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1
                   BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
 2.
             UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
     In the Matter of the Petition )
     for Arbitration of an
                             ) DOCKET NO. UT-063061
     Interconnection Agreement
                                   )
     between
                                   ) Volume V
                                   ) Pages 84 to 292
 5
     QWEST CORPORATION
 6
     and
 7
     ESCHELON TELECOM, INC.
 8
     Pursuant to 47 U.S.C.
 9
     Section 252(b).
10
11
                A hearing in the above matter was held on
12
     May 8, 2007, from 9:30 a.m to 3:40 p.m., at 1300
13
     South Evergreen Park Drive Southwest, Room 206, Olympia,
14
     Washington, before Administrative Law Judge PATRICIA
15
     CLARK.
16
                The parties were present as follows:
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    Joan E. Kinn, CCR, RPR
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    Court Reporter
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- 1 PROCEEDINGS
- JUDGE CLARK: Good morning, it's
- 3 approximately 9:30 a.m., May 8th, 2007, in the
- 4 Commission's hearing room in Olympia, Washington. This
- 5 is the time and the place set for an arbitration hearing
- 6 in the matter of the Petition for Arbitration of an
- 7 Interconnection Agreement Between Qwest Corporation and
- 8 Eschelon Telecom Incorporated pursuant to 47 U.S.C.
- 9 Section 252(b), given Docket Number UT-063061, Patricia
- 10 Clark Administrative Law Judge for the Commission
- 11 presiding.
- 12 Notice of this hearing was established by a
- 13 Notice of Hearing and Prehearing Conference issued on
- 14 January 12th, 2007. The purpose of this morning's
- 15 hearing is to take evidence and examination on the
- 16 petition for arbitration and the response thereto.
- I will take appearances on behalf of the
- 18 parties. Appearing on behalf of Qwest.
- 19 MR. TOPP: This is Jason Topp from Qwest.
- JUDGE CLARK: Thank you.
- 21 Any other appearances?
- MR. DEVANEY: Good morning, Your Honor, John
- 23 Devaney also on behalf of Qwest.
- 24 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you. Mr. Devaney, could
- 25 you spell your last name for us, please.

- 1 MR. DEVANEY: D-E-V as in Victor A-N-E-Y.
- JUDGE CLARK: Thank you.
- 3 And appearing on behalf of Eschelon.
- 4 MR. MERZ: Good morning, Your Honor, Greg
- 5 Merz representing Eschelon.
- 6 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you. And is your
- 7 microphone on, Mr. Merz?
- 8 MR. MERZ: It is, just have to be a little
- 9 closer.
- 10 JUDGE CLARK: All right.
- One of the first matters we need to address,
- 12 we'll get all the housekeeping done first, I sent an
- 13 E-mail message to the parties advising you that having
- 14 granted the request for additional direct testimony on
- 15 the issue of wire centers and having granted the parties
- 16 deadlines for the filing of that testimony and
- 17 establishing a tentative hearing date should one be
- 18 required that we need to modify some of the other
- 19 deadlines in the procedural schedule, and I requested
- 20 the parties to try to work together to see if they could
- 21 come up with a revised schedule which they both can
- 22 agree with, and hopefully that's been done and it will
- 23 be a simple matter of letting me know what that might
- 24 be.
- 25 MR. MERZ: Your Honor, we did have a chance

- 1 to talk before the hearing, and we actually have a
- 2 couple of alternatives. One is if there is no hearing
- 3 and one if there is a hearing, and we really focused on
- 4 the date by which the parties would submit simultaneous
- 5 briefs, and then the other dates could just remain in
- 6 the same intervals that we have in our existing
- 7 schedule, but that the hearing that the parties would
- 8 propose, or I'm sorry, the date for briefing that the
- 9 parties would propose if there is no hearing is July
- 10 20th, and if it's necessary to have a hearing the date
- 11 that we would propose for briefing is August 17th.
- 12 JUDGE CLARK: All right.
- 13 MR. MERZ: And then I believe that under the
- 14 existing schedule there are four months between the
- 15 submissions of the parties' briefs and the arbitrator's
- 16 report and order, and so I think if you use that same
- 17 kind of timeline, the arbitrator's report and order
- 18 would be due approximately November 20th if there's no
- 19 hearing and December 17th if there is a hearing.
- JUDGE CLARK: Thank you. And that, of
- 21 course, would bump back petitions for review.
- MR. MERZ: Yes.
- JUDGE CLARK: To?
- MR. MERZ: It looks like there's a little
- 25 more than a month, approximately five weeks, so if

- 1 that's the case, if there's no hearing, let's see, oh,
- 2 no, I'm sorry, it's just a month between the order and
- 3 petitions for review, so it would be December 20th if
- 4 there's no hearing and January 17th if there is a
- 5 hearing.
- 6 JUDGE CLARK: All right. And the proposed
- 7 interconnection agreement?
- 8 MR. MERZ: Five weeks after that would be
- 9 approximately January 30th if there's no hearing, and if
- 10 there is a hearing approximately February 28th.
- JUDGE CLARK: All right, thank you.
- 12 And does Qwest concur with those deadlines,
- 13 Mr. Topp?
- MR. TOPP: We do.
- JUDGE CLARK: All right, thank you, I
- 16 appreciate you doing that in advance of this morning's
- 17 hearing, that's very helpful.
- 18 In advance of the hearing, the parties agreed
- 19 to the admission of all exhibits except the responses to
- 20 the Bench Requests. Is there any objection to the
- 21 receipt of the responses to the Bench Requests?
- MR. MERZ: No objection, Your Honor.
- MR. TOPP: No objection.
- 24 JUDGE CLARK: All right, then an electronic
- 25 version of the exhibit list will be provided to the

- 1 court reporter, and it will be said upon the record as
- 2 if read.
- 3 Are there any other preliminary matters that
- 4 we need to address this morning?
- 5 MR. MERZ: Your Honor, two other matters.
- 6 First of all, we had talked about and numbered as
- 7 exhibits the transcripts from the hearings that were
- 8 held in Colorado and Arizona, I have one logistical
- 9 question, I have both full size and condensed versions
- 10 of those transcripts and would just ask which you would
- 11 prefer to be entered into the record, if it matters.
- 12 JUDGE CLARK: It doesn't matter. Thank you
- 13 for bringing those this morning, I appreciate that.
- 14 MR. MERZ: And then the second question I
- 15 have is, and I think this must be the case, but in your
- 16 order you made the point that those transcripts would
- 17 not be available for cross-examination but rather just
- 18 for briefing, which we understand, but I assume that the
- 19 testimony in those transcripts does come into the record
- 20 as substantive evidence, it is prior sworn testimony of
- 21 the parties.
- JUDGE CLARK: Well, it depends on the use,
- 23 and we'll just have to take that matter up as it comes
- 24 along. And the reason for only granting the request to
- 25 allow the transcripts for the use for briefing is that

- 1 was the parties' request.
- 2 MR. MERZ: Yes. No, I understand that, all
- 3 right, thank you.
- 4 JUDGE CLARK: All right, so the record is
- 5 clear.
- 6 Are there any other preliminary matters,
- 7 Mr. Topp?
- 8 MR. TOPP: No.
- 9 JUDGE CLARK: All right.
- 10 Just a reminder, if you could please either
- 11 mute or turn off your cell phones I would appreciate
- 12 that, and I think we're ready for Qwest to call the
- 13 first witness.
- 14 MR. TOPP: Qwest calls Renee Albersheim.
- JUDGE CLARK: Thank you.
- 16 (Witness RENEE ALBERSHEIM was sworn.)
- 17 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you, please be seated,
- 18 and you're going to want to make sure that microphone in
- 19 front of you is pulled a little bit closer and that it's
- 20 on.
- 21 All right, Mr. Topp.

23

24

Whereupon,

- 1 RENEE ALBERSHEIM,
- 2 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness
- 3 herein and was examined and testified as follows:

- 5 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 6 BY MR. TOPP:
- 7 Q. Good morning, Ms. Albersheim.
- 8 A. Good morning.
- 9 Q. You have prepared prefiled testimony in this
- 10 case, have you not?
- 11 A. Yes, I have.
- 12 Q. And that testimony has been marked and
- 13 admitted into evidence already; is that true?
- 14 A. That's my understanding.
- 15 Q. Okay. And I've got marked as Exhibit 1 your
- 16 prefiled direct testimony with Exhibits 2 through 17 as
- 17 your exhibits to that testimony, Exhibit 18C is your
- 18 prefiled responsive testimony with Exhibits 19 through
- 19 28 as exhibits to that testimony, Exhibit 29 as your
- 20 prefiled rebuttal testimony with Exhibits 30 through 33
- 21 marked as exhibits to that testimony; have I relayed
- 22 that correctly?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you sitting here today, I guess first of
- 25 all prior to the hearing you made and the Court accepted

- 1 a modification to page 60 of your direct testimony; is
- 2 that correct?
- 3 A. That's correct.
- 4 Q. And that's reflected in the Exhibit 1 --
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. -- that's on file?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And sitting here today have you noticed any
- 9 other errors in your testimony?
- 10 A. Yes, I found one error in my responsive
- 11 testimony, Exhibit 18C, this is on page 39, line 23, on
- 12 that line there's a reference to an exhibit, Exhibit
- 13 RA-28RT, it should say RA-27RT.
- 14 Q. Is that the extent of the errors that you
- 15 have found?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 MR. TOPP: I guess I don't need to offer the
- 18 exhibits, so Ms. Albersheim is available for
- 19 cross-examination.
- JUDGE CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Topp.
- Mr. Merz.
- MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor.

24

25 CROSS-EXAMINATION

- 1 BY MR. MERZ:
- Q. Good morning, Ms. Albersheim.
- 3 A. Good morning.
- 4 Q. I would like to begin with your rebuttal
- 5 testimony which we have marked as Hearing Exhibit 29,
- 6 and I'm referring specifically to page 5 of that
- 7 testimony, so if you could turn to that, please.
- 8 A. I'm there.
- 9 Q. And I'm looking in particular at line 25 and
- 10 carrying over to the next page where you say:
- 11 Eschelon's proposals for service
- intervals (Issue 1-1), acknowledgement
- of mistakes (Issue 12-64), expedited
- orders (Issue 12-67), jeopardies (Issue
- 15 12-71), and controlled production
- 16 testing (Issue 12-86), do not reflect
- 17 Qwest's current operating procedures.
- Do you see that?
- 19 A. Yes, I do.
- 20 Q. You are aware and in fact testified in the
- 21 Minnesota arbitration proceedings between Eschelon and
- 22 Qwest; is that correct?
- 23 A. I did testify, yes.
- Q. Okay. And you are aware that the Minnesota
- 25 Commission has adopted Eschelon's proposed

- 1 interconnection agreement language with respect to
- 2 intervals?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And you're aware that the Minnesota
- 5 Commission has adopted Eschelon's proposed
- 6 interconnection agreement language with respect to
- 7 acknowledgment of mistakes?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. You're aware as well that the Minnesota
- 10 Commission has adopted Eschelon's proposed
- 11 interconnection agreement language with respect to
- 12 jeopardies?
- 13 A. Yes, I think that's right, yes.
- 14 Q. Now you go on to say in your testimony at the
- 15 next page of Hearing Exhibit 29, page 6:
- 16 If these proposals are accepted, Qwest
- 17 will be forced to treat Eschelon
- 18 differently than it treats all other
- 19 CLECs, or Qwest will be forced to change
- 20 its operations to be consistent with
- 21 Eschelon's contract thereby affecting
- the operations of other CLECs.
- Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes, I do.
- 25 Q. Now in Minnesota where the Minnesota

- 1 Commission has adopted Eschelon's language with respect
- 2 to intervals, acknowledgement of mistakes, and
- 3 jeopardies, has Qwest decided to either treat Eschelon
- 4 differently or to change its processes with respect to
- 5 those issues?
- 6 A. Those decisions are still being made. Part
- 7 of the evaluation will depend on what happens in other
- 8 states.
- 9 Q. And how will it depend on that?
- 10 A. Well, it will depend on what Owest has to do
- 11 to operationalize those decisions and whether or not it
- 12 is cost effective for Qwest to have the one-off
- 13 procedures for Eschelon or if it is necessary for Qwest
- 14 to change its procedures for all CLECs. That decision
- 15 is still to be made.
- 16 Q. How will Qwest go about determining whether
- 17 it's cost effective to change its procedures as opposed
- 18 to having a specific process for Eschelon?
- 19 A. Well, that's a complicated process. I mean
- 20 they have to determine what has to change, what
- 21 documentation, if there are any systems changes that
- 22 need to be made, if any training needs to be changed,
- 23 and whether or not it would be more cost effective to
- 24 implement those changes across the board and whether or
- 25 not our performance will suffer if we don't. That's

- 1 part of the evaluation.
- Q. Now you used the phrase just a moment ago
- 3 one-off, correct?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And by that you refer to your criticism that
- 6 Eschelon's proposals require Qwest to implement
- 7 processes that are specific to Eschelon; is that right?
- 8 A. That's correct.
- 9 MR. MERZ: Your Honor, I have Hearing Exhibit
- 10 34, which I would like to hand to the witness, or I
- 11 don't know, maybe you have it.
- JUDGE CLARK: Do you have a copy of that?
- 13 THE WITNESS: No, I don't.
- 14 JUDGE CLARK: Mr. Topp, if you could, you can
- 15 take the exhibit from Mr. Merz and just hand it to your
- 16 witness, that's fine.
- 17 MR. TOPP: Sure.
- 18 BY MR. MERZ:
- 19 Q. Ms. Albersheim, do you have in front of you
- 20 there what we have marked as Hearing Exhibit 34, do you
- 21 recognize Hearing Exhibit 34 as a Qwest notice?
- 22 A. I do.
- Q. And it's a notice relating to a it says
- 24 process notification, that's a notification of a change
- in Qwest's process; is that right?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. It's a notice that went out to CLECs,
- 3 correct?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And the date of the notice is April 27, 2007?
- 6 A. Actually, I want to amend my last response,
- 7 it went to CLECs, resalers, wireless, and paging
- 8 customers.
- 9 Q. Fair enough, so it went to CLECs and some
- 10 other folks?
- 11 A. Yes, basically it's a distribution through
- 12 the CMP.
- 13 Q. CMP is C-M-P --
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. -- the change management process?
- 16 A. That's correct.
- 17 Q. The notice is dated April 27th of 2007 so
- 18 just less than a week or so ago, is that right?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And this refers to changes that Qwest is
- 21 making in its negotiations template; is that right?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Qwest's negotiations template is a document
- 24 that Qwest prepared that it holds out as a starting
- 25 point for negotiations with CLECs, correct?

- 1 A. For interconnection agreements, yes.
- Q. Now one of the changes as I understand it
- 3 that's being described in this notice refers to Section
- 4 1.7.1 and Exhibits L and M of the negotiations template;
- 5 do you see that at the bottom of the first page of
- 6 Hearing Exhibit 34?
- 7 A. I do.
- 8 Q. And so just to understand, the negotiations
- 9 template has been changed to remove Section 1.7.1 and
- 10 Exhibits L and M; is that correct?
- 11 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 12 MR. MERZ: And, Your Honor, I would like to
- 13 provide the witness with a copy of Hearing Exhibit 35.
- 14 JUDGE CLARK: All right.
- Thank you.
- 16 BY MR. MERZ:
- 17 Q. You have it in front of you there now a
- 18 document we have marked as Hearing Exhibit 35; is that
- 19 right?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Do you recognize Hearing Exhibit 35 as
- 22 excerpts from Qwest's negotiations template, correct?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And if you refer to page 2 of Hearing Exhibit
- 25 35, you see there Section 1.7.1, correct?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And that is the section that is being removed
- 3 pursuant to the notice that we were just looking at,
- 4 Hearing Exhibit 34?
- 5 A. Yes, these excerpts are taken from the
- 6 February version of this interconnection agreement
- 7 template.
- 8 Q. And Section 1.7.1 describes a process by
- 9 which CLECs can add new products to their
- 10 interconnection agreement by signing something called an
- 11 advice adoption letter; is that right?
- 12 A. Yes, this was intended to streamline their
- 13 ability to take advantage of new products, but according
- 14 to the notice no CLEC has used it.
- 15 Q. And if you look at page 4 of Hearing Exhibit
- 16 35, Exhibit L is an advice adoption letter, correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And Exhibit M is an interim advice adoption
- 19 letter?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And both of those exhibits are being removed
- 22 pursuant to the notice that we have marked as Hearing
- 23 Exhibit 34, correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 MR. MERZ: Your Honor, I would like to

- 1 provide the witness with a copy of Hearing Exhibit 36.
- 2 MR. TOPP: 36 or 35?
- JUDGE CLARK: We already did 35.
- 4 MR. MERZ: This is 36.
- 5 BY MR. MERZ:
- 6 Q. Ms. Albersheim, do you recognize Exhibit 36
- 7 as excerpts from Qwest's SGAT, S-G-A-T, for the State of
- 8 Washington?
- 9 A. Yes, dated June 25th, 2002.
- 10 Q. And if you look at page 2 of Exhibit 36, you
- 11 see there 1.7.1, which is the same section we were just
- 12 talking about in connection with Hearing Exhibit 35,
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And this refers to the same process by which
- 16 CLECs can add new products to their contracts; is that
- 17 right?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Now you are familiar as well with the
- 20 interconnection agreement in this case, correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 MR. MERZ: And, Mr. Topp, I don't know, could
- 23 you supply Ms. Albersheim with a copy of the contract.
- 24 If you don't have one, I have it here.
- MR. TOPP: I do not.

- 1 MR. MERZ: And, Your Honor, just for the
- 2 record, what we have provided to Ms. Albersheim is a
- 3 copy of the contract that was filed with Eschelon's
- 4 response to the petition. There have been some changes,
- 5 but I'm going to be talking about language that hasn't
- 6 changed since then, so that should be just fine.
- 7 BY MR. MERZ:
- 8 Q. And, Ms. Albersheim, I would like you to
- 9 refer in that document to Section 1.7.1.
- 10 A. I'm there.
- 11 Q. 1.7.1 is closed language; is that right?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. That's language that the parties have agreed
- 14 will be included in their interconnection agreement,
- 15 correct?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. 1.7.1 is identical to Section 1.7.1 that we
- 18 were just looking at in Hearing Exhibits 36 and 35; is
- 19 that right?
- 20 A. That's correct.
- 21 Q. The fact that Qwest is changing its
- 22 negotiations template doesn't change the parties'
- 23 contract, does it?
- 24 A. No, nor does it change all the prior
- 25 contracts that Qwest has negotiated with other CLECs.

- 1 Q. Now until the change that we looked at from
- 2 the notice dated April 27, the closed language in
- 3 Eschelon's contract at 1.7.1 reflected Qwest's process;
- 4 is that right?
- 5 A. That's correct.
- 6 Q. And so by changing its existing process,
- 7 isn't it the case that Qwest has itself created a
- 8 one-off, a process that is specific to Eschelon in the
- 9 parties' contract?
- 10 A. I wouldn't say that's true just yet. We have
- 11 changed our negotiations template, so it will change
- 12 going forward, but we have existing interconnection
- 13 agreements that use that process. I imagine the intent
- 14 is to phase that piece of it out.
- 15 Q. Leaving Eschelon's contract as one remaining
- 16 that has that process Section 1.7.1 for adding new
- 17 products to the parties' contract, correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And if the --
- 20 A. Though I would mention again that it's
- 21 apparent that we're phasing this out because no one has
- 22 used it.
- Q. I want to talk with you now about how Qwest
- 24 goes about documenting its processes. The documentation
- 25 that is available to CLECs regarding Owest's processes

- 1 is the documentation that's contained in the PCAT, the
- 2 product catalog; is that right?
- 3 A. That's one source, yes.
- 4 Q. What other sources are there?
- 5 A. There are various pieces of systems and
- 6 technical documentation also available on the Qwest
- 7 website. The product catalog is just one set of
- 8 documents.
- 9 O. What other sets of documents are there?
- 10 A. Well, for example, the IMA implementation
- 11 documents, there are quite a few documents related to
- 12 use of the systems, IMA, XML, the GUI, also the systems
- 13 for ASRs, there are technical documents published for
- 14 network specifications, all of these things are
- 15 available through our wholesale website.
- 16 Q. Now you would agree with me, would you not,
- 17 that all of Qwest's processes are not contained in
- 18 documentation that is available to CLECs?
- 19 A. I'm not sure I would agree with that. How do
- 20 you mean?
- 21 Q. Well, Qwest has internal documentation of its
- 22 processes that is not available to CLECs, correct?
- 23 A. Yes. Usually what that will be is
- 24 documentation that gives specific instructions to Qwest
- 25 employees how to implement those processes.

