conference bridge who wants to
- 10 address these issues? Let me go through the list
- 11 here. Let's see. We haven't heard from Mr. Kopta.
- 12 Did you have any input, Mr. Kopta?
- 13 MR. KOPTA: No, Your Honor. I think our
- 14 concern primarily was to make sure that whenever the
- 15 hearing was going to be held on the settlement, that
- 16 everyone would be able to be available, and if it's
- 17 conducted at some point during the hearings that are
- 18 currently scheduled, then that addresses the only
- 19 concern that we had expressed.
- JUDGE MACE: Thank you. Let's see. Mr
- 21 Rogers or Mr. Pena.
- MR. ROGERS: Level 3 comes down basically in
- 23 the same position, I think, as Mr. Kopta just said,
- 24 that as long as there's an opportunity to address,
- 25 you know, what has been stated in the pleadings with

- 1 regard to the settlement at some point in time, I
- 2 think that we would be satisfied that it could be
- 3 done in conjunction.
- 4 JUDGE MACE: All right. Let's see here. Go
- 5 back to my list. Mr. Castle or Mr. Wiley.
- 6 MR. CASTLE: Yes, thank you, Your Honor.
- 7 This is Greg Castle. TCG does not object to
- 8 considering the settlement during the week of the
- 9 evidentiary hearings.
- 10 JUDGE MACE: Thank you. Mr. Ahlers.
- 11 MR. AHLERS: Yes, Your Honor. We also would
- 12 agree with that. It can be done during the hearings.
- JUDGE MACE: And Mr. Finnigan.
- MR. FINNIGAN: Yes, WITA agrees that
- 15 considering the settlement during the hearing makes
- 16 the most sense.
- JUDGE MACE: All right. Mr. Best, if I were
- 18 to propose that we schedule a hearing on the
- 19 settlement for -- well, we have five days scheduled
- 20 for this hearing. I know there's a number of
- 21 witnesses, but in any event, if we were to schedule
- 22 the hearing on the settlement on the morning of --
- 23 let's see, what are our days here -- on the morning
- 24 of the 27th of April, the last day, to run for as
- 25 long as it takes, and I would say that I would want

- 1 to hear from Mr. Brotherson and I would like to have
- 2 Staff's opinion, Staff and -- Mr. Williamson, I
- 3 guess, is the sole Staff witness; is that correct?
- 4 MR. THOMPSON: That's right, yeah.
- 5 JUDGE MACE: Mr. Williamson, and I don't
- 6 know if there would be anyone else from Verizon-MCI
- 7 that would testify.
- 8 MR. ROMANO: If Your Honor was interested in
- 9 having somebody, I could arrange it.
- 10 JUDGE MACE: Yeah, I think I'd like to have
- 11 someone from your company, too --
- MR. ROMANO: Yes, Your Honor.
- 13 JUDGE MACE: -- to answer questions. There
- 14 wouldn't be any pre-filed testimony, but the
- 15 settlement would be there and the narrative, and we
- 16 could have the parties have an opportunity to ask
- 17 questions. Would that serve your interests in having
- 18 this separate from the hearing?
- 19 MR. BEST: Yes, Your Honor. Like I say, and
- 20 I don't -- my only concern, like I say, was blending
- 21 this with the hearing, because it's just -- like I
- 22 say, from reading the comments of the parties, it's
- 23 like it's become now one of the issues in the case.
- 24 In my view, it is separate. So yes, that certainly
- 25 would meet my needs. In fact, should the hearing

- 1 resolve earlier, it wouldn't trouble me at all to
- 2 have it immediately follow it. It's just that I want
- 3 to make sure there is a separation, because I was
- 4 getting concerned that, in reading all this, that
- 5 it's starting to get blended with the ultimate issues
- 6 in the case, which really shouldn't be changing this
- 7 late in the game.
- 8 JUDGE MACE: Is there anyone who has an
- 9 objection to that procedure?
- 10 MR. ROGERS: This is Greg Rogers. My
- 11 question becomes whether parties would then be
- 12 precluded from conducting cross-examination of the
- 13 witnesses with respect to positions stated regarding
- 14 the settlement agreement during the rest of the
- 15 hearing?
- 16 JUDGE MACE: Without knowing what those
- 17 questions are, I think it would be hard for me just
- 18 to say automatically that you would be precluded, but
- 19 of course we wouldn't want to have a duplication.
- 20 MR. ROGERS: I mean, to me, I don't know
- 21 that I --
- JUDGE MACE: Is this Mr. Rogers?
- 23 MR. ROGERS: -- see a clear separation of
- 24 the issues, and so I anticipated that perhaps, you
- 25 know, cross-examination may, in fact, get into some

