

APPENDIX 1  
GLOSSARY OF TERMS  
LEVEL 3 / QWEST ARBITRATION – DOCKET UT-063006

TERM	DESCRIPTION
Access	A local carrier must allow customers access to their preferred long-distance carrier. Customers pay an access charge to their local carrier for access to their long distance carrier and long distance carriers pay access charges to the local carrier to connect to the local carrier's network. <i>(From Newton's Telecom Dictionary, at pages 26-27.)</i>
Bill and Keep	A compensation mechanism where traffic is exchanged among companies on a reciprocal basis. Each company terminates the traffic originating from other companies in exchange for the right to terminate its traffic on that company's network. <i>(See WAC 480-120-540(4)(c).)</i>
Central Office	A building where the local loops are connected to switches to allow connection to other customers; also referred to as a wire center where there are several switches functioning as a switch exchange. <i>(From Newton's, at page 157.)</i>
CLEC	Competitive local exchange company. Not an incumbent local exchange carrier, or ILEC, and generally subject to very limited regulation.
CPE	Customer Premises Equipment. Equipment, such as telephones, modems, video conferencing devices, connected to the telephone network at the customer's premises. <i>(From Newton's, at page 215.)</i>
DS0 / Voicegrade	The digital representation of the capacity of an analog voice channel, <i>i.e.</i> , the traditional copper pair loop, transmitting information at 64 kilobytes per second (kbps). <i>(TRO, n. 634)</i>
DS1	The initial level of multiplexing in the time division hierarchy of the telephone network; a 1.544 megabyte per second (Mbps) signal that provides the equivalent of <b>24 64 kbps DS0 channels</b> . The same as a T1 facility. <i>(TRO, n. 634)</i>
DS3	A digital local loop having a total digital signal speed of 44.736 Mbps provided over various transmission media, including, but not limited to fiber optics, coaxial cable, or radio. DS3 loops can be channelized into <b>28 DS1 channels</b> , or unchannelized to provide a continuous bit stream for data. <i>(TRO, n. 634)</i>
End Office	Also referred to as a central office. The last central office before reaching an end user's premises. <i>(From Newton's at 292.)</i>
ESP	Enhanced Service Provider. A company that provides enhanced or value-added services to end-user customer, such as voice mail or database services. Also referred to as an information services provider.

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FGD, Feature Group D Trunks	A switching arrangement available from local exchange carrier central offices to Interexchange carriers (IXCs), Feature Group D is the most prevalent, and is associated with equal access arrangements. One of the features of Feature Group D is the proper rating of call. <i>(From Newton's at 316-17.)</i>
High-capacity	High-capacity refers to the ability of the facility to handle a large amount of traffic or information at a single time, e.g., DS1, DS3, OCn capacity.
ILEC	Incumbent local exchange company; a company in operation at the time the Act was enacted (August 1996).
Information Service	"[T]he offering of a capability for generating, acquiring, storing, transforming, processing, retrieving, utilizing, or making available information via telecommunications, and includes electronic publishing, but does not include any use of any such capability for the management, control, or operation of a telecommunications system or the management of a telecommunications service." <i>(47 U.S.C. § 153(20).)</i>
Interconnection	Connection between facilities or equipment of a telecommunications carrier with a local exchange carrier's network under Section 251(c)(2).
Interconnection Agreement	An agreement between an ILEC and requesting telecommunications carrier (which may be a CLEC) addressing terms, conditions and prices for interconnection, services or network elements pursuant to Section 251.
IP	Internet Protocol. Part of the Internet's working protocols that describe software that tracks the Internet address of nodes, routes outgoing messages, and recognizes incoming messages. <i>(See Newton's at 422.)</i>
ISP	Internet Service Provider. A vendor who provides access from customers to the Internet and the World Wide Web. <i>(See Newton's at 422.)</i>
ISP-Bound Traffic	Telecommunications or information traffic destined for the Internet.
IXC	Interexchange carrier, i.e., a long-distance carrier. A carrier providing service between exchanges, or local calling areas.
JPSA	Jointly Provided Switched Access. Where an ILEC and CLEC are both involved in providing access to an IXC, e.g., where a CLEC end user used a specific IXC and must provide access traffic over the ILEC's network to get to the IXC, and the IXC must use Qwest's network to transmit its traffic to the CLEC end user.
LATA	Local Access and Transport Area. A service area for Bell Operating