- 1 Q. For example, Qwest has an internal or it had
- 2 an internal documentation, set of documentation, that it
- 3 referred to as the InfoBuddy; are you familiar with
- 4 that?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Eschelon at one point requested access to the
- 7 InfoBuddy; do you recall that?
- 8 A. I don't know.
- 9 Q. You don't recall seeing that in Ms. Johnson's
- 10 testimony?
- 11 A. Oh, well, it was my understanding that the
- 12 CLECs were given partial access to the InfoBuddy.
- 13 Q. It's the case that what Qwest agreed to
- 14 provide CLECs was something called the resale product
- 15 database, the RPD; is that right?
- 16 A. At one time, I believe that's true.
- 17 Q. And Qwest retired the RPD in April of 2006;
- 18 you're aware of that?
- 19 A. Yes, because it wasn't being used.
- 20 Q. You are aware that Eschelon objected to
- 21 Qwest's retiring of the RPD?
- 22 A. I'm aware of that.
- Q. Okay. But Qwest did it anyway, correct?
- 24 A. Yes, ultimately they did.
- 25 Q. And just to be clear, you would agree that

- 1 Qwest does not document all of its processes in
- 2 documentation that is accessible to CLECs, correct?
- 3 A. I believe what Qwest provides is the
- 4 documentation the CLECs need from Qwest. I don't
- 5 believe the CLECs need the documents that are intended
- 6 for Qwest employees for them to function in their jobs.
- 7 MR. MERZ: And, Your Honor, I would like to
- 8 provide the witness with what we have marked as Hearing
- 9 Exhibit 38.
- 10 BY MR. MERZ:
- 11 Q. You see that Hearing Exhibit 38 is a series
- 12 of E-mails between Kim Issacs and something called Qwest
- 13 CMP comments?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. And what is Qwest CMP comments?
- 16 A. It's a process through the CMP that allows
- 17 CLECs to comment on changes being introduced through the
- 18 CMP.
- 19 Q. And Ms. Issacs you're aware is an employee of
- 20 Eschelon, correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you see at the second page of Exhibit 38
- 23 that Ms. Issacs is requesting that Qwest document
- 24 certain processes relating to a DSL service?
- 25 A. More specifically, you said --

- 1 Q. I'm looking at the very top of page 2 of
- 2 Exhibit 38.
- JUDGE CLARK: Second line.
- 4 A. You mean --
- 5 Q. I'm looking where it says, the second line,
- 6 page 2 of Exhibit 38:
- 7 Eschelon requests that Qwest document
- 8 that if in the event the DSL technical
- 9 support center determines that DSL speed
- 10 needs to be permanently lowered, the IMA
- loop qualification result will match the
- 12 speed that the Qwest DSL technician
- 13 support center states we need to submit
- an LSR to change it to.
- 15 A. Okay, I see that, yes.
- 16 Q. And so you understand from that that
- 17 Ms. Issacs is making a request to Qwest for
- 18 documentation of certain Qwest processes relating to
- 19 DSL?
- 20 A. I see that, yes.
- 21 Q. And do you see at the top of the first page
- 22 that the response is that Qwest is not going to honor
- 23 Ms. Issacs' request for documentation?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 MR. MERZ: Your Honor, I would like to

- 1 provide the witness with what we have marked as Hearing
- 2 Exhibit 37.
- 3 BY MR. MERZ:
- 4 Q. Ms. Albersheim, you have in front of you
- 5 there what we have marked as Hearing Exhibit 37; is that
- 6 right?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Do you recognize this as a Qwest notice dated
- 9 November 15th of 2006?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. It is a CMP notice; is that right?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. And it's a notice of a process change that is
- 14 being implemented through CMP, correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. The specific process change that's being
- 17 implemented is that the SGATs are no longer going to be
- 18 available for opt in, and they're being replaced by the
- 19 Qwest negotiations template; is that right?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know whether the Qwest negotiations
- 22 template has been approved by any state commission?
- 23 A. No.
- Q. I'm sorry, it was a bad question.
- 25 Has Qwest's negotiations template been

- 1 approved by any state commission?
- 2 A. Not that I am aware of.
- 3 Q. Has Qwest asked for approval from any state
- 4 commission?
- 5 A. Not that I'm aware of.
- 6 Q. Has any state commission approved Qwest's
- 7 decision to withdraw its SGAT as being available for opt
- 8 in?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. Has Qwest requested approval from any state
- 11 commission to do that?
- 12 A. Not yet that I am aware of.
- 13 Q. Now you refer in your testimony to a
- 14 compliance filing made by Qwest in response to an order
- 15 by the Minnesota Commission in connection with a
- 16 complaint brought by Eschelon in 2003.
- 17 A. I believe there were three compliance
- 18 filings.
- 19 Q. The specific case that we're talking about is
- 20 sometimes referred to as the Minnesota 616 case; you're
- 21 aware of that?
- 22 A. Yes
- Q. 616 which is the name of the Minnesota
- 24 docket; is that right?
- 25 A. The number, yes.

- 1 Q. The case concerned an error that was made by
- 2 Qwest in transferring a customer to Eschelon; is that
- 3 right?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. As a result of that error, Eschelon's
- 6 customer unexpectedly lost service; you're aware of that
- 7 as well?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. The Minnesota Commission found that Qwest's
- 10 service was inadequate and ordered it to make certain
- 11 changes with respect to its process; is that right?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Those changes included adopting procedures
- 14 for promptly acknowledging and taking responsibility for
- 15 mistakes, correct?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And it also involved changes to procedures
- 18 for reducing errors; is that right?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 MR. MERZ: Your Honor, I would like to
- 21 provide the witness with what we have marked as Hearing
- 22 Exhibit 39.
- 23 BY MR. MERZ:
- Q. Do you have in front of you what we have
- 25 marked as Hearing Exhibit 39, Ms. Albersheim?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. And you mentioned the fact that there were
- 3 three compliance filings made by Qwest in the Minnesota
- 4 616 case; is that right?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. The reason there were three was that the
- 7 first two were rejected by the Minnesota Commission?
- 8 A. They were listed -- deemed inadequate, more
- 9 was needed, yes.
- 10 Q. And you recognize Exhibit 39 as the
- 11 compliance filing that was accepted; is that right?
- 12 A. I don't think this was the latest compliance
- 13 filing. I thought there was one after this, but I would
- 14 have to check the dates.
- Q. Well, you are familiar I take it with the
- 16 substantive contents of the compliance filing?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. If you just refer quickly to the third page
- 19 of Hearing Exhibit 39, Paragraph F.
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And my question just generally is whether you
- 22 understand that what's described under Paragraph F
- 23 reflects procedures adopted by Qwest in connection with
- the Commission's order in the Minnesota 616 case?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And then the same question with respect to G
- 2 on the next page, does the description there generally
- describe the processes that were adopted by Qwest in
- 4 response to the commission's order in the Minnesota 616
- 5 case?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. The changes that Qwest implemented pursuant
- 8 to its compliance filing relating to acknowledgment of
- 9 mistakes are not reflected in Qwest's PCAT, are they?
- 10 A. I don't know.
- 11 Q. Do you know whether they're reflected in any
- 12 documentation that's available to CLECs?
- 13 A. I think some of this is in the -- in some of
- 14 the PCATs I have seen language reflecting these
- 15 procedures. I don't know if the changes to those PCATs
- 16 were directly resulting from this or not.
- 17 Q. And I'm referring, just so we're clear,
- 18 specifically to the procedures relating to
- 19 acknowledgment of mistakes.
- 20 A. Well, there -- yes, because there are
- 21 procedures in the account manager PCAT, so I just -- I'm
- 22 not certain I can answer that these are or are not
- 23 reflected in the PCATs.
- Q. Do you know whether these procedures are
- 25 reflected in Qwest's internal documentation?

- 1 A. I expect they are.
- Q. Why do you expect that?
- 3 A. Well, because we were ordered to do these
- 4 procedures, and so in good faith Qwest would have had to
- 5 inform its employees of these procedures.
- 6 Q. I'm referring to your responsive testimony
- 7 which has been marked as Hearing Exhibit 18C, if you
- 8 could refer to that, and I'm looking specifically at
- 9 page 38.
- 10 A. I'm there.
- 11 Q. Okay. And I'm looking at the very bottom of
- 12 the page, line 23, where the question begins:
- Mr. Webber argues on page 50 of his
- 14 testimony that Qwest should have
- 15 submitted the acknowledgment of mistakes
- issue in the Minnesota docket to the
- 17 CMP, do you agree?
- 18 And your answer is:
- No, the result of the docket, which was
- 20 the Minnesota Commission order that I
- 21 referred to above, do not rise to the
- level of regulatory change request as
- Mr. Webber claims.
- 24 Do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Now what I interpreted that to mean was that
- 2 the changes that Qwest implemented pursuant to the
- 3 Minnesota Commission's order, those changes were not
- 4 reflected in Qwest's PCAT because it didn't go through
- 5 CMP; am I misinterpreting your testimony there?
- 6 A. No, I think most of the changes would have
- 7 been to our internal processes, as I said just a moment
- 8 ago. We would have had to since our employees were
- 9 under obligation from the Minnesota Commission to comply
- 10 with the orders. I don't know if subsequent changes
- 11 were also made to the PCATs through CMP or not.
- 12 Q. If there was a change to the PCAT relating to
- 13 acknowledgement of mistakes, that is a change that would
- 14 have to go through CMP, correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And if no such change went through CMP, we
- 17 can safely assume that there's no documentation in the
- 18 PCAT relating to acknowledgment of mistakes; is that
- 19 right?
- 20 A. If none went through specifically as a result
- 21 of this, I would say yes.
- Q. I want to talk with you now about a little
- 23 bit different issue, and it concerns expedites, which is
- 24 Issue 12-67 and its subparts. An expedite is when Qwest
- 25 provides Eschelon with service more quickly than it

- 1 otherwise would; is that right?
- 2 A. More quickly than the standard interval
- 3 required by Qwest, yes.
- 4 Q. The parties disagree in this case about
- 5 whether the ICA should set forth specific terms and
- 6 conditions describing when a request for an expedite
- 7 will be granted; is that right?
- 8 A. Sort of. Eschelon has changed the terms for
- 9 expedites in a way that does not reflect Qwest's current
- 10 process for expedites.
- 11 Q. The language that Qwest wants to include in
- 12 the interconnection agreement relating to expedites
- 13 would refer to Qwest's PCAT for the terms and conditions
- 14 under which expedites would be granted; is that right?
- 15 A. Yes, the PCATs are specific as to when
- 16 expedites will be granted, yes.
- Q. And in Qwest's view, the PCATs -- I'm sorry.
- In Qwest's view, the interconnection
- 19 agreement shouldn't include any language that says when
- 20 Qwest will grant an expedite; is that right?
- 21 A. No, the language says that Qwest will grant
- 22 expedites if resources are available, but the specific
- 23 requirements of expedites are listed in the PCATs.
- 24 O. In your testimony you talk about changes that
- 25 Owest made to its expedite process through CMP; is that

- 1 right?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. You were not involved in those changes that
- 4 you talked about in your testimony; is that right?
- 5 A. That's correct.
- 6 Q. And you don't have any firsthand knowledge of
- 7 the reasons behind those changes or how they were made?
- 8 A. No, I wouldn't say that's true. I understand
- 9 why those changes were made. I was not a process
- 10 manager implementing those changes.
- 11 Q. You know about why the changes were made
- 12 based on something that somebody told you; is that
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. That's correct, and based on the record in
- 15 the CMP.
- 16 MR. MERZ: I would like to show the witness
- 17 what we marked as Hearing Exhibit 40.
- 18 BY MR. MERZ:
- 19 Q. Do you have Hearing Exhibit 40 there?
- 20 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. Now you are also a witness in a complaint
- 22 case that's been brought by Eschelon in Arizona; is that
- 23 right?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And that complaint case concerns the

- 1 expedites issue under Eschelon's current ICA; is that
- 2 right?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. And you see here in this, this is a response
- 5 to an interrogatory by Qwest in that Arizona complaint
- 6 case, correct?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And you see here that Qwest has listed
- 9 individuals who participated in any way in CMP or in the
- 10 development or implementation of processes, policies,
- 11 ICA terms, charges, and documentation on behalf of Qwest
- 12 regarding expedites?
- 13 A. I see that. I should point out that this is
- 14 not the most current response to this data request.
- 15 More names were added in a supplemental response.
- Q. Okay, so there's 18 names on this list?
- 17 A. I will take your word for it, I didn't count.
- 18 Q. And you think that the list ought to actually
- 19 be longer?
- 20 A. It is longer, it was supplemented. This was
- 21 supplied, oh, I don't see the date on here, I believe
- 22 this was supplied in early June, and at the end of June
- 23 a supplement was added with some more names.
- Q. Do you know how many more names?
- 25 A. I'm guessing 4 or 5.

- 1 O. You're not anywhere on the list that we have
- 2 in front of us here on Hearing Exhibit 40, correct?
- 3 A. No, I do not implement process changes. I
- 4 have been involved in an advisory capacity in the CMP,
- 5 but I do not implement CMP change requests.
- 6 Q. Well, if I'm understanding the response, this
- 7 involves persons not just involved in implementing but
- 8 also developing processes, policies, et cetera, relating
- 9 to expedites; isn't that right?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And you weren't involved in that either?
- 12 A. No.
- 13 Q. And that would be true with respect to this
- 14 more expanded list with the 20 some names on it as well,
- 15 correct?
- 16 A. That's correct.
- 17 Q. The expedite process that Qwest follows today
- 18 in Washington does not distinguish between design and
- 19 non-design services; is that right?
- 20 A. No, that's not really correct. We do have a
- 21 distinction. The difference is in Washington we haven't
- 22 implemented the design service expedite process that we
- 23 have in other states.
- Q. How does Qwest's expedite process in
- 25 Washington distinguish between design and non-design

- 1 services?
- 2 A. Well, if you look at our PCAT, it still makes
- 3 the distinction between design and non-design. The
- 4 difference is that design service expedites are only
- 5 offered in emergencies at no charge in Washington. In
- 6 all of our other states, we offer design service
- 7 expedites in all circumstances at \$200 per day.
- 8 Q. In Washington expedites are available under
- 9 the same terms and conditions for both design and
- 10 non-design services, correct?
- 11 A. I think the emergency conditions are the same
- 12 for both today. The intent is to offer design service
- 13 expedites under all circumstances, but we must change
- 14 our retail tariff first.
- 15 Q. If you would refer to your rebuttal
- 16 testimony, which is Hearing Exhibit 29, and I'm looking
- 17 at page 22; do you have that there?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Looking specifically at line 13, the question
- 20 is:
- 21 Does Qwest offer design service
- 22 expedites in Washington the same way it
- does in all other states?
- 24 And your answer is:
- No, not yet, Qwest is diligent about

- ensuring that it does not discriminate
- 2 against its customers.
- 3 Do you see that?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Is the fact that Qwest hasn't changed its
- 6 expedite process for Washington related in some way to
- 7 Qwest's diligence about not discriminating?
- 8 A. Okay, I'm confused by your question.
- 9 Q. Let me see if I can back up a little bit. As
- 10 I understand it, Washington is different than all of the
- 11 other Qwest states with respect to the availability of
- 12 expedites.
- 13 A. That's correct.
- 14 Q. You have plans to change the process in
- 15 Washington, but that just hasn't happened yet.
- 16 A. That's correct.
- 17 Q. And in your testimony when you make the point
- 18 that you do it differently in Washington than you do in
- 19 all the other states, you then go on to say Qwest is
- 20 diligent about ensuring that it not discriminate against
- 21 its customers. And my question is, what's the
- 22 relationship between those two things, the fact that
- 23 Qwest does it differently in Washington and its
- 24 diligence about not discriminating?
- 25 A. Well, the point is we are required to offer

- 1 the same services to the CLECs that we offer to
- 2 ourselves and our own customers. We do not offer design
- 3 service expedites in all conditions to our retail
- 4 customers, so we can't offer that to the CLECs until we
- 5 offer it to both. We're trying not to discriminate, so
- 6 we're trying to offer the same expedite process in both
- 7 cases, to CLECs and to all our other customers.
- 8 Q. What is it about the state of Washington that
- 9 makes it different in that regard?
- 10 A. That we don't have a retail tariff that
- 11 allows us to offer the design service expedites to our
- 12 retail customers.
- 13 Q. You go on in your testimony on this same page
- 14 but at line 21, the end of that line:
- 15 Qwest intends to change its retail
- 16 tariff in Washington to be consistent
- 17 with the expedite process in other
- 18 states.
- When does Qwest intend to do that?
- 20 A. I don't know.
- Q. Why hasn't Qwest done it yet?
- 22 A. I don't really know.
- Q. Do you know whether this will be a change
- 24 that Qwest brings through CMP?
- 25 A. Oh, yes, it will, because once we are able to

- 1 offer design service expedites in all situations, we
- 2 will need to change our PCAT to reflect that. Right now
- 3 the PCAT indicates that design service expedites are
- 4 only available in emergencies.
- 5 Q. Do you know when Qwest made its change in
- 6 other states to its expedite process?
- 7 A. No, I don't know the timeline.
- 8 Q. Do you know what year, was it 2004, 2005?
- 9 A. Well, there have been several changes, I
- 10 don't really know.
- 11 Q. Do you know why that change wasn't made in
- 12 Washington, why didn't Qwest change its retail tariff if
- 13 it believed that was necessary to make this change to
- 14 the expedite process?
- 15 A. I don't know.
- 16 Q. In your rebuttal testimony, again Hearing
- 17 Exhibit 29, at page 26, I'm looking at line 15 where you
- 18 say:
- 19 Qwest's language reflects Qwest's
- 20 current process and language is
- 21 consistent with expedites as they are
- offered to all of Qwest's customers,
- 23 retail and CLEC alike.
- 24 Do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. That is not a true statement with respect to
- 2 Washington, correct?
- 3 A. No, it is true with respect to Washington.
- 4 We offer expedites in the same way to our retail and
- 5 CLEC customers in Washington today.
- 6 Q. Does Qwest's language that it's proposing in
- 7 this arbitration with respect to expedites reflect
- 8 Qwest's current expedite process?
- 9 A. Yes. It does so by referring to the PCAT
- 10 where the current expedite process is spelled out.
- 11 Q. And the PCAT distinguishes Washington as a
- 12 place where there's a different process?
- 13 A. Yes, it does.
- Q. Now I would like to focus on jeopardies,
- 15 which is Issues 12-71, 12-72, and 12-73. In your
- 16 testimony you discuss two change requests that were
- 17 addressed in CMP relating to jeopardies?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Now you were not involved in either of those
- 20 change requests; is that right?
- 21 A. That's correct, I don't do process changes.
- 22 Q. What you know about those change requests you
- 23 know from reviewing the relevant documents?
- 24 A. And from speaking to the participants in the
- 25 CMP.

- 1 Q. I would like you to refer to your rebuttal
- 2 testimony, Hearing Exhibit 29, at page 30.
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Looking at line 16 you say:
- 5 In the second change request, Eschelon
- 6 asked to "Change the jeopardy
- 7 notification process to reduce
- 8 unnecessary jeopardy notices being sent
- 9 to the CLEC when the due date is not in
- jeopardy and to improve the overall
- jeopardy notification process."
- 12 Do see that?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And then you refer as the source for that
- 15 statement to your Exhibit RA-23; is that correct?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And that's Hearing Exhibit 23, if you could
- 18 turn to that, please.
- 19 A. Yes, I'm there.
- 20 Q. Hearing Exhibit 23 is Qwest CMP documentation
- 21 relating to a change request CR PC081403-1; is that
- 22 right?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. That is the second change request that you
- 25 referred to in your testimony; is that right?

- 1 A. Let me verify that, yes.
- 2 Q. I'm looking at the middle of the page where
- 3 it says description of change, and it says there:
- 4 Change the description of this CR as a
- 5 result of synergies with PC072303-1.
- 6 Do you see that?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Who changed the description of the CR?
- 9 A. The CMP.
- 10 Q. I'm sorry?
- 11 A. This was changed through the CMP.
- 12 Q. Who initiated the change?
- 13 A. Likely Qwest did, because Qwest noticed the
- 14 synergies between this CR and the prior CR.
- 15 Q. Then you see a line of stars, and then
- 16 underneath there is some language, that's language that
- 17 was prepared by Qwest, is that right, all the way down
- 18 to the next line of stars on the second page?
- 19 A. That's correct.
- Q. It says there in the third line of the first
- 21 page of Hearing Exhibit 23:
- 22 Qwest is proposing that only specific
- jeopardy conditions be sent to the CLECs
- on the critical date of DVA and PTD.
- Do you see that?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. That was a change that Qwest proposed in this
- 3 change request; is that right?
- 4 A. Yes, as a solution to part of the issue that
- 5 Eschelon was experiencing with jeopardies.
- 6 Q. So when you refer in your testimony to
- 7 Eschelon's change request and cite this provision as
- 8 describing Eschelon's request, that's not accurate, is
- 9 it?
- 10 A. The original change request is Eschelon's
- 11 change request. This was Qwest's proposed solution to
- 12 this change request based on the synergies between this
- 13 change request and the prior one.
- 14 Q. If you look at the next page at the top of
- 15 the page, it says expected deliverable just above the
- 16 line of stars.
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And that's the language that you quote in
- 19 your testimony about --
- 20 A. That's correct.
- 21 Q. -- what this change request was supposed to
- do, correct?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. That language under expected deliverables
- 25 above the line of stars is language that was prepared by

- 1 Qwest, correct?
- 2 A. Yes, and agreed to by Eschelon.
- 3 Q. And Eschelon agreed to that language on the
- 4 condition that the original change request description
- 5 was retained as part of the documentation, correct?
- 6 A. Yes, and it was.
- 7 Q. And if you look down under the line of stars,
- 8 you see what it was that Eschelon was asking Qwest to
- 9 do, correct?
- 10 A. Yes, the original change request. But as I
- 11 noted, this change request was changed --
- 12 Q. By Qwest?
- 13 A. -- based on the synergies with Eschelon's
- 14 agreement so that the expected deliverable changed as
- 15 well.
- 16 Q. And Eschelon's agreement was Qwest could make
- 17 the change so long as it also addressed the issues that
- 18 Eschelon had initially raised when it brought this
- 19 change request to CMP, correct?
- 20 A. Yes, and Qwest presented its changes as
- 21 Qwest's assessment that these would address Eschelon's
- 22 issues.
- Q. And what Eschelon was asking Qwest to do is
- 24 under expected deliverables in the middle of the page of
- 25 the second page of Hearing Exhibit 23; is that right?