- 1 of the positions set forth in the settlement
- 2 pleadings, and whether that's then objectionable is
- 3 my question.
- 4 JUDGE MACE: I can't tell you that right
- 5 now. Does anybody else want to address that issue?
- 6 MR. BEST: Well, this is Chuck Best again.
- 7 I guess now this really does kind of bring up what
- 8 the problem really is. I don't think the settlement
- 9 is pleadings. I mean, the pleadings are what they
- 10 are. The settlement's sort of a new issue that's
- 11 been raised late in the game, and now we're going to
- 12 be taking evidence or at least cross-examination on
- 13 it, and there is no direct filed testimony on any of
- 14 this stuff or rebuttal. So I guess, you know,
- 15 procedurally, I'm not quite sure how that would work.
- MS. ANDERL: Well, Your Honor --
- JUDGE MACE: Ms. Anderl.
- 18 MS. ANDERL: This is Lisa Anderl. I think
- 19 the way this is working is exactly in accordance with
- 20 the Commission's rules, but I don't think the
- 21 Commission's rules require us to have pre-filed
- 22 testimony. They certainly contemplate partial
- 23 settlement between one or more parties to be
- 24 addressed through a hearing where parties present
- 25 witnesses who may not have testimony in support of.

- 1 I understand, again, Mr. Best's concern, but
- 2 I also understand Mr. Rogers certainly, you know, is
- 3 rubbing his hands with glee in anticipation of asking
- 4 Mr. Brotherson, Well, now you've got this testimony
- 5 here, Mr. Brotherson, and yet in the settlement
- 6 you've agreed to allow the exchange of VNXX traffic
- 7 on whatever, you know, compensation mechanism you may
- 8 have determined is appropriate, but still, you know,
- 9 isn't that inconsistent with your position that it's
- 10 unlawful. I can see how he wants to do that type of
- 11 cross-examination.
- 12 I don't know if I would object and say, Hey,
- 13 you can't do that until the settlement part of the
- 14 hearing. I don't know if that makes any sense or
- 15 not. But I certainly recognize the issue. I think
- 16 we maybe just have to wait and see how it presents
- 17 itself in real life.
- JUDGE MACE: Mr. Thompson, do you have
- 19 anything to lend to this discussion?
- 20 MR. THOMPSON: Well, I would note that
- 21 Staff's witness, Mr. Williamson, actually had the --
- 22 before we filed our rebuttal testimony, the
- 23 settlement had been made public, and so he comments
- 24 on it in his rebuttal testimony, so --
- 25 JUDGE MACE: Right. I think we're faced

- 1 with a kind of blurry situation, and I think we're
- 2 just going to have to work our way through it as best
- 3 we can. I wish I could be more definitive, but I
- 4 don't think I can at this point.
- 5 Let's see here. So it sounds like no one
- 6 objects to, at least in principle, to having the
- 7 hearing regarding the settlement on April 27th, or
- 8 whatever is the last day of hearing. In other words,
- 9 if we finish all of the witnesses in the case in
- 10 chief first, we can go ahead with the settlement
- 11 hearing right away. Is that all right? Anybody
- 12 object to that?
- Okay. One thing I want to ask in addition
- 14 is whether or not the parties anticipate having
- 15 cross-examination exhibits that need to be marked for
- 16 purposes of the hearing itself, the case in chief?
- 17 Anyone have cross exhibits?
- 18 MR. KOPTA: Your Honor, this is Greg Kopta.
- 19 We will have some cross exhibits, yes.
- 20 MS. ANDERL: Yes, and Your Honor, for Qwest,
- 21 I believe we'll have some, as well, although probably
- 22 not very many.
- 23 MR. BEST: This is Chuck Best, for Electric
- 24 Lightwave. We likely will have some, but I don't
- 25 even know what they are quite yet.

