

Qwest

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December 21, 2005

Via E-mail and Messenger

Ms. Carole J. Washburn, Executive Secretary
Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Re: Docket No. UT-053098 – Tel West Petition
Answer and Counterclaim

Dear Ms. Washburn:

Enclosed are the original and 12 copies of Answer and Counterclaim of Qwest Corporation, including exhibits. Please note that Attachment A to the Declaration of Elaine Maynard, attached as Exhibit 3 to the Answer, is confidential in accordance with WAC 480-07-160 and is marked as confidential. A redacted version of that document is also enclosed. The electronic copy is being provided by e-mail.

Sincerely,

Lisa A. Anderl

LAA/llw

cc: David Mittle, counsel for Tel West (*via e-mail and overnight mail*)