- 1 A. That was the original deliverable, yes.
- 2 Q. And the original deliverable was:
- 3 Qwest will modify, document, and train a
- 4 process that requires Qwest to send an
- 5 updated FOC and allow a CLEC a
- 6 reasonable amount of time from the time
- 7 the updated FOC is sent to prepare for
- 8 testing before Qwest contacts the CLEC
- 9 to test and accept the circuit. Qwest
- should cease applying the jeopardy
- 11 status of CNR to delayed orders that are
- 12 released and the CLEC has not been
- provided a reasonable amount of time to
- 14 prepare to test/accept the circuit.
- Do you see that?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. That's what Eschelon was asking Qwest to do?
- 18 A. Originally, yes.
- 19 Q. Then if you look at the next page, there's a
- 20 date of 10/10/03 at the very top of the page.
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. It says there:
- 23 Sent E-mail to Bonnie to request change
- of status to withdraw due to synergies
- with other CR.

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. That E-mail was an E-mail sent by Qwest?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Eschelon did not agree to withdraw its
- 5 previous change request?
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. And you see that that fact is documented just
- 8 a couple lines down with the date of 10/30/03; is that
- 9 right?
- 10 A. Well, I believe that it's the statement on
- 11 10/13/03 where Bonnie, who received the E-mail, advised
- 12 she would like to keep it open and referenced the other
- 13 change request.
- MR. MERZ: Your Honor, I would like to
- 15 provide Ms. Albersheim with what we have marked as
- 16 Hearing Exhibit 54.
- MR. TOPP: Is that attached to somebody's
- 18 testimony?
- 19 MR. MERZ: You know, I think it's part of
- 20 Bonnie's as well.
- JUDGE CLARK: I have 54 as a
- 22 cross-examination exhibit.
- MR. MERZ: Yes.
- 24 BY MR. MERZ:
- 25 Q. You have in front of you there what we have

- 1 marked as Hearing Exhibit 54; is that right?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And you're familiar with this document,
- 4 correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. This was a document that was prepared by
- 7 Qwest in connection with change request PC081403-1; is
- 8 that right?
- 9 A. Yes, for use in an ad hoc call to discuss the
- 10 change request.
- 11 Q. That's the change request that we were just
- 12 talking about relating to expedites; is that right?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- Q. And if you go to the second page of that
- 15 document, do you see just a little way down the page
- where it says E-mail dated 1/30/04?
- 17 JUDGE CLARK: Page 2 of that document is a
- 18 certificate of service.
- 19 MR. MERZ: You know, I might have the wrong
- 20 -- have used the wrong number here.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Well, I found what you were
- 22 referencing.
- MR. MERZ: Yeah, because I handed you the
- 24 right one, but I think I'm referring to the wrong
- 25 number.

- 1 JUDGE CLARK: This will create confusion.
- 2 MR. MERZ: Yes, it definitely will. We
- 3 should be referring to Exhibit 41 actually.
- 4 JUDGE CLARK: Exhibit 41.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Exhibit 41 of whose testimony?
- 6 MR. TOPP: Exhibit 41 in the case.
- 7 MR. MERZ: So I will just start this whole
- 8 thing again.
- 9 JUDGE CLARK: That would be a grand idea.
- 10 BY MR. MERZ:
- 11 Q. You have in front of you there a document
- 12 marked as Exhibit 41, correct?
- 13 A. No, I have an Exhibit 54.
- Q. What you have in front of you there is a
- 15 document prepared by Qwest dated February 25th of 2004;
- 16 is that right?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And it says re CMP PC081403-1 jeopardy
- 19 notification process changes?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. This document concerns the same jeopardy
- 22 change request that we were just looking at in Hearing
- 23 Exhibit 23, correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. This is a document that was prepared by

- 1 Qwest?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Then if you go to the second page of the
- 4 document.
- 5 A. I'm there.
- 6 Q. And do you see the E-mail where it says
- 7 E-mail dated 1/30/04?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And it has an example under there; do you see
- 10 that?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. You understand that was an example that was
- 13 provided by Eschelon regarding some problems that they
- were having with jeopardies?
- 15 A. Yes, there were several different examples
- 16 listed, and Qwest prepared responses to each of those.
- Q. And action 1, this is what Eschelon was
- 18 writing to Qwest:
- 19 As you can see, receiving the FOC
- 20 releasing the order on the day the order
- is due does not provide sufficient time
- 22 for Eschelon to accept the circuit. Is
- 23 this a compliance issue? Shouldn't we
- 24 have received the FOC the day before the
- order is due? In this example we have

- 1 received the releasing FOC on 1/27/04.
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. That's what Eschelon was asking Qwest about
- 4 in its E-mail?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And Qwest's response was, this example is
- 7 noncompliance to a documented process; do you see that?
- 8 A. Yes, and what Phyllis was speaking of there
- 9 was a documented internal process. In this example as
- 10 it turns out the jeopardy cleared two days earlier. It
- 11 is the internal process of Qwest to send the FOC as soon
- 12 as the jeopardy clears. That was not done in this case,
- 13 so it was a violation of our internal documented
- 14 process.
- 15 Q. And it goes on to say, yes, an FOC should
- 16 have been sent prior to the due date; do you see that?
- 17 A. Yes, because the jeopardy cleared prior to
- 18 the due date.
- 19 Q. And that was an internal Qwest documented
- 20 process?
- 21 A. Yes.
- MR. MERZ: I don't have anything further,
- 23 thank you, Ms. Albersheim.
- JUDGE CLARK: All right, thank you.
- 25 Redirect, Mr. Topp.

1 MR. TOPP: Thank you.

- 3 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 4 BY MR. TOPP:
- 9 Q. Ms. Albersheim, if you could just stay with
- 6 the exhibit, and I got confused, Exhibit 41 I believe,
- 7 the cross-examination exhibit, and Mr. Merz just asked
- 8 you about a Qwest internal documented process. Is
- 9 Qwest's internal documented process something that CLECs
- 10 should rely upon regarding how they, you know, what they
- 11 can rely on from Qwest?
- 12 A. No, this is the -- this is our operations
- 13 document, this is how our employees know what they are
- 14 supposed to do with all of the systems involved. For
- 15 example in this jeopardy process, the document explains
- 16 what service delivery coordinators are supposed to do
- 17 with delayed orders. It lays out the screens they use,
- 18 the systems they use, and processes they are to follow.
- 19 That is for our employees' use. These are not the same
- 20 systems or processes that CLECs will follow.
- 21 Q. So if a CLEC wants to have a jeopardy within
- 22 a typical time frame, what documents should they look at
- 23 to give them comfort as to what Qwest is committing to?
- 24 A. The PCAT in our -- our provisioning PCAT lays
- 25 out the process for jeopardies and what Owest will do in

- 1 jeopardy situations.
- 2 Q. Now Mr. Merz asked you about Eschelon's
- 3 request in this particular jeopardy example, and let me
- 4 find a reference for you.
- 5 While I'm searching for that, did you
- 6 understand Eschelon's request with respect to jeopardies
- 7 to ask for a change in the PCAT with respect to
- 8 jeopardies?
- 9 A. Generally that will be the result of a change
- 10 request if our processes are to change, so I would say
- 11 yes.
- 12 Q. And at the conclusion of -- at the point that
- 13 that request was closed, were any changes made
- 14 consistent with this day before notion that Eschelon is
- 15 now claiming?
- 16 A. No, there were no changes to the PCAT that
- 17 required an FOC at least a day before.
- 18 Q. Mr. Merz asked you about a series of
- 19 questions related to Exhibits L and M to prior
- 20 interconnection agreements which relate to adding new
- 21 products.
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And that is a process by which CLECs can
- 24 request new products without a modification of the
- 25 interconnection agreement?

- 1 A. Yes, it was intended to streamline the
- 2 process for having access to new products without
- 3 requiring an amendment to the interconnection agreement.
- 4 Q. Now the terms and conditions associated with
- 5 those offerings, would those have been different for the
- 6 company that might have taken advantage of that option
- 7 than they would have been for other companies?
- 8 A. No, they should have been consistent.
- 9 Q. Is use of that process analogous or identical
- 10 to use of a similar adoption process for changing
- 11 intervals?
- 12 A. No. With changing intervals, that changes
- 13 the procedures, that changes installation times for
- 14 products. The advice adoption letters were originally
- 15 intended to adopt new products without changes to
- 16 procedures. This requires changes to intervals. That
- 17 makes Eschelon different from all other companies. That
- 18 is not our current process today. Intervals are changed
- 19 through the CMP.
- Q. And regardless, for the Exhibit L and M
- 21 process, is it your understanding -- what's your
- 22 understanding with respect to CLEC interest in using
- 23 that process?
- 24 A. The process apparently has not been used, and
- 25 so there has been no interest in it.

- 1 Q. And similarly with respect to the
- 2 acknowledgement of mistakes issue, Issue 12-64, are you
- 3 aware of CLEC requests for an acknowledgment of mistakes
- 4 consistent with all of the language contained in that
- 5 proposal?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. Turning to expedites, on that issue Mr. Merz
- 8 asked a number of questions regarding the distinction
- 9 between design and non-design services in Washington.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Now if Eschelon were able, you know, given
- 12 the current status of the way our retail tariffs read,
- 13 if Eschelon were able to obtain expedites for design
- 14 services for a fee from Qwest, would that be equivalent
- or not equivalent to what Qwest offers its retail
- 16 customers?
- 17 A. That would not be the same as what Qwest
- 18 offers to its retail customers today.
- 19 Q. Would it be fair to characterize it as a
- 20 superior service to what Qwest offers its retail
- 21 customers?
- 22 A. That would be since we do not offer expedites
- 23 for non-design services except in emergencies.
- Q. Now imagine in the future Qwest does make the
- 25 retail tariff filing and it is approved, under

- 1 Eschelon's -- imagine that the PCAT governs the terms
- 2 and conditions for expedites, how would modifications be
- 3 made to allow Eschelon to take advantage of that offer?
- 4 A. Well, if -- are you asking me if Eschelon's
- 5 language were accepted in this case?
- 6 Q. Yes, if Eschelon's language were accepted.
- 7 A. Okay, well, that would be different from what
- 8 we would offer to all of our other CLEC and retail
- 9 customers in that circumstance. Their language would
- 10 still not match up to the expedite process that we
- intend to offer to all customers in Washington.
- 12 Q. And if Qwest's language were adopted and
- 13 reference to the PCAT controlled, if Qwest were to
- 14 expand the availability of expedites to CLECs, how would
- 15 that modification be made?
- 16 A. That would be made through the CMP with a
- 17 change request changing the PCAT removing the
- 18 restriction on Washington that is there today.
- 19 MR. TOPP: I have no other questions at this
- 20 time.
- JUDGE CLARK: All right, thank you.
- Thank you for your testimony, Ms. Albersheim.
- I think this is an appropriate time for us to
- 24 take a brief recess to allow for the changing of the
- 25 guard so to speak. And during the recess, the next

- 1 witness for Qwest can go ahead and get their documents
- 2 on the stand. Just to expedite the hearing a little
- 3 bit, if you want to give all of the cross-examination
- 4 exhibits to Mr. Topp for a quick review before they are
- 5 given to the witness, the witness can have all those on
- 6 the stand.
- 7 And we will be at recess for approximately 15
- 8 to 20 minutes.
- 9 (Recess taken.)
- 10 JUDGE CLARK: Would Qwest call its next
- 11 witness, please.
- 12 MR. TOPP: Qwest calls Ms. Terry Million.
- JUDGE CLARK: Thank you.
- 14 (Witness TERESA K. MILLION was sworn.)
- JUDGE CLARK: Mr. Topp.

- 17 Whereupon,
- 18 TERESA K. MILLION,
- 19 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness
- 20 herein and was examined and testified as follows:

- 22 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 23 BY MR. TOPP:
- Q. Ms. Million, you prepared testimony for this
- 25 hearing today?

- 1 A. Yes, I did.
- 2 Q. And I have marked as Exhibit 51 your prefiled
- 3 direct testimony, Exhibit 52 prefiled responsive
- 4 testimony, and Exhibit 53 your prefiled rebuttal
- 5 testimony; is that correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Do you have any changes to that testimony as
- 8 you sit here today?
- 9 A. No, I do not.
- 10 MR. TOPP: And I guess Qwest makes
- 11 Ms. Million available for cross-examination.
- 12 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you.
- 13 Mr. Merz, has the witness already been
- 14 provided with copies of Exhibits 54 through 56?
- 15 MR. MERZ: We're actually not going to use
- 16 56, but she has been provided with 54 and 55.
- 17 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you.
- MR. MERZ: And before I start with my
- 19 cross-examination, just a point of clarification, and I
- 20 should have been a little quicker on the draw, it's my
- 21 understanding that recross-examination is not going to
- 22 be permitted?
- JUDGE CLARK: Well, generally speaking
- 24 recross is disfavored. However, if you believe that a
- 25 new topic of examination has been pursued during the

- 1 course of redirect, I will allow limited inquiry
- 2 exclusively limited to that, and then for lack of a
- 3 better term I will then allow the proponent of that
- 4 witness reredirect.
- 5 MR. MERZ: Appreciate that clarification,
- 6 thank you, Your Honor.

- 8 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 9 BY MR. MERZ:
- 10 Q. Good morning, Ms. Million.
- 11 A. Good morning.
- 12 Q. I want to talk with you first about UDF IOF
- 13 termination charges, that's Issue 9-51. The dispute in
- 14 this issue concerns contract language that describes how
- this rate will be applied; is that correct?
- 16 A. That's my understanding.
- Q. And it's Eschelon's position that the rate
- 18 should be applied per pair; is that right?
- 19 A. I believe so.
- Q. And it's Qwest's position that the rate
- 21 should be applied per cross-connect; is that right?
- 22 A. Well, that's not the issue that I testified
- 23 on. What I testified on was what the rate was or what
- the cost was on a per termination basis.
- 25 O. And maybe it would be better to say the Owest

- 1 position is that the rate should be applied per
- 2 termination rather than per cross-connect; would that be
- 3 fair to say?
- 4 A. Yes, that would be correct.
- 5 Q. And I believe Mr. Topp has provided you with
- 6 a copy of the disputed issues matrix that was most
- 7 recently filed by Qwest on April 27th of this year; do
- 8 you have that there?
- 9 A. Yes, I do.
- 10 Q. And if you refer to page 61 and 62 I think,
- 11 I'm not completely confident of my page numbers, but you
- 12 find there the language that Qwest and Eschelon have
- 13 respectively proposed for Issue 9-51.
- 14 A. I see that.
- 15 Q. Now if you can refer to Hearing Exhibit 55,
- 16 do you have that in front of you?
- 17 A. Yes, I do.
- 18 Q. Do you recognize Hearing Exhibit 55 as
- 19 excerpts from Qwest's Washington SGAT?
- 20 A. Yes, I do.
- 21 Q. If you look at Section 9.7.5.2.1(a), which is
- 22 at the top of page 3, that is the rate element that
- 23 we're talking about; is that right?
- 24 A. Yes, it is.
- Q. And you see there that Qwest's Washington

- 1 SGAT provides that two terminations apply per pair?
- 2 A. That's the first sentence of the description,
- 3 yes.
- 4 Q. Isn't it actually the second sentence?
- 5 A. Oh, excuse me, it's -- well, I was saying the
- 6 first sentence of where the terminations apply, two per
- 7 pair plus termination charges at the intermediate
- 8 offices on the route.
- 9 Q. Do you understand why based on this language
- 10 Eschelon might believe that the rate should be applied
- 11 per pair?
- 12 A. Yes, I do understand why they believe that.
- 13 Q. You agree with me that there is an
- 14 interrelationship between a rate and how that rate is
- 15 applied, correct?
- 16 A. I agree that the rate should be applied on
- 17 the basis of which the costs were developed, yes.
- 18 Q. And so you can't change the application of a
- 19 rate without also reviewing how that rate was
- 20 constructed; isn't that the case?
- 21 A. Well, I think you need to understand what the
- 22 basis is for the rate when you apply it, and I believe
- 23 that, as I have testified, Qwest has applied that rate
- 24 consistently with the way that the rate was constructed
- 25 since that rate has been in effect.

- 1 Q. Would you agree with me that if you're
- 2 challenging the application of a rate, you're really
- 3 challenging the rate itself; is that right?
- 4 A. Yes, I believe that's true.
- 5 Q. And the point I want to make is that there's
- 6 a relationship that can't be pulled apart between the
- 7 rate and how that rate is applied?
- 8 A. I would agree.
- 9 Q. Now Eschelon as I think we have seen has two
- 10 separate proposals for 9-51; is that right? You can
- 11 certainly feel free to refer back to the issues matrix
- 12 if you would like to do that.
- 13 A. Yes, it appears to me as though there are two
- 14 proposals.
- 15 Q. And if you compare Eschelon's second
- 16 proposal, that proposal is identical to the rate
- 17 application as set forth in Qwest's Washington SGAT at
- 18 page 3 of Hearing Exhibit 55; is that right?
- 19 A. Yes, Eschelon's second proposal is the same
- 20 as what's in Qwest's SGAT, and Qwest's position is that
- 21 what's in the SGAT is not reflective of the way that
- 22 that rate is applied, and Qwest would like to change
- 23 that language going forward so that the application of
- 24 the rate matches the language.
- 25 Q. In your rebuttal testimony, Hearing Exhibit

- 1 53, I'm referring specifically to page 21, lines 4
- 2 through 6.
- 3 A. I have that.
- Q. And do you see there where you testify that:
- 5 Qwest's recurring costs for UDF IOF
- 6 terminations were developed on a per
- 7 termination basis assuming the average
- 8 cost to terminate a fiber at a fiber
- 9 distribution panel.
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Now did you review Qwest's UDF IOF cost study
- 12 to confirm that that was the case?
- 13 A. Yes, I did.
- 14 Q. That cost study has not been filed in this
- 15 case; is that right?
- 16 A. No, it has not, because that's an approved
- 17 rate in the state of Washington.
- 18 Q. Qwest has not filed any cost studies in this
- 19 case, correct?
- 20 A. That's correct.
- Q. Mr. Denney has asked to see the cost study
- 22 that was used to develop the UDF IOF termination rate;
- 23 is that right?
- 24 A. I understand that he has.
- Q. And you understand that the reason why he

- 1 asked for that was to determine whether Qwest's
- 2 statement about how the rate was developed is accurate,
- 3 correct?
- 4 A. Yes, I understand that.
- 5 Q. And that's a reasonable request for
- 6 Mr. Denney to make; would you agree with me?
- 7 A. Not necessarily. Qwest's position is that
- 8 for approved rates that have already been the subject of
- 9 a litigated proceeding that there's no reason to provide
- 10 the cost studies so that Eschelon could challenge those
- 11 cost studies or the results in this proceeding because
- 12 those have already been litigated in approved rates.
- Q. Well, isn't it the case that Mr. Denney
- 14 offered to settle this issue if he could just confirm
- 15 that the cost study in fact supported Qwest's claims
- 16 about how that rate was developed?
- 17 A. I do understand that, and while I might
- 18 personally believe that that's a reasonable request,
- 19 it's the position of the company not to provide cost
- 20 studies for approved rates that have already been the
- 21 subject of a litigation.
- Q. And if the roles were reversed and Eschelon
- 23 had a cost study and described that cost study to you,
- 24 you would want to see the cost study with your own two
- 25 eyes to confirm that the description you were being

- provided was accurate, correct?
- 2 A. I guess it would depend on who was providing
- 3 that cost study to me and what they were representing.
- 4 I believe I have represented under oath exactly what
- 5 that cost study represents, and I have told you here
- 6 today that I have looked at that cost study and that I
- 7 have represented it correctly in my testimony. So if
- 8 Mr. Denney were to say the same thing, I would probably
- 9 take his word for it.
- 10 Q. I want to talk with you now about the
- 11 unapproved rate issues. Mr. Denney has identified six
- 12 elements for which he says that Qwest did not provide
- 13 cost studies; is that right?
- 14 A. I believe so.
- 15 Q. And those include the ICDF collocation rate,
- 16 the special site assessment fee, the network systems
- 17 assessment fee, the transfer responsibility right of way
- 18 charge, the microduct occupancy fee, and the daily usage
- 19 file or DUF; is that your recollection as well?
- 20 A. I will take your word for it.
- 21 Q. You are aware that Mr. Denney in his direct
- 22 testimony filed on September 29th said that he had not
- 23 been provided with cost studies for any of those
- 24 elements?
- 25 A. I believe that's what he said.