- 1 MS. ANDERL: That's the truth.
- JUDGE MACE: What I need to have from you is
- 3 our typical -- I would like to avoid holding a
- 4 pre-hearing conference for marking exhibits and for
- 5 getting from you cross times and order of cross.
- 6 We're scheduled to begin the hearing on April 23rd,
- 7 and I am wondering if you would be able to have a
- 8 list of your cross-examination exhibits and the cross
- 9 exhibits to me on April 19th, along with a list of --
- 10 well, along with the amount of time you think you're
- 11 going to spend cross-examining each witness. Is that
- 12 doable?
- MS. ANDERL: So Your Honor, let me just
- 14 clarify. This is Lisa Anderl. A list of cross
- 15 exhibits, copies of the actual exhibits, cross
- 16 estimates, and then I would assume just a proposed
- 17 order of witnesses, as well.
- 18 JUDGE MACE: Correct. That way I can
- 19 organize myself and I can prepare a master list of
- 20 exhibits that I can e-mail to you prior to the
- 21 hearing. Is that sufficient time or is it too early?
- 22 Anybody have a problem with it? All right. If not,
- 23 then I would appreciate it if you could get those to
- 24 me by noon on April 19th, so that I have enough time
- 25 to manipulate them.

- 1 MS. ANDERL: Okay.
- 2 MR. BEST: Your Honor, this is Chuck Best
- 3 again. Do you know -- I'm sorry I'm not that
- 4 familiar with the hearing room there. Will there be
- 5 either a white board or some sort of a large tablet
- 6 that we could draw on?
- 7 JUDGE MACE: I believe that I can request
- 8 one for you, and what I would appreciate your doing
- 9 is e-mailing me to make that request so that I don't
- 10 forget about it.
- 11 MR. BEST: Okay.
- 12 JUDGE MACE: If you would, or else include
- 13 it along with your filings on the 19th, so that I can
- 14 make sure we have one available. Anything else we
- 15 need to address at this point?
- MS. ANDERL: Your Honor, is the start time
- 17 on the 23rd 9:30?
- 18 JUDGE MACE: 9:30; correct. And it's in
- 19 Room 206. The order of witnesses will be an
- 20 important thing, too, in addition to the -- well,
- 21 that's the order that you're going to file on the
- 22 19th, order of witnesses.
- MS. ANDERL: Right, but, well, Your Honor, I
- 24 guess most of the parties don't have a whole lot of
- 25 witnesses. I guess it would be --

- 1 JUDGE MACE: Right. It seems like most of
- 2 the CLECs have one witness, from what I could tell,
- 3 or two.
- 4 MS. ANDERL: Right, we only have three, so
- 5 -- and for travel purposes, I guess we're going to
- 6 assume that Qwest is going to go first, as the
- 7 Complainant, so I'm not going to ask for dates
- 8 certain for any of my witnesses. I'll just put them
- 9 up in the order I need to to get whoever needs to be
- 10 off on Monday off on Monday.
- JUDGE MACE: Very well. That seems
- 12 reasonable.
- MS. ANDERL: If anybody else wants a
- 14 specific order or a date certain for their witness,
- 15 maybe it would be good if they asked for that before
- 16 the 19th.
- JUDGE MACE: Right. I'm expecting that
- 18 you'll be conferring amongst yourselves to some
- 19 extent about how this is going to go forward.
- 20 MR. ROGERS: Level 3 has a number of
- 21 witnesses combined with Broadwing, and so it's
- 22 anticipated then that we would need to just work it
- 23 out among the parties if we're looking to try to fit
- 24 those witnesses in in a particular slot.
- JUDGE MACE: Yes, that's usually what

- 1 happens, the parties work those issues out. And if
- 2 there's an objection, just let me know and we can
- 3 iron it out.
- 4 MR. ROGERS: Okay.
- 5 JUDGE MACE: What I'll do is prepare a
- 6 notice today that will hopefully correctly indicate
- 7 what we've agreed to and -- with regard to the
- 8 hearing and the hearing on the settlement, and if
- 9 there's any problem with the notice whatsoever,
- 10 please let me know. I apologize for that earlier
- 11 confusion.
- 12 And I think that that's all we need to do at
- 13 this point. Anything from anyone else? Anyone on
- 14 the conference bridge have anything else to add? All
- 15 right. Thank you very much. I appreciate it,
- 16 appreciate your indulgence with that prior error
- 17 about setting the settlement conference or settlement
- 18 hearing. Thank you.
- MR. ROMANO: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 20 MR. KOPTA: Thank you.
- MS. ANDERL: Thank you.
- 22 (Proceedings adjourned at 10:00 a.m.)

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