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	Companies.
LIS	Local Interconnection Service. Also referred to as direct end office trunks, or direct trunk transport. A circuit for transporting or exchanging traffic between a CLEC's point of interconnection and an ILEC's switch.
Local Exchange	A geographic area consisting of one or more central offices. ( <i>From Newton's Telecom Dictionary, at page 301.</i> )
Network Element	A facility or equipment used in providing telecommunications services.
Nonimpaired	A term relating to whether a competing carrier has access to unbundled network elements. Under Section 251(d)(2), an ILEC must provide unbundled access to an element if failure to provide the element would impair the carrier's ability to provide service. Under the TRRO, the FCC determined that competing carriers are not impaired without unbundled access to high-capacity elements at a wire center if the wire center meets certain criteria. If a wire center meets the criteria, it is <b>non-impaired</b> , meaning competitors are not allowed unbundled access to high-capacity UNEs in the wire center.
NPA	Numbering Plan Area. Also known as an area code. The first three digits of an 11 digit North American telephone number. ( <i>See Newton's at 558-59.</i> )
NXX	The telephone exchange or central office code. The second set of three numbers or digits in an 11 digit North American telephone number. ( <i>See Newton's at 559, 564.</i> )
OC-3	Capacity on an optical network capable of carrying the equivalent of three DS-3s.
Origination	A call made or placed by an end user. Also the central office for a carrier that serves a calling party.
POI	Point of Interconnection. The location where two carriers connect their networks to exchange traffic.
POP	Point of Presence. A physical place where a carrier has a presence for network access. ( <i>From Newton's at 620.</i> )
PSTN	Public Switched Telephone Network.
Reciprocal Compensation	Under Section 252(d)(2) of the Act, payment by telecommunications providers to one another for transporting and terminating each other's local exchange traffic.
Section 251(c)(3)	The section of the Act that requires ILECs to provide unbundled

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	access to network elements, or UNEs. ( <i>From Newton's at 665.</i> )
Section 252	The portion of the Act under which carriers negotiate and state commissions arbitrate and approve interconnection agreements between carriers.
SGAT	Statement of Generally Acceptable Terms. Under Section 252(f) of the Act, a standard form of interconnection agreement with a Bell operating company stating the terms and conditions of interconnection the company generally offers.
Tandem	Switches on the public switched telephone network that interconnect with other switches, such as central office switches, but do not serve or switch calls to, end users. ( <i>From Newton's at 778.</i> )
Termination	When a call is received by the called party. Also the central office for a carrier that serves the called party.
Toll Call	A call to any location outside of a local service or calling area. ( <i>See Newton's at 813.</i> )
Transport	Lines or connections used to transmit voice or data through a carrier's network. Transport media include copper wire, fiber optics, microwave, or satellite. ( <i>From Newton's, at page 815.</i> )
Triennial Review Remand Order (TRRO)	FCC decision entered in response to D.C. Circuit's USTA II decision: Eliminates local switching as a UNE as of March 11, 2006, and limits unbundling of high-capacity transport and loops. (High-capacity refers to the ability of the facility to handle an amount of information at a single time, e.g., DS1, DS3, optical capacity.)
Trunk	A communication line between two switching systems. A single trunk, capable of carrying a single conversation, is referred to DS0.
Unbundled	A network element that is provided by itself, not in connection with or "bundled" with another network element. A means for a carrier to request particular services from an ILEC to customize the service it provides, and to avoid an ILEC from offering certain services as a package that the carrier must take as an all or nothing option.
UNE	Unbundled network element. Generally a network element an ILEC must make available under Section 251(c)(3) of the Act.
VNXX	Virtual NXX. NXX or central office codes that correspond with a particular geographic area that are assigned to a customer located in a different geographic area.
VOIP	Voice over Internet Protocol. VoIP is a service that enables persons

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	with specialized customer premises equipment to originate and receive voice communications over the Internet.
Wire Center	The location where a telephone company terminates and switches local lines, or loops. A wire center may have one or more class 5 central offices or exchanges. ( <i>From Newton's Telecom Dictionary, at page 884.</i> )