- 1 Q. Now one thing that Owest could have done in
- 2 response to that testimony by Mr. Denney is to provide
- 3 the cost studies that Mr. Denney said hadn't been
- 4 previously provided, correct?
- 5 A. It would depend on whether Qwest had the cost
- 6 studies to support those rates or not.
- 7 Q. If it had them, certainly Qwest could have
- 8 provided them?
- 9 A. I believe that Qwest provided everything that
- 10 it had available to Eschelon, to Mr. Denney, and I -- my
- 11 recollection was that there were some of the items that
- 12 he said he didn't receive that he requested that I
- 13 either found we had provided or they weren't requested,
- 14 and I can't remember exactly which ones those were, I
- 15 believe that it's in my testimony though to the extent
- 16 that that's the case.
- 17 Q. You were not yourself personally involved in
- 18 providing cost studies in response to Eschelon's
- 19 request; is that right?
- A. No, I was not.
- 21 Q. Your testimony regarding whether cost studies
- 22 were in fact provided is based on your research of the
- 23 written record; is that correct?
- A. It's based on my research of the written
- 25 record as well as discussions with the person in the

- 2 providing those. I went back to him and asked what had
- 3 been provided, and he sent me a list of those, and I
- 4 talked to him about what he was able to find and
- 5 provide.
- 6 Q. Now based on your review of the written
- 7 record, and just to be clear the written record consists
- 8 of E-mails, correspondence between the parties about
- 9 these cost studies; is that right?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And based on your review of that record, you
- 12 are aware that Eschelon requested cost studies for any
- 13 rate with which Qwest disagreed; isn't that right?
- 14 A. It requested cost studies for any rate, and
- 15 then it provided an attachment that it specifically
- 16 identified within that attachment which studies it
- 17 meant. In other words, it marked in that attachment
- 18 that it wanted a specific set of studies. And my
- 19 recollection is that, and I don't remember if this is
- 20 Washington, we have been in so many states now, but my
- 21 recollection is that in at least one instance the
- 22 particular study that Mr. Denney pointed out in his
- 23 testimony that had not been provided was not marked in
- 24 that exhibit as one that they were requesting a cost
- 25 study for. And I apologize, I would have to go through

- 1 my testimony and find it again to remember specifically
- 2 which one it was. And then there were some that were
- 3 requested that we didn't provide possibly because we
- 4 didn't have -- we have a study for that element, but we
- 5 didn't have a study that we could find that matched the
- 6 rate that was in this proceeding because perhaps it was
- 7 an old rate and we have updated the study since then and
- 8 the old study doesn't exist any longer.
- 9 Q. Did Qwest propose rates in this case without
- 10 having cost studies to support those rates?
- 11 A. There are certain rates that are old rates
- 12 for which Qwest does not have those cost studies any
- 13 longer. It's moved on for that element and has a newer
- 14 cost study. But those rates were the rates that were
- 15 out there for those elements at the point in time when
- 16 we initially proposed rates in this proceeding.
- 17 Q. And I'm not sure if I understand your answer.
- 18 Qwest has proposed rates for a number of elements for
- 19 which there is no Commission approved rate, correct?
- 20 A. That's correct.
- 21 Q. For each of the rates that Qwest has proposed
- 22 in this case, does Qwest have cost studies supporting
- 23 those rates?
- 24 A. Owest has cost studies supporting all of the
- 25 elements. Some of the cost studies that we have

- 1 currently do not match the rates because the rates are
- 2 older rates. This proceeding has been going on for some
- 3 time now, and the rates that were initially proposed may
- 4 not be the same as the state of the rates or the state
- 5 of the cost study as it exists today. In other words,
- 6 over time it's changed and those rates are not what was
- 7 in the initial proposal to Eschelon.
- 8 Q. And so are you able to tell me which rates
- 9 that Qwest has proposed that it doesn't have cost
- 10 studies that support the rate?
- 11 A. Those are the cost studies for which we or
- 12 those are the rates for which we have not provided cost
- 13 studies if they were requested.
- Q. And just to be clear, we talked about the six
- 15 elements for which Mr. Denney says Qwest has not
- 16 provided cost studies, all of those elements are rates
- 17 that there is no Commission approved rate, correct?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. You talked about your review of the written
- 20 record that showed that certain cost studies had been
- 21 provided, you haven't produced any documentation showing
- 22 that those cost studies were previously provided, have
- 23 you?
- A. No, I have not.
- 25 Q. And again getting back to the request that

- 1 Eschelon made, you are aware that separate and aside
- 2 from this attachment Eschelon made a specific request in
- 3 an E-mail that Qwest provide any cost study for any rate
- 4 with which Qwest disagreed; you're aware of that?
- 5 A. Yes, they made the request in the E-mail, and
- 6 then they referred in that same E-mail to the attachment
- 7 which they told Qwest to look at for the specific cost
- 8 studies that they were requesting, and those were marked
- 9 very clearly in that request. And that's where I said
- 10 in the one instance, one of the studies that Mr. Denney
- 11 said that he was requesting was not marked on that
- 12 attachment, it was not a part of what they specifically
- 13 referred us to.
- 14 Q. Had you been the one to respond to that
- 15 request, you wouldn't have relied solely on the
- 16 attachment I take it, you would have looked at the
- 17 E-mail that said please provide us with all the cost
- 18 studies, and you would have provided all the cost
- 19 studies, wouldn't you?
- 20 A. That's not necessarily true. I would have
- 21 referred to -- if I got an E-mail that said, please
- 22 provide us with all of the cost studies and here's an
- 23 attachment that lays all of those out for you and marks
- 24 specifically which ones they are that we want, those are
- 25 the ones that I would have provided.

- 1 O. Regardless of what was or wasn't requested
- 2 before this case was started, you were aware that
- 3 Mr. Denney said in his direct testimony that was filed
- 4 months ago that those cost studies hadn't been provided?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. I want to talk with you now about overhead
- 7 factors, and you talk in your testimony, actually your
- 8 responsive testimony here in Exhibit 52 at pages 21 and
- 9 22, about certain adjustments that Mr. Denney made to
- 10 Qwest's cost studies that were provided to make those
- 11 cost studies consistent with inputs ordered by the
- 12 Washington Commission; are you familiar generally with
- 13 that issue?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And one of the inputs that Mr. Denney
- 16 adjusted was the overhead factor; is that right?
- 17 A. Are you pointing me to someplace in either
- 18 his testimony or mine?
- 19 Q. Well, I'm referring generally to your
- 20 testimony at page 21.
- 21 A. I see --
- Q. Actually it's not 21, it's your responsive
- 23 testimony. Is that what I said before?
- JUDGE CLARK: Right.
- 25 Q. Your responsive testimony, Hearing Exhibit

- 1 52, page 21.
- 2 A. Yes, and I see testimony here about changing
- 3 times by 30%. I don't see anything about overheads.
- 4 JUDGE CLARK: You might look to 22.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 6 BY MR. MERZ:
- 7 Q. And so this testimony is talking about
- 8 adjustments that Mr. Denney made to the overhead factor;
- 9 is that right?
- 10 A. Yes, I see that.
- 11 Q. For the rates that Qwest proposed, Qwest did
- 12 not use the Commission ordered overhead factor in its
- 13 cost studies; is that right?
- 14 A. That's correct, and I explained here in my
- 15 testimony that the CLECs had actually complained about
- 16 the use of those overhead factors in the last phase of
- 17 the cost docket, and so the Commission had ordered in
- 18 the next docket that we were to readdress factors, and
- 19 so Qwest's proposed rates rely on the overheads that it
- 20 intended or would have supplied in the following docket.
- 21 Q. The CLEC complaint about the overhead factors
- 22 was that those factors were too high, not that they were
- 23 too low, correct?
- A. No, the CLEC complaint about those factors
- 25 was that they were too old, that they had been

- 1 determined in the '99 time frame and that they didn't
- 2 think that they were appropriate any longer and that
- 3 they needed to be readdressed. And Qwest argued, and I
- 4 don't recall what position Staff took on this at the
- 5 time, but Qwest argued that we should stay with the
- 6 factors that were determined in the 1999 time frame
- 7 because that's what we had used for all of the elements
- 8 that were proposed through those several phases of that
- 9 cost docket, and that if we needed to readdress factors
- 10 we should do that in the next cost docket, which was
- 11 scheduled and we proposed rates in. And then that
- 12 docket was settled, and the issues that were remaining
- 13 in it were suspended or were never pursued. We settled
- 14 on one small piece of that cost docket, but the factors
- 15 never did get addressed in that following docket.
- 16 Q. When the Washington Commission said that it
- 17 was going to look at factors, overhead factors, in a
- 18 later docket, it was doing that in response to concerns
- 19 raised by CLECs; is that right?
- 20 A. Concerns that the factors that we were
- 21 relying on were too old, and as well in that time frame
- 22 we had a decision out of the FCC who had conducted the
- 23 cost docket in Virginia because that commission had
- 24 decided that it didn't have the authority to conduct the
- 25 cost docket, and the FCC had decided that the factors

- 1 that should be used by the -- as well as the cost of
- 2 money that should be used by the parties to determine
- 3 TELRIC rates should be adjusted for risk, something that
- 4 we had not been doing. We had been using whatever the
- 5 Commission's prescribed factors were up to that point,
- 6 and part of the intention was to look at whether we
- 7 needed to adjust those factors going forward on the
- 8 basis of the risk, competitive risk, faced by the ILEC,
- 9 by Qwest.
- 10 Q. And you don't mention in your testimony
- 11 anything about the FCC addressing this issue, as I
- 12 recall; did you talk about that in your testimony?
- 13 A. No, I don't recall mentioning that. I just
- 14 recall bringing up that the Commission had determined
- 15 that it was going to address those factors in the next
- 16 proceeding.
- 17 Q. And you recall that the Commission made that
- 18 determination in response to concerns raised by CLECs,
- 19 correct; that's what you say in your testimony, is it
- 20 not?
- 21 A. I don't say in my testimony, no, that it was
- 22 in response to the CLECs. I simply said that the
- 23 Commission determined to use the previously ordered
- 24 factors for Part D and indicated that the issue of
- 25 overhead factors would be readdressed in a subsequent

- 1 docket. I do not state in there that that was in
- 2 response to CLECs or Qwest or the FCC or what. I simply
- 3 state that they intend to address those overhead factors
- 4 in the next docket. And I used -- I talk about that in
- 5 support of my position that it was not unreasonable then
- 6 for Qwest to use a different set of overhead factors
- 7 when it calculated costs going forward.
- 8 Q. And just to go back I think to where I
- 9 started, the concern that was raised by the CLECs was
- 10 that the factors were too high, they certainly weren't
- 11 asking the Commission to review factors so that they
- 12 could be paying even higher rates, were they?
- MR. TOPP: Objection, asked and answered.
- JUDGE CLARK: Response, Mr. Merz.
- 15 MR. MERZ: I don't know that I ever did get
- 16 an answer to that question, Your Honor.
- 17 JUDGE CLARK: Sustained.
- 18 BY MR. MERZ:
- 19 Q. Are the factors that Qwest has used in its
- 20 cost studies higher than those that were previously
- 21 ordered by the Commission?
- 22 A. I don't know, I would have to go back and
- 23 look at those individual studies to see.
- Q. Okay. You said that, in your testimony, you
- 25 said that in 2003 Owest filed new factors, but that

- 1 docket never really progressed; is that right?
- 2 A. That's correct.
- 3 Q. Do you know whether those factors that were
- 4 filed in 2003 were higher than the factors that the
- 5 CLECs had challenged in the previous docket?
- 6 A. I don't recall overall. Factors go up and
- 7 down, there are a dozen categories of factors that are
- 8 part of a cost study, so which ones went up and which
- 9 ones went down specifically I don't know without looking
- 10 at the studies. Overall I just don't know.
- 11 Q. Focusing specifically on the overhead factor,
- 12 do you know whether the overhead factor that Qwest
- 13 proposed in 2003 was higher or lower than the overhead
- 14 factor that the CLECs had challenged in the prior
- 15 docket?
- 16 A. If by the overhead factor you're referring to
- 17 the common factor?
- 18 Q. Yeah.
- 19 A. I don't know.
- Q. Do you know whether the factors that Qwest,
- 21 the overhead factor that Qwest has proposed, that it
- 22 used in developing the proposed rates for this case is
- 23 higher or lower than the overhead factor that it
- 24 proposed in 2003?
- 25 A. I would have to go back to a study and look,

- 1 I don't know off the top of my head.
- 2 Q. I want to change gears here now and talk with
- 3 you about power reduction rates, which is issue
- 4 22-90(f). Do you have in front of you there a document
- 5 that has been marked as Exhibit 54?
- 6 A. Yes, I do.
- 7 Q. And do you recognize Exhibit 54 as a
- 8 submission to the Washington Commission of an amendment
- 9 to the interconnection agreement between AT&T
- 10 Communications of the Pacific Northwest and Owest
- 11 Corporation?
- 12 A. Yes, I do.
- 13 Q. And that amendment includes some rates; is
- 14 that right?
- 15 A. Yes, it does.
- 16 Q. And if you look at the very last page, those
- 17 are the rates that are to be adopted as part of this
- 18 amendment?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Those rates for power reduction are the same
- 21 elements that are at issue in 22-90(f); is that right?
- 22 A. Yes, they are.
- Q. The rates that you see here in Exhibit A,
- 24 that's the last page of Hearing Exhibit 54, are the
- 25 rates that are the contracted rates today in Washington

between AT&T and Qwest; is that right? 1 I don't know that. I would assume so based 2. Α. on what you have provided me, but I don't know that. 4 MR. MERZ: I don't have anything further, 5 thank you. JUDGE CLARK: All right. 6 Redirect, Mr. Topp. MR. TOPP: No redirect from Qwest. 8 9 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you for your testimony. 10 THE WITNESS: Thank you. JUDGE CLARK: We will take a moment off 11 12 record. 13 (Discussion off the record.) 14 JUDGE CLARK: Mr. Topp. 15 MR. TOPP: Your Honor, Mr. Devaney will be 16 calling Ms. Karen Stewart to the stand. 17 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you. (Witness KAREN A. STEWART was sworn.) 18 19 JUDGE CLARK: Mr. Devaney. 20 MR. DEVANEY: Thank you, Your Honor. 21 22 23

Whereupon,

- 1 KAREN A. STEWART,
- 2 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness
- 3 herein and was examined and testified as follows:

- 5 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 6 BY MR. DEVANEY:
- 7 Q. Good morning, Ms. Stewart.
- 8 A. Good morning.
- 9 Q. For the record, you had filed direct,
- 10 responsive, and rebuttal testimony; is that correct?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And your direct has been marked as Exhibit
- 13 57, the exhibit attached to it is Exhibit 58, your
- 14 responsive testimony has been marked as Exhibit 59, and
- 15 the exhibit attached to it is Exhibit 60, and your
- 16 rebuttal testimony is Exhibit 61. Do you have any
- 17 corrections you would like to make to any of your
- 18 testimony?
- 19 A. No, I do not.
- 20 Q. And I believe you have one clarifying
- 21 statement with respect to an issue that has settled,
- 22 Issue 9-50, as it relates to your testimony; is that
- 23 correct?
- 24 A. Yes, I do. Issue 9-50 has been settled
- between the parties, however both Issue 9-50 and 9-53

1	discuss	а	proposal	by	Eschelon	to	put	in	language	about
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- 2 a phaseout process when things are to be phased out of
- 3 the interconnection agreement or out of offerings by
- 4 Qwest, and when I reviewed my testimony I realized I
- 5 believe both parties discussed the phaseout in 9-50, and
- 6 so instead of being repetitive in 9-53, 9-53 refers back
- 7 into 9-50 for the general discussion about phasing out
- 8 of offerings. So while 9-50 any issues to do
- 9 specifically with subloop have been resolved between the
- 10 parties, I just would bring to the hearing officer's
- 11 attention that when you go to 9-53 it does refer back
- 12 into 9-50 for the discussion about phaseout of elements.
- Q. So stated another way, even though Issue 9-50
- 14 is settled, testimony that's included within Issue 9-50
- is still relevant to Issue 9-53?
- 16 A. Yes.
- MR. DEVANEY: Thank you, Ms. Stewart.
- 18 Ms. Stewart is available for cross.
- 19 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you.
- Mr. Merz.
- 21 MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor.

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25 CROSS-EXAMINATION

- 1 BY MR. MERZ:
- Q. Good morning, Ms. Stewart.
- 3 A. Good morning.
- 4 Q. I want to start out talking with you about
- 5 access to UNEs, which is Issue 9-31. And if you look at
- 6 your rebuttal testimony, which is Hearing Exhibit 61, at
- 7 page 13, you see there beginning at line 16 and carrying
- 8 through to line 21 the language that Qwest has proposed
- 9 for Section 9.1.2; is that right?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And what Qwest has proposed is that that
- 12 section provide that:
- 13 Additional activities available for
- 14 unbundled network elements includes
- moving, adding to, repairing and
- 16 changing the UNE (through, e.g., design
- 17 changes, maintenance of service
- 18 including trouble isolation, additional
- 19 dispatches, and cancellation of orders)
- 20 at the applicable rate.
- 21 Is that right?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And Eschelon's opposing language is to use
- 24 the phrase, instead of additional activities available
- 25 for unbundled network elements, to use the phrase,

- 1 access to unbundled network elements; is that right?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And Eschelon would omit the phrase at the end
- 4 of that section, at the applicable rate, correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And your concern, or at least one of your
- 7 concerns as I understand it, is that Eschelon's proposed
- 8 language would require Qwest to provide services or
- 9 elements without charge; is that right?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And looking at your rebuttal again, Hearing
- 12 Exhibit 61, at page 16, lines 13 through 15, you say,
- 13 nor does he, referring to Mr. Starkey; is that right?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. (Reading.)
- Nor does he show Eschelon's language
- 17 would permit Qwest to charge TELRIC
- 18 rates for these activities separate and
- 19 apart from the monthly recurring rate
- 20 for UNEs.
- 21 Do you see that?
- 22 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. To recover a separate rate for an activity,
- 24 Qwest must show that the cost of performing that
- 25 activity is not already recovered in an existing rate;

- 1 is that right?
- 2 A. I would say generally that's correct.
- 3 Q. You are not aware of Eschelon ever taking the
- 4 position that it would not pay Commission approved
- 5 rates, are you?
- 6 A. Well, when we were in a previous hearing, I
- 7 believe it was Mr. Denney said that he believed many, if
- 8 not all, of the nonrecurring actions here were included
- 9 in the recurring rate when indeed, and I think the one
- 10 example that I remembered is that for UDIT it did have a
- 11 separate charge very specifically for rearrangements and
- 12 obviously moves. Because if you were to move a UDIT
- 13 from one physical location to another, that would take a
- 14 service order and subsequent installation. But he
- 15 seemed to imply that he felt all of those were included
- 16 in the recurring rate.
- 17 Q. My question is different, my question is are
- 18 you aware of Eschelon ever taking the position that it
- 19 would not pay a rate that's been approved by the
- 20 Commission?
- 21 A. I'm not aware that Eschelon has ever point
- 22 blank said, if a rate was approved by a commission, we
- 23 will not pay it, so no, I'm not aware that that's the
- 24 case.
- 25 Q. In this case, Eschelon has proposed interim

- 1 rates for elements for which there is no Commission
- 2 approved rate, correct?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Eschelon hasn't taken a position with respect
- 5 to those elements that it should receive those elements
- 6 without charge?
- 7 A. For those specific elements, no.
- 8 Q. You would agree with me that Qwest's language
- 9 for Section 9.1.2 does not require Qwest to charge a
- 10 TELRIC rate for those activities?
- 11 A. It specifically identifies whatever the
- 12 appropriate rate would be. So, for example, if adding
- 13 to the UNE was a comingled arrangement and it was a
- 14 tariffed service, then for that type of a commingling
- 15 arrangement a tariffed service may be required or
- 16 tariffed rate may be required.
- 17 Q. What activities available for unbundled
- 18 network elements does Qwest believe are not subject to
- 19 cost based rates?
- 20 A. Once again, I made the example of if there
- 21 was a comingled arrangement and you were doing an add of
- 22 a comingled arrangement, I believe, and I'm not the
- 23 witness in this area, but I understand the expedites
- 24 Owest has referred and believe that the appropriate rate
- 25 is the tariffed rates for expedites, so those would be

- 1 examples.
- 2 Q. Now comingled arrangements are dealt with in
- 3 another portion of the contract; is that right?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And that portion of the contract describes
- 6 how the non-UNE portion of a comingled arrangement will
- 7 be dealt with with respect to rates, correct?
- 8 A. Yes, except for there could be potentially
- 9 some crossover because of this language being so
- 10 general. And once again, as I clarified in my
- 11 testimony, it's really the words access to that are
- 12 particularly troubling. Because typically access to
- 13 means paying of a recurring rate to be able to use a
- 14 UNE. So correct, Qwest is very concerned that general
- 15 language that access to could include all of these
- 16 activities including, e.g., undefined activities at no
- 17 possible rate recovery.
- 18 Q. And really what I'm trying to do I guess is
- 19 get my arms around exactly the scope of Qwest's concern.
- 20 You have mentioned comingled arrangements and you have
- 21 mentioned expedites as two activities available for UNEs
- 22 for which Qwest does not believe cost based rate would
- 23 apply, correct?
- 24 A. Whether you were saying TELRIC rates versus
- 25 tariffed rates, I gave examples, yes, of tariffed rates.

- 1 Q. Are there any other activities available for
- 2 UNEs that Qwest believes are not subject to cost based
- 3 rates?
- A. Once again there is an e.g. here, so it's
- 5 unknown what list of -- an unknown, an undefined list of
- 6 activities that potentially Eschelon is asking that the
- 7 interconnection agreement recognize are included with
- 8 access. And so once again, without a completely defined
- 9 list, I'm not able to respond item by item whether we
- 10 would agree they would be TELRIC or not.
- 11 Q. And that's not my question. My question is,
- 12 are there activities available for UNEs as Qwest uses
- 13 that phrase in this Section 9.1.2 that Qwest believes
- 14 are not subject to cost based rates? You have mentioned
- 15 comingled arrangements, you have mentioned expedites, I
- 16 just want to know are there any others that you can
- 17 think of?
- 18 A. Not that we are proposing in this
- 19 interconnection agreement that I can think of as I sit
- 20 here now.
- 21 Q. Are there any others that Qwest intends in
- 22 the future to propose non-cost based rates, activities
- 23 known for UNEs for which Qwest intends in the future to
- 24 propose non-cost based rates?
- 25 A. Not that I know of.

- 1 Q. I want to talk with you now about network
- 2 modernization and maintenance, which is Issue 9-33.
- 3 Section 9.1.9 contains terms relating to network
- 4 modernization and maintenance activities performed by
- 5 Qwest; is that right?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. The parties have agreed on language that
- 8 provides that Qwest's network and modernization
- 9 activities may result in minor changes to transmission
- 10 parameters; is that correct?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 O. And the issue here is that Eschelon has
- 13 proposed language that would define changes as not minor
- 14 changes in transmission parameters, correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Eschelon has in this regard made a couple of
- 17 alternative proposals. One says that changes to
- 18 transmission parameters resulting from Qwest's network
- 19 modernization and maintenance activities will not
- 20 adversely affect Eschelon's customers, correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. And another proposal that Eschelon has made
- 23 is that if a change results in an Eschelon customer
- 24 experiencing unacceptable changes in transmission of
- 25 voice or data, Owest and Eschelon will work together to

- 1 determine the cause and take corrective action?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Qwest objects to both of those proposals on
- 4 the grounds that the phrases adversely affect and
- 5 unacceptable changes aren't defined; is that right?
- 6 A. That is part of our concern, yes.
- 7 Q. Do you still have in front of you there the
- 8 interconnection agreement?
- 9 A. I don't have -- the issues matrix is here.
- 10 Q. Do you have the interconnection agreement?
- 11 A. Yes, I do.
- 12 Q. And I would like you to refer specifically to
- 13 Section 5.1.3.
- 14 A. Okay.
- 15 Q. Do you have that?
- 16 A. Yes, I do.
- 17 Q. Section 5.1.3 and its subparts are all closed
- 18 language; is that correct?
- 19 A. Apparently. At least the document I'm
- 20 looking at doesn't have them identified as in dispute.
- Q. And do you see that Section 5.1.3 provides
- 22 that:
- Neither party shall use any service
- 24 related to or use any of the services
- 25 provided in this agreement in any manner

- 1 that interferes with the other persons
- in the use of their service, prevents
- 3 other persons from using their service,
- 4 or otherwise impairs the quality of
- 5 service to other carriers or to either
- 6 party's end user customers.
- 7 Do you see that?
- 8 A. Yes, I do.
- 9 Q. The term interfere as used in that provision
- 10 is not a defined term; is that right?
- 11 A. It's not capitalized, so I believe that means
- 12 it is not defined in the agreement.
- 13 Q. The phrase impairs the quality of service is
- 14 not defined in that section, is it?
- 15 A. Again it's not capitalized, so unless it's
- 16 defined later within the section, since I have not read
- 17 it in its entirety.
- 18 Q. If you look at Section 5.1.3.1, which is the
- 19 next subsection, that provision applies to impairment
- 20 that is material and poses an immediate threat to the
- 21 safety of employees or customers or the public.
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. The phrase, the word material is not defined
- 24 as used in that provision?
- 25 A. Again it's not a capitalized term, so not

- 1 formally defined. I don't know if I had an opportunity
- 2 to read the whole section whether it is clarified
- 3 additionally or not.
- 4 Q. And you should take whatever time you need to
- 5 be comfortable with your answer.
- 6 A. Would you like me to read the whole section
- 7 if you're going to be asking additional questions?
- Q. Please feel free to do that.
- 9 A. Thank you, could I take a few moments.
- 10 JUDGE CLARK: Yes, why don't we take a few
- 11 moments off record.
- 12 (Discussion off the record.)
- 13 JUDGE CLARK: During the recess have you had
- 14 an adequate opportunity to review the remainder of that
- 15 section?
- 16 THE WITNESS: Yes, I have.
- 17 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you.
- 18 Please proceed.
- 19 MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 20 BY MR. MERZ:
- 21 Q. And where I left off I think related to
- 22 Section 5.1.3, and my question is whether the term
- 23 impairment, I'm sorry, material as used in that section
- 24 is a defined term?
- 25 A. And no, it is not capitalized, so it is not a

- 1 formally defined term within the ICA.
- Q. And you don't see any other definition in
- 3 Section 5.1.3 of that term?
- 4 A. No, I do not.
- 5 Q. Similarly the phrase immediate threat to the
- 6 safety is not a defined phrase?
- 7 A. No, I did not find a definition for that
- 8 phrase.
- 9 Q. Nor is the phrase immediate threat of service
- 10 interruption?
- 11 A. No, I did not find a definition.
- 12 Q. In Section 5.1.3.2, that section applies if
- 13 an impairment is service impacting but does not meet the
- 14 parameters of 5.1.3.1; is that right?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. The phrase service impacting is not defined
- 17 there?
- 18 A. No, it is not.
- 19 Q. And then finally 5.1.3.3 applies to
- 20 non-service impacting impairments; is that right?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. And the phrase non-service impacting
- 23 impairment is not a defined phrase?
- A. No, it is not.
- Q. Shifting gears now to UCCRE, that's Issue

- 1 9-53, and it's an acronym, U-C-C-R-E; is that right?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 O. And that stands for unbundled customer
- 4 controlled rearrangement element, correct?
- 5 A. I believe so, yes.
- 6 Q. You are familiar with Qwest's proposed TRO
- 7 TRRO amendment?
- 8 A. Yes, I am.
- 9 Q. Do you know whether Qwest's TRO TRRO
- 10 amendment removes UCCRE as an available UNE?
- 11 A. My understanding it does.
- 12 Q. And do you know when that became true, when
- 13 that amendment was provided by Qwest?
- 14 A. I believe when Qwest had filed the notice to
- 15 indicate that these are the changes from the, I can't
- 16 remember if it was the initial TRO or TRRO announcement
- 17 that went out to the CLECs via CMP, and it listed the
- 18 services no longer available, and I believe UCCRE was on
- 19 that original list.
- Q. I want to talk with you now about design
- 21 changes, which is Issue 4-5, and at least one of the
- 22 issues here is what rate should apply to design changes
- 23 for loops and CFA changes; is that right?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. And you understand that it's Eschelon's

- 1 position that the Commission approved rate applies only
- 2 to unbundled transport UDIT, correct?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. Eschelon's existing ICA and Qwest's SGAT both
- 5 include language that says that Qwest will charge a
- 6 design change charge for UDIT; is that right?
- 7 A. Well, the existing SGAT has design change in
- 8 the miscellaneous section of the ICA, and so therefore
- 9 it can apply to multiple UNEs besides UDIT.
- 10 Q. And I'm really focusing now on the -- let me
- 11 take a step back.
- 12 What you just referred to relates to Exhibit
- 13 A to the SGAT, correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And I'm focusing on the body of the contract
- 16 that comes before Exhibit A; do you have that in mind?
- 17 A. Yes, I do.
- 18 Q. And you would agree with me that the SGAT,
- 19 the body of the SGAT, includes language that says that
- 20 Qwest will charge a design change charge for UDIT,
- 21 correct?
- 22 A. Yes, I believe 9.6 contains that statement.
- Q. And you would also agree with me that there
- 24 is no similar language in the body of the SGAT that says
- 25 that the design change charge will be applied to loops,

- 1 correct?
- 2 A. It is not listed specifically. But again,
- 3 because the rates and charges for miscellaneous services
- 4 can be more than one UNE, therefore the design change
- 5 charge very appropriately, and as I have said in my
- 6 testimony and as Ms. Million has clarified in hers, that
- 7 the design change charge is to be used for a variety of
- 8 UNEs, not simply transport.
- 9 Q. And you have kind of jumped ahead of me a
- 10 little bit, but it's Qwest's position that the approved
- 11 Commission rate for design changes applies to both loops
- 12 and UDIT?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And the basis for that claim is the inclusion
- 15 of design change charges among the miscellaneous charges
- 16 in Exhibit A; is that right?
- 17 A. And in addition that the cost study
- 18 identified that it was for elements of transport and
- 19 elements of loop.
- 20 MR. MERZ: And, Your Honor, I would like to
- 21 provide the witness with Exhibit A to the ICA that was
- 22 filed with the parties' petition.
- JUDGE CLARK: Thank you.
- 24 BY MR. MERZ:
- 25 Q. And I'm looking specifically at Section 8.16,

- 1 8.16 of Exhibit A.
- 2 A. The collocation decommissioning?
- Yeah.
- 4 A. I never have testified on collocation, so I
- 5 hope we're not going to go too deep here.
- 6 Q. We're not, and really I just want to talk a
- 7 little bit about this idea that miscellaneous charges
- 8 apply to a variety of elements, which I understand is
- 9 your testimony regarding design changes, correct?
- 10 A. Correct, but it's for the UNE Section 9 of
- 11 the ICA. This is Section 8 of the ICA, which is the
- 12 collocation section, which to be totally honest I am not
- 13 familiar with.
- Q. And if your answer to any of my questions is
- 15 I don't know, you should certainly feel free to say --
- 16 A. I will do so.
- Q. Exhibit A, 8.16, refers specifically to
- 18 miscellaneous charges 9.20, right?
- 19 A. I show, maybe I'm not on the right spot, it
- 20 shows 8.16 collocation decommissioning, additional
- 21 labor, other basic, so okay, I just didn't see the word
- 22 miscellaneous.
- Q. Well, it says, use --
- 24 A. Oh, I'm sorry, use rates from 9.20, thank
- 25 you.

- 1 Q. And 9.20 is the miscellaneous charges
- 2 section?
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 Q. If you would go to then the ICA.
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Rather than Exhibit A but the ICA which I
- 7 think you still have there, and I'm looking at Section
- 8 8.2.1.22.
- 9 A. Excuse me, 8?
- 10 O. 8.2.1.22.
- 11 A. I'm there.
- 12 Q. And those are the general terms relating to
- 13 collocation decommissioning, correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And if you go to 8.2.1.22.3 on the next page,
- 16 you see there set out the rate elements; is that right?
- 17 A. 8.2.1.22.2.3, is that --
- 18 Q. No, sorry, 8.2.1.22.3.
- 19 A. .3, it looks like it might be more than 1
- 20 page, there, 2 pages, I have it, thank you.
- 21 Q. That section sets out the rate elements that
- 22 apply to collocation decommissioning, correct?
- 23 A. It says rate elements, it doesn't actually
- 24 say collocation decommissioning, but I'm going to take
- 25 your word for it.

- Q. Well, since it's a subsection of 8.2.1.2,
- 2 which --
- 3 A. It's reasonable to assume.
- 4 Q. And then if you look at under the rate
- 5 element Section 8.2.1.22.3.1.1.
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. It refers to miscellaneous labor hourly
- 8 charges as defined in the attached Exhibit A will apply?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And those are miscellaneous labor hourly
- 11 charges that are found in Section 9.20, 9.20 of Exhibit
- 12 A; is that right?
- 13 A. Again I'm not familiar enough for this
- 14 section whether it's referring to the 8.16 or whether
- 15 it's referring to the miscellaneous in Exhibit A.
- 16 Q. Just don't know?
- 17 A. Don't know, because there might be another
- 18 set of miscellaneous charges inside of collocation that
- 19 I'm not aware of.
- 20 Q. All right. If there isn't another set of
- 21 miscellaneous charges in the collocation section, would
- 22 you understand this to be referring to miscellaneous
- 23 charges that are set out in 9.20?
- A. Yes. And as we indicated earlier, because
- 25 the Section 9 is selfcontaining for UNEs, you would need

- 1 the crossreference as it does on 8.16 to get to 9.20,
- 2 where all the UNEs that are already in Section 9, then
- 3 the rates in charges in Section 9 including
- 4 miscellaneous charges do apply.
- 5 Q. And then the very next Section,
- 6 8.2.1.22.3.1.2 refers to additional dispatch charges,
- 7 correct?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And additional dispatch charges are also a
- 10 charge that are set out in 9.20; is that right?
- 11 A. Yes, but again I don't know if there's
- 12 additional charges within the collocation section.
- MR. MERZ: Nothing further, thank you.
- 14 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you.
- 15 How much redirect do you have, Mr. Devaney?
- MR. DEVANEY: None.
- 17 JUDGE CLARK: All right.
- 18 Thank you for your testimony.
- 19 And I think this would be an appropriate time
- 20 for a lunch recess, we will be at lunch recess until
- 21 1:30.
- 22 (Luncheon recess taken at 12:00 p.m.)

24

25 AFTERNOON SESSION

Whereupon,

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1
                           (1:25 p.m.)
 2.
                JUDGE CLARK: Mr. Topp or Mr. Devaney.
 3
                MR. TOPP: Mr. Devaney will be handling.
 4
                MR. DEVANEY: Well, actually I guess at this
    point Qwest is concluding its direct case. We have
 5
 6
     presented all our witnesses and all of our testimony,
     and I think it's now over to Eschelon.
 8
                JUDGE CLARK: That's what I was hoping, that
 9
     you were going to conclude the presentation of your
10
     case. You may have noticed that I did not excuse any of
11
     the witnesses, the only reason for that is because I do
12
    not know which witnesses you will be prefiling testimony
13
     for for the next phase of this proceeding.
14
               MR. DEVANEY: Thank you.
15
                JUDGE CLARK: All right, is Eschelon prepared
16
     to call its first witness?
17
                MR. MERZ: We are, Your Honor, Eschelon will
     call Michael Starkey.
18
19
                JUDGE CLARK: Thank you.
20
                (Witness MICHAEL STARKEY was sworn.)
21
                JUDGE CLARK: Mr. Merz.
22
               MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor.
23
24
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- 1 MICHAEL STARKEY,
- 2 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness
- 3 herein and was examined and testified as follows:

- 5 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 6 BY MR. MERZ:
- 7 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Starkey.
- 8 A. Good afternoon.
- 9 Q. Did you file in this case direct, rebuttal,
- 10 and surrebuttal testimony?
- 11 A. I did.
- 12 MR. MERZ: And for the record, Your Honor, I
- 13 would note that Mr. Starkey's direct testimony has been
- 14 marked as Hearing Exhibit 62, that the exhibits to his
- 15 direct testimony have been marked as Hearing Exhibits 63
- 16 through 65, that Mr. Starkey's rebuttal testimony has
- 17 been marked as Hearing Exhibit 67, the exhibits to that
- 18 testimony have been marked as Hearing Exhibits 68
- 19 through 70, that Mr. Starkey's surrebuttal testimony has
- 20 been marked as Exhibit 71, and the exhibits to that
- 21 testimony have been marked as 72 and 73.
- 22 BY MR. MERZ:
- Q. Mr. Starkey, are you also adopting the
- 24 testimony of Mr. Webber in this case?
- 25 A. I am.

- 1 Q. And the portion of that testimony you're
- 2 adopting includes everything but for his personal
- 3 background and then the sections relating to expedites;
- 4 is that right?
- 5 A. That's correct.
- 6 MR. MERZ: And, Your Honor, for the record I
- 7 would note that Mr. Webber's direct testimony has been
- 8 marked as Hearing Exhibit 172, that the exhibits to that
- 9 testimony have been marked as Hearing Exhibits 173
- 10 through 175, that Mr. Webber's rebuttal testimony has
- 11 been marked as Hearing Exhibit 176, and that the exhibit
- 12 to that testimony has been marked as Hearing Exhibit
- 13 177.
- 14 And with that, Mr. Starkey is available for
- 15 cross-examination.
- JUDGE CLARK: All right, thank you.
- Mr. Devaney.
- MR. DEVANEY: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 19
- 20 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 21 BY MR. DEVANEY:
- Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Starkey.
- 23 A. Good afternoon, Mr. Devaney.
- Q. Mr. Starkey, I would like to begin by asking
- 25 you some questions about Issue 9-31, access to UNEs, and

- 1 I'm going to ask you to refer to your direct testimony,
- which is Exhibit 62, at pages 134 and 135.
- 3 A. Okay.
- 4 Q. And I'm only asking you to keep those pages
- 5 in front of you because they set forth the parties'
- 6 competing ICA proposals for this particular issue, so it
- 7 may be useful to refer to that language as we go through
- 8 this line of questions. As the language shows, both
- 9 parties, Eschelon and Qwest, have used language that
- 10 would require Qwest to provide moving, adding,
- 11 repairing, and changing with respect to UNEs; is that
- 12 correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. And a key difference between the parties'
- 15 proposals is, as Ms. Stewart discussed this morning,
- 16 Eschelon's proposing the use of access to unbundled
- 17 network elements includes these various activities; is
- 18 that one key difference?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. And a second key difference between the
- 21 parties' positions is that Qwest is proposing as shown
- 22 on page 135 of Exhibit 62 that those activities will be
- 23 performed "at the applicable rate"; is that correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And as I understand it from our recent case

- 1 in Colorado, it's your view that the terms moving,
- 2 adding, repairing, and changing potentially involve
- 3 thousands of activities; is that correct?
- 4 A. Yes, I think I probably did say that. I
- 5 think what I said was that -- I think what I actually
- 6 said was that it could encompass even thousands of
- 7 activities depending upon because the network is dynamic
- 8 and complicated, and as you repair or maintain, it was
- 9 difficult to provide a single list of all activities
- 10 that it might encompass.
- 11 Q. And it's also your view, is it not, that
- 12 those terms include activities that aren't known today
- 13 and that could be changed in the future?
- 14 A. Yes, I think that is true, though I think
- 15 those would be limited.
- 16 Q. And it's Eschelon's position that these
- 17 thousands of activities and activities that we don't
- 18 know about today but could emerge in the future, all of
- 19 them should be provided at cost based TELRIC rates; is
- 20 that correct?
- 21 A. I think it is correct, though I might take
- 22 issue with the way you asked your question. The
- 23 underlying principle here is, as I did describe in
- 24 Colorado, is the notion of non-discrimination, that
- 25 these issues, while perhaps many, are defined by the way

- 1 in which Owest provides these same activities for itself
- 2 and its retail customers such that what -- and the title
- 3 of this particular issue is nondiscriminatory access to
- 4 UNEs. So yes, it may encompass many different types of
- 5 activities, but again they're refined and defined by the
- 6 activities that Qwest similarly undertakes for itself.
- 7 Q. And just to be clear about the difference
- 8 between the parties' positions, under Eschelon's
- 9 proposal these thousands of activities regardless of
- 10 what they are would be governed by cost based TELRIC
- 11 rates, and by contrast under Qwest's use of the term at
- 12 the applicable rate the door is left open for a tariff
- 13 rate in some circumstances and not always cost based
- 14 rates; is that correct?
- 15 A. Yes, that is the crux of the issue. The
- 16 purpose of Eschelon's language is to raise this issue
- 17 before the Commission so the Commission can decide
- 18 whether accessing unbundled network elements includes
- 19 more than just getting the loop, whether it includes
- 20 things like repairing the loop, adding to the loop, in
- 21 the same manner that Qwest would do for itself.
- Q. And in taking the position that all of these
- 23 activities should be performed at cost based rates, you
- 24 would agree with me it's not possible to even list all
- 25 the activities since there are thousands of them and

- 1 they might change in the future; is that correct?
- 2 A. I hate to say it's not possible, I don't
- 3 think it's very practical. As I have described to you
- 4 in other states, the FCC took the same approach when it
- 5 described this issue in the TRO wherein Verizon wanted
- 6 it to list every activity that might be encompassed by
- 7 this non-discrimination standard, and the FCC refused to
- 8 do so saying simply the standard is if you do it for
- 9 yourself, then you do it for the CLEC, and that's what
- 10 we're trying to capture here.
- 11 Q. Okay, but just to answer my question though,
- 12 I think you would agree that you can't, it's not
- 13 possible even to identify all of the activities, and yet
- 14 it's Eschelon's position that whatever those
- 15 unidentified activities are, a tariff rate can not
- 16 possibly apply to them, correct?
- 17 A. I think that is correct for the reason that
- 18 it's limited by Eschelon's language referring to access
- 19 to unbundled network elements. If these activities are
- 20 performed in accessing the unbundled network element,
- 21 which is the technology the FCC uses, then cost based
- 22 rates would apply. That's the same standard that
- 23 applies today to unbundled network elements.
- 24 Q. And you do understand that the FCC with its
- 25 various orders such as the triennial review order, the

- 1 triennial review remand order changes the law with
- 2 respect to access to unbundled network elements on a
- 3 periodic basis, doesn't it?
- 4 A. Yes, it changes what that term means, yes.
- 5 Q. And it changes the ILEC's obligation,
- 6 sometimes the obligations are covered by cost based
- 7 rates, and with an FCC order that might change and the
- 8 obligation is no longer covered by a cost based rate,
- 9 correct?
- 10 A. I don't think I would disagree -- I don't
- 11 think I would agree with that in this context, because
- 12 what we're talking about is accessing unbundled network
- 13 elements. I'm not aware of a situation where the FCC
- 14 has in the past nor would I anticipate in the future
- 15 where they would say this particular or this group of
- 16 activities is necessary to access an unbundled network
- 17 element yet something other than a cost based rate
- 18 should apply. So the FCC defines cost based rates or
- 19 access to UNEs as being set at cost based rates. I
- 20 don't think that is going to change with an FCC order.
- 21 Q. So you don't think that FCC orders change the
- 22 nature of access to UNEs and the rates that apply to
- 23 them?
- 24 A. They certainly change the obligations that
- 25 ILECs have with respect to UNEs and the access to those

- 1 UNES. I quess what I'm saying is but they have always
- 2 and I don't see any -- actually I don't -- I certainly
- 3 don't foresee in the future where they would suggest
- 4 that access to UNEs should be set at anything other than
- 5 cost based rates unless they went back and changed their
- 6 interpretation of Section 251.
- 7 Q. You testified earlier I think that Eschelon's
- 8 intent here is to ensure that Eschelon is treated the
- 9 same as Qwest's own customers; did I read you correctly?
- 10 A. I think the way I said it was
- 11 nondiscriminatory treatment with respect to the way
- 12 Owest treats itself and its customers.
- 13 Q. Okay. If Qwest charges its customers a
- 14 tariffed rate for any of the activities that are
- 15 identified in this language, would Eschelon concur that
- 16 it too should be paying a tariffed rate?
- 17 A. No, and that distinction exists today under
- 18 the rule of unbundled network elements. A loop that's
- 19 provided to Eschelon for example is the same facility
- 20 that's provided to a Qwest retail customer, but the FCC
- 21 based on Section 251 of The Act has suggested that
- 22 different rates should be applied to competitors, i.e.
- 23 Eschelon, than to the retail customers. That same
- 24 concept would apply here.
- 25 Q. So your point then was that the access should

- 1 be the same, not necessarily the rates; is that correct?
- 2 A. Yes, at that point you were asking me which
- 3 activities are encompassed here, and I was trying to
- 4 suggest those activities are encompassed by what you do
- 5 for your own retail customers and yourself.
- 6 Q. Well, then just to follow up on that, would
- 7 you agree with me under your theory that if Qwest does
- 8 not provide an activity encompassed by these terms we're
- 9 discussing to its retail customers that it would not
- 10 have to provide the activity to Eschelon?
- 11 A. You keep limiting your question to retail
- 12 customers, and I think I have --
- Q. Or to itself.
- 14 A. Okay, I was going to say I was hoping you
- 15 weren't making that distinction.
- Now I'm trying to remember your question, I
- 17 apologize.
- 18 Q. Yeah, the question was on this issue of
- 19 nondiscrimination that you have alluded to in your
- 20 testimony and this afternoon, you I think said that if
- 21 Qwest provides an activity encompassed by changing,
- 22 moving, adding, the language we're debating, if it
- 23 provides that type of activity to its retail customer or
- 24 to itself that it must provide the same activity to
- 25 Eschelon. And I'm asking the converse, if Owest doesn't

- 1 provide an activity encompassed by those terms to its
- 2 retail customers or to itself, do you agree it has no
- 3 obligation to provide it to Eschelon?
- 4 A. Not necessarily, because there are really two
- 5 standards that the FCC has put forward. One is the
- 6 standard of nondiscrimination we have been discussing,
- 7 and then there's another standard of meaningful
- 8 opportunity to compete, which is espoused in relation to
- 9 many of the 271 applications. The notion there is that
- 10 even in some circumstances if Qwest doesn't provide
- 11 certain activities to its end user customers, i.e. if
- 12 there's not a retail analog, Qwest may still be required
- 13 to do it because it's required to give Eschelon a
- 14 meaningful opportunity to compete under Section 251.
- 15 Q. Well, let me ask you a Washington specific
- 16 question about these activities we're focusing on. Is
- 17 it your understanding or do you have a position with
- 18 respect to whether UNE rates recurring rates in
- 19 Washington encompass the activities or the thousands of
- 20 activities that are included by the terms or encompassed
- 21 by the terms moving, adding, changing, repairing?
- 22 A. I don't have an informed opinion, because I
- 23 just am not that familiar with the cost studies. I
- 24 think Mr. Denney could probably give you a better sense
- 25 of that. Though I don't disagree given my cost study

- 1 analysis elsewhere in the country that in some
- 2 circumstances recurring rates do recover the sort of
- 3 day-to-day maintenance and repair activities in some
- 4 circumstances. In some circumstances they don't.
- 5 Eschelon's language here is not meant to limit cost
- 6 recovery to just recurring charges, but nonrecurring
- 7 charges might be applicable at cost based levels in some
- 8 circumstances as well.
- 9 Q. So it is Eschelon's acknowledgement and
- 10 agreement that in Washington nonrecurring charges may
- 11 apply to some of the activities we're talking about?
- 12 A. I think I'm going to have to say I just don't
- 13 know enough about the Washington cost studies to be able
- 14 to say yes or no to that. It wouldn't surprise me that
- 15 some might be captured by recurring charges while others
- 16 might be captured by nonrecurring. Mr. Denney might be
- 17 able to give you a better sense of that.
- 18 Q. If recurring charges don't encompass all the
- 19 costs that Qwest incurs to perform these activities,
- 20 would you agree for clarification purposes it would be
- 21 helpful to add language stating that nonrecurring
- 22 charges may apply to these activities?
- 23 A. It might be helpful, but I guess my response
- 24 would be that it's not necessary. I mean if you look at
- 25 Section 5.1.6 of the contract that's agreed upon

- 1 language, it's a long paragraph that already describes
- 2 the notion that nothing in this agreement is meant to
- 3 prevent either party from seeking proper cost recovery.
- 4 So we have already agreed on language that says you're
- 5 allowed to recover your costs. All we are talking about
- 6 in Section 9.1.2 is that when you do these types of
- 7 activities, because they're activities related to
- 8 accessing UNEs, they will be at cost based rates, not at
- 9 tariffed rates.
- 10 Q. But the Section 5 language you cited says the
- 11 parties may seek to recover their costs, and I'm looking
- 12 for some greater assurance than that. Will Eschelon
- 13 acknowledge that some of these activities will result in
- 14 nonrecurring costs that Qwest is entitled to recover?
- 15 A. Well, I think I said if you're talking about
- 16 Washington specific that Mr. Denney would have to give
- 17 you that assurance, because I'm just not familiar enough
- 18 with the cost studies.
- 19 Q. Okay.
- 20 A. In concept we're not via this language trying
- 21 to preclude recovery via nonrecurring charges.
- Q. Okay, well, I then need to ask you one more
- 23 question. If that's the concept that you are endorsing
- 24 here, would Eschelon agree to language that says if the
- 25 costs of these activities are not included in recurring

- 1 rates, Eschelon will pay Owest nonrecurring charges
- 2 specific to the state of Washington?
- 3 A. As you know, Mr. Devaney, and we have had
- 4 this conversation before, that I don't feel overly
- 5 comfortable negotiating from the stand as to Eschelon's
- 6 position on the language. This is an issue that you and
- 7 I have talked about at least now in three states, and I
- 8 am not aware that Qwest has ever offered that language
- 9 to Eschelon. If it did, Eschelon would look at it. I
- 10 don't think it would be inconsistent with this concept,
- 11 and if the wording was appropriate, they may very well
- 12 accept it.
- 13 Q. Okay.
- 14 A. But the first step in that process is to
- 15 offer it.
- 16 Q. Okay. And either party could offer that,
- 17 correct?
- 18 A. Well, I think we have offered language here,
- 19 and we have tried to change it in a number of
- 20 circumstances, not particularly this language but
- 21 others, to accommodate Qwest's concerns. The problem is
- 22 we don't get language back from Qwest saying this is
- 23 what we would accept.
- Q. So what I'm hearing is the door is open to
- 25 some agreement perhaps where Eschelon would agree that

- 1 nonrecurring charges could apply to these activities; is
- 2 that a fair statement?
- 3 A. I think if we saw language in that regard, it
- 4 certainly would be something we would look at with
- 5 interest.
- 6 Q. Let's turn to Issue 9-33, network maintenance
- 7 and modernization, and I will ask you please to turn to
- 8 Exhibit 71, which is your surrebuttal testimony, at
- 9 pages 139 and 40.
- 10 A. Okay.
- 11 Q. And again, I'm asking you to refer to these
- 12 pages only because Eschelon's proposals for this issue
- 13 are set forth here.
- 14 A. Okay.
- 15 Q. And it actually carries over to page 141 of
- 16 Exhibit 71 beginning on page 139.
- 17 A. All right.
- 18 Q. As we heard this morning in the discussion
- 19 with Ms. Stewart, option 1 or proposal 1 that Eschelon
- 20 is putting forth with respect to Issue 9-33, and I'm
- 21 paraphrasing, says in effect that network changes Qwest
- 22 makes in connection with modernization and maintenance
- 23 shall not adversely affect services to end user
- 24 customers; is that a fair statement?
- 25 A. It is.

- 1 Q. And I think you agree with me that Eschelon's
- 2 use of the term adverse effect is not defined anywhere
- 3 in its proposed language; is that correct?
- 4 A. It's not defined, it's not a defined term.
- 5 As I think Ms. Stewart referenced this morning, it's not
- 6 capitalized, so it's not a defined term within the
- 7 contract itself. In the next option, which I think is
- 8 probably where you're headed, in the next option there's
- 9 more information about what is an unacceptable or an
- 10 adverse impact that we wouldn't find to be acceptable.
- 11 Q. Okay, but right now I'm focusing on proposal
- 12 number 1, and am I correct also in understanding that
- 13 the proposal doesn't set forth any criteria or metrics
- 14 by which a party could determine whether there's a
- 15 prohibitive adverse effect?
- 16 A. Again focusing on proposal 1, there is not a
- 17 more defined sense of exactly what adverse effect means,
- 18 though I think as was pointed out in Ms. Stewart's
- 19 discussion this morning, that that's not uncommon
- 20 throughout this agreement. When we talk about impaired
- 21 or adverse effects, they're generally not -- they're
- 22 generally not defined more precisely. What they're
- 23 meant to do is place an obligation such that it starts
- 24 the process of if we have an adverse effect, we call
- 25 Qwest, we say we have an adverse effect, and then we

- 1 discuss the extent to which it's actually an adverse
- 2 effect that falls under this particular piece of the
- 3 language or not.
- 4 Q. And also under proposal number 1, nothing in
- 5 Eschelon's proposed language states what are the
- 6 consequences for Qwest if it engages in an activity that
- 7 has an adverse effect; is that correct?
- 8 A. That is correct, but I'm afraid just by
- 9 focusing on proposal 1, proposal 2 is meant to address
- 10 those three very things you just suggested.
- 11 Q. We can talk about proposal 2 --
- 12 A. Okay, I'm sorry.
- 13 Q. -- but right now --
- 14 A. I'm just -- we had this conversation in
- 15 Minnesota, we have made modifications to address your
- 16 concerns, and I just want to make sure that it's --
- 17 proposal 2 addresses all three of those concerns,
- 18 proposal 1 doesn't.
- 19 Q. Okay, but just focus on proposal 1 for a
- 20 second.
- 21 A. Okay.
- Q. If you're the owner and operator of a
- 23 telephone network and you have contract language that
- 24 says you can't make any changes that have an adverse
- 25 effect, you're not allowed to do that, and if you do,

- 1 we're not going to tell you what the consequences are,
- 2 so you're sort of doing this at your own risk, can't you
- 3 see that that creates some disincentive to making
- 4 network changes?
- 5 A. I don't think that's what proposal 1 says at
- 6 all. Proposal 1 says it limits the adverse effect to
- 7 transmission parameters, so we're talking about adverse
- 8 effects of transmission parameters. And then it also
- 9 provides an out, if you will, where it suggests that
- 10 it's not talking about reasonably anticipated temporary
- 11 service interruptions, nor is it talking about the
- 12 retirement of copper. So what we're doing is we're
- 13 saying there's an adverse effect in a transmission
- 14 parameter and if -- well, let me restart that.
- 15 What we're talking about is a situation where
- 16 Qwest has undertaken network maintenance or
- 17 modernization and it's resulted in an adverse effect in
- 18 the transmission parameters of one of our clients, this
- 19 provides an obligation to where Qwest must remedy that
- 20 situation such that whenever we come to Qwest as
- 21 Eschelon and say this modernization activity put one of
- 22 our customers to where their transmission parameters are
- 23 no longer the same as they were, there is an adverse
- 24 effect, their service doesn't work as well, then Owest
- 25 can't simply say not our problem, not something we have

- 1 to worry about because we don't have an obligation to
- 2 limit adverse effect associated with this kind of
- 3 activity. What we're trying to do is say yes you do
- 4 have an obligation, now let's talk about how we fix it.
- 5 Q. Okay, but the focus on proposal number 1, if
- 6 there is an adverse effect, there's no discussion in
- 7 Eschelon's proposal as to what the consequences are for
- 8 Qwest, whether it faces fines, penalties, or whether it
- 9 simply has to remedy the situation, that's not set
- 10 forth, is it?
- 11 A. In proposal 1 it's not as clear as it is in
- 12 proposal 2.
- Q. Okay, let's talk about proposal 2, and that's
- 14 on page 140 of Exhibit 71, your surrebuttal. As was
- 15 discussed with Ms. Stewart this morning, that testimony
- 16 refers to a CLEC experiencing unacceptable changes in
- 17 the transmission of voice data; is that correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And again, unacceptable changes is not
- 20 defined; is that correct?
- 21 A. That is correct.
- Q. And there are no criteria or metrics by which
- one could determine whether a change is "unacceptable"
- under Eschelon's proposal; is that correct?
- 25 A. Well, actually I think there is. Again it

- 1 comes down to the fact that something happens. I mean
- 2 you have to think of sort of the realistic way in which
- 3 this section of the contract would be implemented.
- 4 Q. Would you say it would be language with
- 5 metric certain criteria as you --
- 6 A. I will finish this answer, and then I will
- 7 answer that one.
- 8 Q. Okay.
- 9 A. You have to worry about how -- you have to
- 10 think about how this contract language would be
- 11 implemented. Again, Qwest undertakes a network
- 12 modernization activity, our CLEC customer, the CLEC
- 13 customer, our customer experiences a change in the
- 14 transmission of voice or data that's unacceptable
- 15 consistent with this particular clause. What's going to
- 16 happen is they're going to call Eschelon, they're going
- 17 to say something happened, my service isn't working or
- 18 my service isn't working as well. Eschelon is going to
- 19 call Qwest if they figure out what the problem is, that
- 20 it happened because of this network modernization
- 21 activity, they're going to say we had a change in this
- 22 customer's service parameters that are unacceptable, can
- 23 you fix it. And here there is a specific remedy
- 24 associated with this particular activity, and it's that
- 25 Owest will fix it to the level that existed prior to the

- 1 change in the network.
- 2 So to answer your second question, there's no
- 3 criteria here as to what is acceptable or not in terms
- 4 of listing all of the particular transmission changes
- 5 that might occur, because there's going to be several
- 6 that might be possible in this type of scenario. What
- 7 we're doing is placing an obligation on Qwest to respond
- 8 to Eschelon's concerns about changes in transmission
- 9 parameters, and the two will get together, and if there
- 10 is a disagreement about what's acceptable or what is not
- 11 consistent with this particular contract language, then
- 12 like in all those other scenarios that Ms. Stewart
- 13 pointed to this morning, dispute resolution in the
- 14 contract will get to the bottom of finding out if the
- 15 two carriers can ultimately agree. If they can't, then
- 16 the Commission gets involved.
- Q. Going back to my question, it was there are
- 18 no metrics or criteria set forth in your proposal as to
- 19 what is unacceptable and what that term means; am I
- 20 correct?
- 21 A. That's correct, just like in those other
- 22 sections of the contract we looked at this morning, none
- 23 exist there either.
- Q. And likewise, this provision requires Qwest
- 25 to restore service to "an acceptable level", is it your

- 1 view that there are criteria here defining what an
- 2 acceptable level means?
- 3 A. I think it's -- I think you're instructed by
- 4 the phrase, action to restore the transmission quality,
- 5 restore meaning in my mind at least to the level that
- 6 existed prior to where there was a complaint, but that's
- 7 the only thing I can tell you that tempers that
- 8 particular piece of the language.
- 9 Q. Okay. And is it your view in proposing
- 10 option 2 that whether a change is unacceptable is
- 11 something that will be determined by the Eschelon
- 12 customer experiencing the service?
- 13 A. I think that's certainly going to be the
- 14 first line of defense is the customer will notice
- 15 something that tweaks his or her interest, and they're
- 16 likely to call Eschelon. I think you have -- in reality
- 17 you will have Eschelon saying either that is an
- 18 acceptable under our contract or not. In some cases
- 19 they may not think that the problem the customer raises
- 20 rises to the level necessary to contact Qwest for a
- 21 restoral of service.
- 22 Q. And what criteria would Eschelon apply when
- 23 it hears that from its customer?
- A. Well, I think it's going to apply a reality
- 25 test, is this something we want to bring up in front of

- 1 Owest as a real problem, understanding that we have to
- 2 deal with these people on a daily basis.
- 3 Q. Sort of a if you see it you know it test?
- 4 A. I think I would say it's a reasonable test, a
- 5 rational test if you will. You have to remember that
- 6 these particular clauses of the contract have to be
- 7 implemented in real life, and I'm describing to you I
- 8 think what's going to happen in a real world scenario
- 9 where a customer sees a problem with the service, comes
- 10 to Eschelon, Eschelon determines whether it's worthwhile
- 11 enough to approach Qwest about, the two confer, either
- 12 agree or don't, and if they don't then we have this
- 13 dispute resolution process that's in the contract. The
- 14 purpose of the language is such that the process doesn't
- 15 stop when Eschelon comes to Qwest because Qwest simply
- 16 says we've got no obligation, we've got no obligation to
- 17 deal with that problem.
- 18 Q. Just a couple more questions on this subject
- 19 and we'll move on to the next issue, but with respect to
- 20 your statement just now that Qwest may state it has no
- 21 obligation, are you aware that the parties have agreed
- 22 language in Section 9.1.9 with respect to the
- 23 transmission parameters of UNEs that Qwest will provide
- 24 to Eschelon? For example, Section 9.1.9 provides that:
- 25 Network maintenance modernization

- 1 activities will result in UNE
- 2 transmission parameters that are within
- 3 transmission limits of a UNE ordered by
- 4 Eschelon.
- 5 A. I am aware of that, and as I described in I
- 6 think both my direct and rebuttal testimony, the problem
- 7 there is that the parameters that are described don't --
- 8 aren't necessarily precise enough I guess, if you will,
- 9 to account for fact -- for situations wherein Eschelon's
- 10 service might -- customer service might stop working,
- 11 yet the transmission parameters are still within this
- 12 range, if you will, of acceptable parameters. What the
- 13 language that we have been discussing at 9.1.2 is meant
- 14 to suggest is that there's a baseline here, which is if
- 15 it worked before, it should work after, even if it's
- 16 still within this range of parameters that might meet
- 17 overall generic transmission requirements.
- 18 Q. And are you also aware that the parties have
- 19 agreed to language stating that changes resulting from
- 20 modernization and maintenance shall result in only minor
- 21 changes in transmission parameters?
- 22 A. I am aware that we have agreed to that and
- 23 that we haven't defined minor in that respect, and that
- 24 hasn't been a problem for either carrier as far as I
- 25 know.

- 1 Q. Let's talk about Issue 9-34, which relates to
- 2 this issue, notices of network changes.
- 3 A. Okay.
- 4 Q. And please refer to Exhibit 71, your
- 5 surrebuttal testimony, again.
- 6 A. Okay.
- 7 Q. And in particular again we will be focusing
- 8 on pages 139 to 141.
- 9 A. Okay.
- 10 Q. This issue, just so we have the right
- 11 context, involves the notice of network changes that
- 12 Qwest will provide to Eschelon; is that correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. And specifically in connection with
- 15 maintenance and modernization activities?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Under Eschelon's proposal number 1 set forth
- 18 on page 139 of your surrebuttal testimony, Exhibit 71,
- 19 Eschelon proposes that if a change is specific to an
- 20 Eschelon end user customer, Qwest must provide in the
- 21 notice the address of the Eschelon customer and the
- 22 circuit ID number of the network facility used to serve
- 23 the customer; is that correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And in contrast, Owest's proposal says that

- 1 it will comply with the FCC's notice requirements,
- 2 correct?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. With respect to customer addresses and
- 5 circuit IDs, Eschelon does have electronic access to its
- 6 own customers' addresses and circuit IDs; is that right?
- 7 A. Yes, my understanding is that it does have
- 8 electronic access to those circuit IDs, but you have to
- 9 remember that the Eschelon circuit IDs are the Qwest
- 10 circuit IDs that Owest gave to them, so in terms of what
- 11 those circuit IDs represent in the Qwest network when
- 12 we're talking about the location of a particular change,
- 13 that may not be meaningful to Eschelon without knowing
- 14 more.
- 15 Q. Are you aware of whether Qwest has electronic
- 16 access on a CLEC sorted basis to customer IDs?
- 17 A. I think that's the first time you have asked
- 18 me on a CLEC sorted basis whether I know that. I don't
- 19 know, I think -- I don't know. What I would suggest is
- 20 that in option number 2 we have tempered option number 1
- 21 by saying that you would provide us this information
- 22 when it's readily available consistent with the way the
- 23 Minnesota Commission ultimately arrived at its
- 24 conclusion on this issue. And I know in Mr. Webber's
- 25 testimony we have provided examples where you have in

- 1 the past provided us circuit ID information relative to
- 2 Eschelon customers in this type of circumstance. So I
- 3 guess my bottom line answer is I don't know, but I have
- 4 information that would suggest that you must have some
- 5 way of finding it.
- 6 Q. If Qwest provides in a notice to Eschelon the
- 7 distribution area where a network change is going to
- 8 take place, would you agree with me that Eschelon can
- 9 access its own electronic database and pull up circuit
- 10 IDs and customer addresses within that distribution
- 11 area?
- 12 A. It's my understanding, and I think
- 13 Ms. Johnson can probably give you a more factual answer
- 14 than this, but it's my understanding in talking with
- 15 Ms. Johnson that that's not necessarily the case, that
- 16 just identifying the distribution area doesn't
- 17 necessarily give us the information necessary to match
- 18 circuit IDs in our database with that particular
- 19 location so we know who's going to be impacted.
- Q. And that's something that Ms. Johnson has
- 21 more knowledge of than you?
- 22 A. I believe so.
- Q. Have you ever used Eschelon's databases?
- 24 A. I have not.
- Q. Could you turn to Exhibit 176, your rebuttal

- 1 testimony, page 23.
- 2 A. Okay.
- 3 Q. I'm sorry, I meant to say Mr. Webber's
- 4 rebuttal testimony.
- 5 A. Oh, and you know what, I apologize, that's
- 6 the one thing I didn't stick in here.
- 7 THE WITNESS: Does somebody have a copy of
- 8 that?
- 9 Thank you, Mr. Merz.
- 10 JUDGE CLARK: And now that I'm thoroughly
- 11 confused, I need that page reference again.
- MR. DEVANEY: Page 23.
- JUDGE CLARK: Thank you.
- 14 BY MR. DEVANEY:
- 15 Q. You state at lines 1 through 5, the question
- 16 is:
- 17 Please elaborate on what an end user
- 18 customer specific change is.
- 19 And again, this relates to the notice issue
- 20 we have been discussing. You respond:
- 21 A change that's specific to an end user
- 22 customer is a change that is made to the
- 23 service of a customer at an address and
- 24 not a change made that affects a
- 25 geographic area or many customers.

- 1 As I read that, what you're saying is Qwest
- 2 should be required to provide circuit ID and customer
- 3 address only when a network change is specifically at a
- 4 customer's address or stated another way at a customer's
- 5 premise; am I interpreting your statement correctly?
- 6 A. Yes, I think you are. We're not talking
- 7 about changes that are of broad impact to many
- 8 customers. We're trying to really define this language
- 9 such that when you're making a change that's going to
- 10 impact a given location, our customer is going to be
- 11 impacted, then we would like to know.
- 12 Q. So it's specific to one customer; is that
- 13 right?
- 14 A. It is. The reason I sort of hesitate is
- 15 there is, as you well know, some of our customers share
- 16 a given location with many other customers, so it might
- 17 not be just that it impacts one customer but that it
- 18 impacts one location.
- 19 Q. Understood. Would you agree with me though
- 20 that your proposed language related to notice doesn't
- 21 limit the circuit ID and customer address obligation to
- 22 an address or to a customer, single customer premise?
- 23 A. Let me just put the language back in front of
- 24 me here real quick, because I believe it does by
- 25 limiting it to situations for a CLEC end user customer,

- 1 singular not plural, but let me just get to the language
- 2 real quick.
- 3 In option number 1 on page 139 of my
- 4 surrebuttal testimony, which is Exhibit 71, the language
- 5 says:
- If the changes are specific to a CLEC
- 7 end user customer, the circuit ID
- 8 information and CLEC end user customer
- 9 address information will be provided.
- 10 So I think it does limit it to a CLEC end
- 11 user customer singular.
- 12 Q. And it would be a lot clearer, wouldn't it,
- if it said a CLEC end user customer's premise or
- 14 specific location?
- 15 A. The reason I hesitate is because I think what
- 16 we're after here is if you're going to be making a
- 17 change that's going to impact a location where our CLEC
- 18 end user customer is, and I guess that could be clearer,
- 19 again the notion is I guess if you have that kind of
- 20 language to put in front of Eschelon, I'm sure they
- 21 would look at it. I think this is clear in that it uses
- 22 the term customer singular, but they may very well be
- 23 willing to agree to that type of change.
- 24 Q. Okay.
- 25 Just one or two more questions on this issue,

- 1 and then we'll move on. But with respect to your
- 2 proposal number 2 in the notice requirement, as you
- 3 alluded to earlier, and this is language that appears on
- 4 page 141 of your surrebuttal testimony, that proposal
- 5 says that if the change is specific to an end user
- 6 customer, circuit identification "if readily available",
- 7 and readily available is not defined in your proposal;
- 8 is that correct?
- 9 A. It's not. Readily available was actually
- 10 included because the Minnesota Commission thought it
- 11 better met with the nondiscriminatory standard we were
- 12 seeking here, which is if Qwest had it readily available
- 13 to itself, then all it had to do was establish a process
- 14 to make it readily available to Eschelon. So it's not
- 15 defined, it's not defined in the Minnesota agreement
- 16 that was approved by the commission, but I think it's
- 17 fairly self explanatory.
- 18 Q. And as you're aware from past proceedings,
- 19 Qwest's concern in providing, being obligated to provide
- 20 circuit IDs or customer addresses of Eschelon customers
- 21 is that it has to conduct manual searches to retrieve
- 22 that information. And my question for you is, if a
- 23 manual search has to be conducted by Qwest to provide
- 24 circuit ID or customer address, would you agree with me
- 25 that from your language that would not be readily

- 1 available?
- 2 A. I think I'm going to have to give you the
- 3 same answer I gave you in Colorado, which is if by
- 4 manual search you mean someone has to pick it up off
- 5 their desk and fax it or something like that, then I may
- 6 still consider that to be readily available. The notion
- 7 here again is if it's readily available for your folks
- 8 to look at, then it should be easy enough to make it
- 9 readily available for us to look at.
- 10 Q. But if it's something that's not on someone's
- 11 desk or requires a few hours of manually searching
- 12 records, would you agree that's not readily available
- 13 under your proposal?
- 14 A. I think I would agree if you've got to send
- 15 someone out to search records for multiple hours, that
- 16 would not, at least in my opinion, fall under readily
- 17 available.
- 18 Q. Okay.
- 19 Next and last issue is Issue 9-55, loop
- 20 transport combinations.
- 21 A. Okay.
- Q. And I will ask you to refer to Exhibit 62,
- 23 your direct testimony, at page 170, again because that's
- 24 where your language is set forth.
- 25 A. Okay.

- 1 Q. And just to provide context for this issue,
- 2 this issue arises as I understand it because Eschelon is
- 3 proposing to use the term loop transport combinations as
- 4 a defined term in the agreement; is that correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And it would appear in Sections 9.23.4 and
- 7 subparts, correct?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And Qwest's position I think you would agree
- 10 is that the products covered by that term, loop
- 11 transport combinations, are distinct from one another
- 12 and are governed by different terms and conditions and
- 13 that it's therefore confusing to use one umbrella term
- 14 for all three products; is that a fair statement of
- 15 Qwest's position as you understand it?
- 16 A. That's fair.
- 17 Q. And you will agree with me that Qwest does
- 18 not have a product called loop transport combination,
- 19 correct?
- 20 A. That is correct.
- 21 Q. And under Eschelon's proposal, the term would
- 22 encompass EELs, extended enhanced links, comingled EELs,
- 23 and high capacity EELs; is that right?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And those are the only products you're aware

- 1 of that Owest has today that consist of combinations of
- 2 loops and transport?
- 3 A. That would be meant to be yes captured by
- 4 this term, those three are included in the proposed
- 5 language at 9.23.4.
- 6 Q. And would you agree with me that different
- 7 pricing and provisioning requirements apply to for
- 8 example EELs, which are combinations of UNEs, versus
- 9 comingled EELs, which are combinations of UNEs and
- 10 tariffed services?
- 11 A. I think what I would say is that different
- 12 rates, terms, and conditions apply to UNEs than apply to
- 13 non-UNEs even when they may be comingled together, and
- 14 that's really the point of this language is to suggest
- 15 that just because a comingled arrangement includes a
- 16 component that's not a UNE, it also includes a component
- 17 that is a UNE, and the terms and conditions that bear on
- 18 that UNE should be found in Section 9 of the agreement
- 19 that deals with UNEs.
- 20 Q. But just to be clear, I want to make sure I
- 21 understood your answer, you do agree with me that an
- 22 EEL, which is a combination of two UNE's, is governed by
- 23 different terms, rates, and conditions than a comingled
- 24 EEL that has at least for one component of it tariffed
- 25 terms and conditions that apply, correct?

- 1 A. Yes, there may be differences.
- 2 Q. And even though there may be differences, in
- 3 fact are differences, Eschelon's proposing to use the
- 4 same product name for those two products; isn't that
- 5 correct?
- A. Yes. I mean there are also differences
- 7 between -- there are differences between all three of
- 8 the arrangements described as loop transport
- 9 combinations at 9.23.4. It's not meant to suggest that
- 10 they will all be handled the same way, because they're
- 11 not, they're different. The language describes that the
- 12 extent -- what it's trying to accomplish is to suggest
- 13 that when a UNE is used in a loop transport combination,
- 14 then the terms and conditions of Section 9 apply to that
- 15 piece of the arrangement.
- 16 Q. And the one state commission that has ruled
- 17 on this issue, the Minnesota Commission, found that
- 18 using the same term for multiple different products was
- 19 confusing and rejected use of the term, correct?
- 20 A. I know it didn't agree with our position, I
- 21 would have to go back and look to see this if they used
- 22 the word confusing, I don't know.
- MR. DEVANEY: Okay, thank you, that's all I
- 24 have.

1 MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor.

- 3 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 4 BY MR. MERZ:
- 5 Q. Mr. Devaney had asked you some questions
- 6 about changes that are end user customer specific, and I
- 7 heard him to ask you a question about whether that would
- 8 be limited to changes at a particular customer's
- 9 premises; do you recall that?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. I mean could it be the case that changes made
- 12 other than at the customer premises might affect the
- 13 service at a particular customer premise, for example a
- 14 change in the CO?
- 15 A. Yes, and I guess that's sort of the point,
- 16 what you're really trying to do is define the impact on
- 17 the customer, is there an impact that just impacts one
- 18 customer, not necessarily where that impact occurs
- 19 within the network.
- 20 Q. So the Eschelon language is intended to
- 21 capture a change that might take place at the CO or
- 22 somewhere out in the field if it impacts a particular
- 23 customer premise or location?
- 24 A. That's right, and that's why I quess I
- 25 suggested that the fact that we use a change that

- 1 impacts a customer singular is sufficient to ensure that
- 2 what we're really talking about is an impact on a single
- 3 customer. Mr. Devaney suggested could we add in there
- 4 at the customer's premise or a single customer, I guess
- 5 you could, but it's all going to come down to how you
- 6 craft the language to capture the concept, and that's
- 7 what I guess I keep saying is give us the language,
- 8 we'll look at it, maybe it will work, maybe it won't.
- 9 Q. Mr. Devaney had also asked you some questions
- 10 about the phrase readily available and what kind of
- 11 search that might require Qwest to perform. How does
- 12 the term readily available relate to what Qwest might do
- 13 for itself for its own business purposes?
- 14 A. Well, again, that's the concept we're trying
- 15 to capture is if Qwest makes these things available for
- 16 itself in servicing its customers, then
- 17 non-discrimination will require that they provide us the
- 18 same information in the same manner. So I guess even if
- 19 someone had to go for multiple hours and look in a room
- 20 for a circuit ID information, which I doubt is the case,
- 21 then if Qwest is willing to do that to service its
- 22 customers, the non-discrimination would require that
- 23 they do the same for us. I think we have tempered this
- 24 language sort of at the direction of the Minnesota
- 25 Commission to try to make it reasonable to say if you

- 1 have it readily available, if you have it such that you
- 2 use it on a readily available basis, then provide it to
- 3 us in the same manner.
- 4 Q. And then finally turning to the loop
- 5 transport combination issue, I have really just one
- 6 question about that, is Eschelon proposing to use loop
- 7 transport combination as a product name?
- 8 A. No, and that's why I guess this issue is more
- 9 difficult to understand than some of the others in that
- 10 what we're really trying to capture is sort of
- 11 contractual construction I guess, if you will, for lack
- 12 of a better term. We're trying to ensure by using the
- 13 term loop transport combination that if there are UNE
- 14 components to these combinations that there's a place in
- 15 Section 9, at this point we're suggesting 9.23.4, that
- 16 makes clear that the UNE components of that combination
- 17 are governed by Section 9 and the rates, terms, and
- 18 conditions that are found there rather than simply
- 19 saying because it's a combination that might include
- 20 something like comingling, then everything is handled in
- 21 the comingling section or handled via the terms and
- 22 conditions of the non-UNE component, we're just trying
- 23 to make sure that is clear, it's really a contractual
- 24 construction issue.
- MR. MERZ: Nothing else, Your Honor, thank

1 you. JUDGE CLARK: Thank you. 2. 3 Thank you for your testimony, Mr. Starkey. 4 Well take a moment off record. 5 (Discussion off the record.) JUDGE CLARK: Would Eschelon call its next 6 witness, please. 7 MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor, Eschelon 8 9 calls Bonnie Johnson. 10 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you. (Witness BONNIE J. JOHNSON was sworn.) 11 12 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you, please be seated. 13 Mr. Merz. MR. MERZ: Thank you. 14 15 16 Whereupon, 17 BONNIE J. JOHNSON, 18 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness 19 herein and was examined and testified as follows: 20 DIRECT EXAMINATION 21 22 BY MR. MERZ: 23 Q. Good afternoon, Ms. Johnson. A. Good afternoon. 24

Q. You have filed direct, rebuttal, and

- 1 surrebuttal testimony in this matter; is that correct?
- 2 A. That's correct.
- 3 MR. MERZ: And for the record I would note
- 4 that Ms. Johnson's direct testimony has been marked as
- 5 Hearing Exhibit 74, the exhibits to that testimony have
- 6 been marked as Exhibits 75 through 89, that
- 7 Ms. Johnson's rebuttal testimony has been marked as
- 8 Hearing Exhibit 91, and the exhibits to that testimony
- 9 have been marked as Hearing Exhibits 91 through 113, I'm
- 10 sorry, Ms. Johnson's rebuttal testimony has been marked
- 11 as Exhibit 90, and the exhibits to her testimony have
- 12 been marked as Exhibits 91 through 113, and her
- 13 surrebuttal testimony has been marked as Exhibit 114,
- 14 and the exhibits to that testimony have been marked as
- 15 Hearing Exhibits 115 through 129.
- And with that, Your Honor, Ms. Johnson is
- 17 available for cross-examination.
- JUDGE CLARK: Thank you.
- 19 And you will be doing the examination,
- 20 Mr. Topp?
- 21 MR. TOPP: I will.

23

24

25 CROSS-EXAMINATION

- 1 BY MR. TOPP:
- Q. Good afternoon, Ms. Johnson.
- 3 A. Good afternoon.
- 4 Q. I would like to talk to you a little bit
- 5 about the jeopardies issue, which has been identified as
- 6 12-71 through 12-73.
- 7 A. Okay.
- 8 Q. And just to ground us all, the basic
- 9 situation that is at issue with respect to jeopardies is
- 10 a situation where Eschelon places an order with Owest,
- 11 Qwest notifies Eschelon that the order is in jeopardy,
- 12 Qwest fixes the jeopardy, and then Qwest attempts to
- 13 deliver service. Does that sort of basically outline
- 14 the factual situation that we're talking about?
- 15 A. Well, not exactly. I would add that the
- 16 language is specific, is a facility jeopardy, the issue
- 17 and the concern is that Qwest notifies Eschelon of a
- 18 facility jeopardy and that Qwest attempts to deliver the
- 19 service without notifying Eschelon that it's been
- 20 released from a facility jeopardy.
- Q. Well, let's see if I can capture what you're
- 22 saying accurately.
- 23 A. Okay.
- Q. So listen to me. So Eschelon places an order
- 25 with Qwest, Qwest provides a facility jeopardy

- 1 indicating there's something wrong with the facilities
- 2 that may impact the due date, Qwest fixes that jeopardy,
- 3 and then Qwest attempts to deliver service potentially
- 4 without ever providing an FOC or firm order
- 5 confirmation; would that accurately describe the
- 6 situation?
- 7 A. Well, it would, and then to add on to that, I
- 8 apologize, is what is at issue is then when Qwest
- 9 attempts to deliver it, because we haven't been provided
- 10 notification that Qwest is going to attempt to deliver
- 11 it, Qwest places that order in a customer not ready
- 12 jeopardy for two types of customer not ready jeopardy,
- 13 which requires us to supplement the order for three days
- 14 out.
- 15 Q. So Eschelon's concern is that absent
- 16 receiving that FOC, there are certain circumstances in
- 17 which Qwest assigns a customer not ready jeopardy, and
- 18 Eschelon views that as unfair, correct?
- 19 A. Correct.
- 20 Q. Now looking back at the issues matrix, I see
- 21 that there's actually two issues associated with
- 22 jeopardies, the first issue is whether your contract
- 23 language will exist addressing the issue at all or
- 24 whether the issue would be addressed in product
- 25 catalogs; would you agree with me on that?

- 1 A. I would agree.
- Q. And then there's a second issue, which is
- 3 whether Qwest's current processes at least as Qwest
- 4 describes them should be altered consistent with what
- 5 Eschelon believes that they should be and Eschelon
- 6 believes that Qwest has represented that it is; would
- 7 you agree with that?
- 8 A. Eschelon believes it is the current process
- 9 and Qwest does not; is that what you said?
- 10 Q. That's what I meant to say.
- 11 A. Okay.
- 12 Q. And I knew you would have that objection if I
- 13 said changing Qwest's current process, so I was
- 14 attempting to accommodate that.
- 15 A. Okay.
- 16 Q. Now am I correct to understand that
- 17 Eschelon's primary concern is its view that it's not
- 18 fair to list something as customer not ready if Eschelon
- 19 has not received an FOC beforehand?
- 20 A. Well, it's if, you know, when you send a
- 21 facility jeopardy, Qwest has told us that, you know, the
- 22 due date is in jeopardy and unless you send us an FOC
- 23 not to expect it to deliver. And when you place a
- 24 customer not ready jeopardy on the order, it delays
- 25 service to the customer. So we don't think it's

- 1 appropriate to delay the customer's service when Qwest
- 2 hasn't notified us that they're going to deliver the
- 3 service and we haven't appropriately either provided
- 4 arrangements for access or staff to be able to accept
- 5 the circuit, we don't have the opportunity to prepare to
- 6 accept the circuit.
- 7 Q. Okay. Now with your testimony then in the
- 8 record in this proceeding, there are sort of two sets of
- 9 order data that show examples of these situations; would
- 10 you agree with me on that?
- 11 A. I would agree.
- 12 Q. And one of which is Exhibit BJJ-60, which has
- 13 been marked in this proceeding as Exhibit 126.
- 14 A. Did you say 60?
- 15 Q. Oh, 50, excuse me.
- 16 A. Oh, okay, yes.
- 17 Q. And just to clarify for the record, and
- 18 please confirm me if I am incorrect with this, but this
- 19 document reflects sort of a series of exhibits that have
- 20 gone back and forth between the companies regarding
- 21 these service order examples; do you agree?
- 22 A. I would agree with that, and I do explain
- 23 that in my testimony.
- Q. And my understanding is originally it was
- 25 attached to your direct testimony as Exhibit BJJ-6,

- which is marked as Exhibit 80 in this proceeding?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Then it was marked as BJJ --
- 4 A. 35.
- 5 Q. -- 35, which I have written down as Exhibit
- 6 17 but I have a feeling is 117, let me double check.
- 7 110 is what it looks like from my list. And
- 8 then also Ms. Albersheim on behalf of Qwest has included
- 9 a description of these orders, which is attached as
- 10 Exhibit 28RT and marked as Exhibit 28 in this
- 11 proceeding. Does that fit with your recollection, that
- 12 there are four exhibits that describe this same set of
- 13 data?
- 14 A. That fits with the recollection. A couple of
- 15 things, I think didn't she correct it to 27, didn't
- 16 Ms. Albersheim correct the RA-28 to RA-27, and I just
- 17 wanted to clarify that.
- 18 Q. I think that was referring to something else.
- 19 A. Oh, it was, okay, I wasn't certain about
- 20 that.
- 21 And BJJ-50 is actually all of that, it's a
- 22 combination of all of that.
- Q. Right. And just to clarify for the record,
- 24 this is the extent or these are the examples on the
- 25 record of situations in which Eschelon was unable to

- 1 complete a service order because it had not received a
- 2 prior FOC from Qwest; is that correct?
- 3 A. Unable to accept the circuit.
- 4 Q. Unable to accept the circuit. And these 4
- 5 examples are all examples of the same data set, which
- 6 are 25 orders, correct?
- 7 A. I believe it's 22.
- 8 Q. That's right, at the end it wound up being
- 9 22.
- 10 A. Okay.
- 11 Q. And by my --
- 12 A. It was 23 at one point but never 25.
- Q. Okay. And you have in your exhibit 50, which
- 14 has been marked as Exhibit 126, broken those orders down
- 15 into 3 categories, the third of which is labeled C, and
- 16 those are ones where Qwest agrees that the
- 17 classification was incorrect. The first category marked
- 18 A are 12 orders in which you have described as there
- 19 being no FOC after the most recent jeopardy or the
- 20 pertinent jeopardy I guess is what you have put down.
- 21 And then there are 8 examples of where you have said
- 22 that Eschelon has been unable to receive a circuit
- 23 because of an untimely FOC. And I take it from untimely
- 24 what you mean is not the day before; would that be
- 25 correct?

- 1 A. That would be correct.
- Q. In looking --
- 3 A. It may have been the same day.
- 4 Q. In looking through the examples on Exhibit
- 5 50, I note it appears when you look at the PON category,
- 6 the first 2 letters of those PONs, do those reflect the
- 7 state in which the order was placed?
- 8 A. That would be correct.
- 9 Q. So like for number 1 it's Oregon, that's
- 10 Oregon?
- 11 A. Correct.
- 12 Q. Now based on my review, and feel free to
- 13 check, I saw 4 examples of Washington orders on this
- 14 exhibit.
- 15 A. If you could just give me a moment, I will
- 16 verify.
- 17 Q. I will give you what numbers I have, and then
- 18 you can check to see if I have --
- 19 A. Okay.
- 20 Q. -- missed something, number 5, number 8,
- 21 number 10, and number 18.
- 22 A. One moment.
- That's what I have as well.
- Q. Now turning to Exhibit BJJ-41 to your
- 25 testimony, which has been marked as Exhibit 117 in this

- 1 proceeding.
- 2 A. I'm there.
- 3 Q. Okay, now this document shows examples of
- 4 situations in which Eschelon has been able to accept a
- 5 circuit despite not receiving an FOC; is that correct?
- 6 A. That is correct.
- 7 MR. TOPP: And I have no further questions.
- 8 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 9 JUDGE CLARK: Redirect, Mr. Merz?
- 10 MR. MERZ: I don't have any further questions
- 11 either.
- 12 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you for your testimony,
- 13 Ms. Johnson.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 15 JUDGE CLARK: Let's take a moment off record.
- 16 (Recess taken.)
- 17 JUDGE CLARK: Mr. Merz, would you call your
- 18 final witness, please.
- 19 MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor, Eschelon
- 20 calls Douglas Denney.
- 21 (Witness DOUGLAS DENNEY was sworn.)
- JUDGE CLARK: Thank you, please be seated.
- Mr. Merz.
- MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 25 Whereupon,

1	DOUGLAS	DENNEY.

- 2 having been first duly sworn, was called as a witness
- 3 herein and was examined and testified as follows:

- 5 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 6 BY MR. MERZ:
- 7 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Denney.
- 8 A. Good afternoon.
- 9 Q. You have filed direct, rebuttal, and
- 10 surrebuttal testimony in this case; is that right?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And you're also adopting the expedite portion
- of Mr. Webber's direct and rebuttal testimony; is that
- 14 also correct?
- 15 A. That's correct.
- MR. MERZ: And for the record I will note
- 17 that Mr. Denney's direct testimony has been marked as
- 18 Hearing Exhibit 130, the exhibits to that direct
- 19 testimony have been marked as Hearing Exhibits 131
- 20 through 136, Mr. Denney's rebuttal testimony has been
- 21 marked as Hearing Exhibit 137, that the exhibits to that
- 22 testimony have been marked as 138C through 151, that
- 23 Mr. Denney's surrebuttal testimony has been marked as
- 24 Exhibit 152, and that the exhibits to that testimony
- 25 have been marked as Exhibits 153 through 171.

- 1 And with that, Mr. Denney is available for
- 2 cross-examination.
- JUDGE CLARK: Thank you.
- 4 And who will inquire?
- 5 Mr. Devaney, please.

- 7 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 8 BY MR. DEVANEY:
- 9 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Denney.
- 10 A. Good afternoon.
- 11 Q. I would like to begin by asking you about
- 12 Issue 4-5, design changes, and my understanding of a
- 13 design change is that it generally relates to a
- 14 situation where a CLEC submits an order and then changes
- 15 that order for some reason which requires Qwest to take
- 16 steps in response to the change to the order; is that a
- 17 fair understanding?
- 18 A. It's a high level understanding, yes.
- 19 Q. And a central dispute between the parties
- 20 related to this issue is what charges will apply to
- 21 different design changes, correct?
- 22 A. That's correct.
- Q. And the three design changes at issue are
- 24 design changes relating to transport, which is also
- 25 referred to as UDIT, the acronym, unbundled loops, and

- 1 so-called connection facility assignments or CFAs; is
- 2 that correct?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And Eschelon's position in this case is that
- 5 all three of those design changes should be governed by
- 6 a so-called TELRIC cost based rate, correct?
- 7 A. That's correct.
- 8 Q. And when we speak of TELRIC, total element
- 9 long run incremental cost, we mean that a TELRIC charge
- 10 ought to be based on the cost of performing an activity.
- 11 And I realize there are different ways of defining cost,
- 12 but at a high level do you agree with that?
- 13 A. I mean it's another way is like a forward
- 14 looking economic cost of performing that activity, you
- 15 know. So, you know, an example, you know, like a kind
- 16 of a simple example to distinguish if you were going to
- 17 copy something, you could copy it by hand or you could
- 18 use, you know, the copy machine. TELRIC would really
- 19 say use the -- you're using the copy machine when you do
- 20 the cost, we're not trying to calculate the cost by some
- 21 inefficient or more arcane methods even though those
- 22 still may be used, but we're trying to get to those what
- 23 we call the forward looking economic costs.
- 24 Q. Okay.
- 25 A. To do those.

- 1 Q. And then we have recurring versus
- 2 nonrecurring costs and charges, there's a distinction
- 3 between those, correct?
- A. Right, there's a distinction, the design --
- 5 the design change charge is a nonrecurring charge as
- 6 it's set up right now.
- 7 Q. Okay. And we have had this discussion
- 8 before, but when we talk about estimating the costs and
- 9 developing charges for nonrecurring activities, do you
- 10 agree that the general methodology is, one, to identify
- 11 the activities that go into a nonrecurring event, two,
- 12 the time it takes to perform those activities, and
- 13 three, a labor rate that would apply to the people
- 14 performing the activities?
- 15 A. I'm going to say basically that's correct. I
- 16 would put kind of before step one would be first you
- 17 would kind of -- you would determine the efficient
- 18 methodology that would take place so the efficient way
- 19 in which that activity should be performed. Then you
- 20 would determine, assuming that your systems, your OSS
- 21 systems, your activities are done in an efficient
- 22 manner. Then you would go through the rest of those
- 23 steps.
- 24 O. Okay. And then in an ideal scenario, one
- 25 would set forth those activities, those labor rates,

- 1 those assumptions about efficiencies in some sort of
- 2 cost study or cost model; is that correct?
- 3 A. In the scenario you gave, I mean it's pretty
- 4 basic, so you've got kind of time and labor and
- 5 activities, so yes, certainly, I mean there's cost
- 6 studies that would multiply those things together.
- 7 Q. Okay. And the benefit of having a cost study
- 8 or a cost model is you can look in and see what the
- 9 assumptions are, what the calculations are, and you can
- 10 determine whether you agree with them or whether there
- 11 are areas where you don't agree with them and whether
- 12 calculations have been done accurately, correct?
- 13 A. I mean that's certainly the ideal. I mean
- 14 cost studies don't always work that way, sometimes
- 15 they're just a flat set amount of time with very little
- 16 description, so to make those determinations -- just
- 17 because you have a cost study doesn't necessarily make
- 18 that determination as you described it easy to -- easy
- 19 to undertake any more than it would be if you had a
- 20 verbal description. But ideally the cost study should
- 21 be detailed and explain out those activities that are
- 22 taking place.
- Q. And I know you know where I'm headed with
- 24 this, Eschelon has proposed two nonrecurring rates in
- 25 this case for design change, a \$5 rate for connection

- 1 facility assignment design changes and a \$30 rate for
- 2 unbundled loop design changes, correct?
- 3 A. And to be clear, we have proposed interim
- 4 rates where we believe the rates currently I mean do not
- 5 exist today, so we have -- but you're right, we proposed
- 6 interim rates for design change for loops and design
- 7 change -- I mean for CFA change for loops in a limited
- 8 scenario.
- 9 Q. And just so the record is clear, the rate
- 10 you're proposing for CFAs is \$5 and the rate for loops
- 11 is \$30; is that correct?
- 12 A. That's correct.
- 13 Q. And I'm also correct that Eschelon did not
- 14 submit a cost study in support of either of those rates;
- 15 is that right?
- 16 A. There is no cost study, but there is -- I
- 17 mean there's a description of why, the reasonableness of
- 18 those rates, comparing it to loop installation charges
- 19 for example, the types of activities that would take
- 20 place in a description, so I think for an interim basis
- 21 I mean they are fully supported, those rates.
- Q. You say there are descriptions, what you're
- 23 referring to are simply the questions and answers in
- 24 your testimony that describe the \$30 and \$5 rates being
- 25 proposed by Eschelon; isn't that right?

- 1 A. Yeah, those are the descriptions I'm
- 2 referring to in my testimony.
- 3 Q. But there is no backup cost data, there's no
- 4 cost study that lists assumptions or performs
- 5 calculations; is that correct?
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. And I'm also correct that in coming up with
- 8 those rates you did not assume a labor rate, did you?
- 9 A. Did not assume a specific labor rate, no.
- 10 Q. And am I also correct that you have not
- 11 personally observed anyone ever perform a design change
- 12 for either a CFA or an unbundled loop?
- 13 A. I have not seen a live design change. I had
- 14 a technician at Eschelon walk me through, you know, the
- 15 steps that it would take in a Qwest central office,
- 16 showing me what would happen when a design change is
- 17 done and kind of describe to me that process and what
- 18 would be involved.
- 19 Q. But you didn't observe one --
- 20 A. There were none taking place that day that I
- 21 went to the office.
- Q. Okay. And I take it since you're not an
- 23 engineer you haven't performed a design change yourself;
- 24 is that correct?
- 25 A. That's correct.

- 1 Q. And you described just a minute ago the rates
- 2 that Eschelon is proposing as being interim, and in
- 3 connection with that my understanding is that Eschelon
- 4 is not proposing a trueup for the \$5 and \$30 rates it
- 5 has set forth here; am I correct?
- 6 A. Well, I mean to be clear Eschelon hasn't
- 7 proposed -- hasn't ruled out a trueup, we haven't
- 8 proposed a trueup. We said that that's something that
- 9 Qwest could ask for from the Commission at the time that
- 10 you would do so in a cost docket, but we have not --
- 11 there is nothing explicitly that says these rates will
- 12 be trued up or they will not be trued up.
- Q. Okay. And the reason I'm asking that is when
- 14 you use the word interim, that can have different
- 15 meanings, and if there is no trueup at some future date
- of the \$5 and \$30 rates that you're proposing, those
- 17 rates would really be permanent for the period that they
- 18 were in effect; isn't that right?
- 19 A. I mean I -- I don't really agree with that
- 20 characterization, because we use permanent rates in a
- 21 specific manner really to mean rates that have been
- 22 reviewed and approved by the Commission. Even permanent
- 23 rates aren't permanent because the Commission changes
- 24 them from time to time.
- Q. Well, put it this way, those are the rates

- 1 that would be in effect for the period that they exist
- 2 without any alteration?
- 3 A. And that -- I mean that's going to be true of
- 4 any interim rate that does not, where a trueup is not
- 5 ruled on, that interim rate and those interim rates are
- 6 the rates that you end up paying; is that what you're
- 7 asking me?
- 8 Q. Yeah, I think we're agreeing with each other.
- 9 A. Okay.
- 10 Q. Are you familiar with the cost models that
- 11 this Commission has relied upon to set the existing
- 12 rates for unbundled network elements?
- 13 A. Am I familiar with them?
- Q. Well, do you know which models this
- 15 Commission relied upon?
- 16 A. I'm thinking now I was involved -- I was
- 17 involved in the I think it was the 96069 docket if
- 18 that's the correct number, I was involved in the docket
- 19 after that, the 2003 docket. I mean I have looked at
- 20 all of those studies that are out there at one point or
- 21 another, so, you know, I have reviewed them, I was
- 22 probably involved in the compliance filings, I worked at
- 23 AT&T at that time, you know, every compliance filing
- 24 that went through, I, you know, I was involved with.
- 25 O. Okay.

- 1 A. So I'm familiar in that sense.
- 2 Q. I guess do you remember which cost model the
- 3 Commission relied upon to set rates for loops and
- 4 transport, for example?
- 5 A. Let's see, I believe for loops the Commission
- 6 did an average of cost models from I think it was
- 7 Hatfield 3.1 and BCPM and also the loop model that Qwest
- 8 -- whatever it was called at the time. There was a --
- 9 GTE was in the case too, but I don't think that involved
- 10 a Owest rate. And the only thing I'm not certain is if
- 11 that was the latter case or the prior case, but I know
- 12 the Commission certainly did that at one time.
- 13 Q. The reason I'm asking that question is you
- 14 refer in various places in your testimony to expense
- 15 factors and cost factors used to set recurring rates.
- 16 A. Okay.
- 17 Q. Am I correct that there's no evidence in this
- 18 record as to what's in the cost factors and expense
- 19 factors that this Commission used to set UNE rates for
- 20 loops and transport?
- 21 A. Is there no evidence in this record?
- 22 Q. Yes.
- 23 A. Well, I think I have put -- I mean I have put
- 24 the source for the factors that I used. I mean they're
- 25 certainly -- I mean they're sourced and cited from where

- 1 they came from in this record. The records that set
- 2 those cost case themselves, there's a whole phase of a
- 3 proceeding that took maybe a year to develop those
- 4 expense factors.
- 5 Q. Right, but the factors from the models this
- 6 Commission used to set UNE recurring rates aren't part
- 7 of this record, and there's not a description in this
- 8 record of what's in those factors; is that correct?
- 9 A. That would be part of the record that set
- 10 those factors.
- 11 Q. Okay.
- 12 And with respect to the HAI model, there's no
- 13 mention in that model in connection with factors or any
- 14 other costs or expenses of connection facility
- 15 assignments or CFAs; isn't that right?
- 16 A. Well, the place where we have to be careful
- 17 there, there's no explicit line item in any model that I
- 18 have ever seen filed including a Qwest design change
- 19 model that says anything about connecting facility
- 20 assignments. But these costs, when we go through the
- 21 cost studies when costs are incurred by Qwest, we kind
- 22 of create this lump sum bucket of expenses that are
- 23 going to apply to models via factors or via actual
- 24 dollar amounts. And we take that bucket and some things
- 25 we pull out and we make very explicit charges for, you

- 1 know, things like nonrecurring costs for installing the
- 2 loop that kind of get taken out of that bucket. The
- 3 rest of that bucket then is what's in those factors that
- 4 go to the model. And everything that's in that bucket
- 5 is all of the activities that Qwest is doing at the
- 6 time, you know, that it was doing on a regular basis at
- 7 the time those costs were established.
- 8 Q. So just to be clear then, and it's important
- 9 both for design change and for Issue 9-31, access to
- 10 UNEs, if a rate has been established for a nonrecurring
- 11 activity by this Commission, by definition that means
- 12 that the costs associated with that rate are not part of
- 13 the costs of a recurring UNE rate; would you agree with
- 14 that?
- 15 A. I mean the only part I would disagree kind of
- 16 is by definition. I would say certainly that is the
- 17 intent when those rates are set. I mean often parties
- 18 may dispute whether those were calculated right,
- 19 sometimes things are missed, but that is certainly the
- 20 intent that if you set up a separate non-recurring
- 21 charge for an activity then that is not also being
- 22 recovered in the recurring rates.
- Q. Thank you.
- 24 Changing the subject then to issue 9-53,
- 25 UCCRE, U-C-C-R-E, I just want to confirm what I think is

- 1 undisputed, and that is that Eschelon has never ordered
- 2 these UCCRE rearrangements from Qwest; is that correct?
- 3 A. That is correct.
- 4 Q. And I take it you're not aware of any CLEC
- 5 that has ever ordered UCCRE from Qwest; is that correct?
- 6 A. That's Qwest's testimony that no one has ever
- 7 ordered that, so I'm not aware of anything that
- 8 contradicts that.
- 9 Q. Okay. And one of Eschelon's proposals in
- 10 connection with this issue is that although no CLEC has
- 11 ever ordered UCCRE from Qwest, Qwest would have to go
- 12 through a proceeding before this Commission to obtain
- 13 approval to stop offering that product; isn't that
- 14 right?
- 15 A. Right, and I think what really the broader
- 16 concern that arose out of this issue is that Owest has
- 17 UCCRE out there available to other carriers, it's in
- 18 other carriers' contracts, and Qwest is attempting to
- 19 take that away from Eschelon. And so there is some
- 20 process that's set up out of that that lays out
- 21 proposals that one option by Qwest could do that is to
- 22 go through a process by which not just would apply to
- 23 UCCRE but would apply to other products which Qwest
- 24 would want to remove from the carrier's interconnection
- 25 agreements, and the key for us is to make sure that as

- 1 Qwest is offering these products to other CLECs, they
- 2 would also be available to Eschelon as well.
- 3 Q. Well, just to be clear about that,
- 4 Mr. Denney, isn't it true that Qwest made a decision to
- 5 stop offering UCCRE because no one was ordering it, and
- 6 for all CLECs who are entering into amendments or new
- 7 agreements Qwest is no longer providing that, but there
- 8 are some agreements still out there that have that
- 9 element in it, but when those agreements expire the
- 10 UCCRE service will no longer be available to those
- 11 CLECs?
- 12 A. Well, I mean first I don't -- I don't know
- 13 Qwest's -- what Qwest's agreements are with new
- 14 agreements with other CLECs. You know, I do know what
- 15 -- I have seen current agreements that are in place that
- 16 do have UCCRE in them. Owest hasn't as far as I know
- 17 gone to those carriers and said we would like to remove
- 18 this product from your interconnection agreement. Some
- 19 of these interconnection agreements may remain in place
- 20 for multiple years past their, you know, past the dates
- 21 they were originally set to expire, so a carrier could
- 22 have access to UCCRE. We may find that UCCRE would be
- 23 useful in a type of situation, you know, going forward
- 24 that you would like to have, and some set of carriers
- 25 out there would be able to exercise their right to that

- 1 service, and Eschelon wouldn't be able to because it was
- 2 out of our agreement, out of the agreement here.
- 3 Q. But from Qwest's perspective, do you
- 4 understand that there are costs associated with
- 5 maintaining a product that no one ever orders and that
- 6 if there is no demand that efficiency suggests one
- 7 should have the right to stop offering the product?
- 8 A. Well, first, I mean I can't imagine what
- 9 costs there are for the -- of maintaining that product
- 10 if no one is ordering. You have your documentation is
- 11 written, your systems are set up, there's -- I don't see
- 12 why Qwest would have to do anything if nobody continued
- 13 to order it.
- 14 And what was the second part of your
- 15 question?
- Q. Well, can you see why a carrier would have an
- 17 interest in ceasing to offer a product for which no one
- 18 has placed an order in five years?
- 19 A. And I do see that, and I think that's where
- 20 Eschelon came up with in part, you know, in the response
- 21 to the Department of Commerce in Minnesota with this
- 22 phased out proposal that gave Qwest the ability to
- 23 actually, you know, go to the commission and seek to
- 24 have a product like that to be removed. But just
- 25 because a product hasn't been used doesn't mean that

- 1 there's not carriers out there who, you know, who would
- 2 desire to use that product.
- 3 Q. Well, let's talk a little bit more
- 4 specifically about your phase-out proposal, and if you
- 5 would please refer to Exhibit 152, which is your
- 6 surrebuttal, and I will ask you to look at page 86.
- 7 A. Okay.
- 8 Q. On page 86 is Eschelon's proposal number 2,
- 9 which I think is your first proposal that has this
- 10 phase-out proposal in it; am I correct in understanding
- 11 that proposal number 1 doesn't have the phase-out
- 12 process in it?
- 13 A. Right, I think proposal number 1 said
- 14 something to the effect that if Qwest is offering it to
- 15 other carriers, then they would make it available to
- 16 Eschelon to amend the agreement to get this product, I
- 17 believe that was the first proposal.
- 18 Q. Is that still your first choice, your
- 19 proposal number 1?
- 20 A. I mean certainly we're -- I don't know if I
- 21 have always thought of the order of proposals. I guess
- 22 in some cases they are the desire of the choice. I
- 23 think that was certainly the first proposal that's out
- 24 there that we haven't removed. I haven't done a ranking
- 25 I guess in terms of desire. Certainly the phase-out

- 1 proposal would solve this type of issue that -- where
- 2 Qwest wants to, you know, remove something that's in
- 3 agreements, it would take care of this issue going
- 4 forward. The other proposal just deals with the very
- 5 specific issue of UCCRE so that, you know, there would
- 6 be -- we would have the same fight the next time the
- 7 issue arose.
- 8 Q. Okay. Looking at proposal number 2 on page
- 9 86, correct me if I'm wrong, and maybe I am, but as I
- 10 read the proposal, if the FCC has eliminated an ILEC's
- 11 obligation to provide an element or a service but hasn't
- 12 described a phase-out process in its order for that
- 13 element or service, Qwest would have to come before this
- 14 Commission to obtain approval to stop ordering the
- 15 service or element; am I correct?
- 16 A. I'm just reading through there, there are
- 17 three different phase-out proposals, and so I'm
- 18 freshening my memory. One I know came from -- was
- 19 language that was proposed by the Department of Commerce
- 20 in Minnesota.
- 21 So ask me your question again.
- Q. As I read proposal number 2, Eschelon is
- 23 suggesting that Qwest would have to come before this
- 24 Commission to obtain approval to stop offering a service
- 25 or element that the FCC has said ILECs no longer need

- 1 offer; am I correct?
- 2 A. I don't think that's correct. I mean what it
- 3 says is that the conditions by which you would not have
- 4 to go through phase-out proposal would be, one, if Qwest
- 5 promptly phased out the element, your service within a
- 6 three month time period when the FCC has ordered, or
- 7 two, you follow a phase-out process ordered by the FCC.
- 8 So if the FCC has eliminated that element, then this
- 9 would not apply in those situations.
- 10 Q. Okay, then maybe I misread it. So the
- 11 proposal is that Qwest would not have to come before
- 12 this Commission to obtain approval if the FCC has said
- 13 you no longer need to offer an element or service; is
- 14 that right?
- 15 A. I want to make sure we're not talking around
- 16 each other, but it's really -- I think it's the second
- 17 sentence in that proposal is what I'm looking at that
- 18 says:
- 19 Obtaining such an order will not be
- 20 necessary if Qwest, one, promptly phases
- 21 out the element, service, or
- 22 functionality from the agreements of all
- 23 CLECs in Washington within a three month
- time period when the FCC has ordered
- 25 that element, service, or functionality

- does not have to be ordered, or two,
- 2 follows a phase-out process ordered by
- 3 the FCC.
- 4 Q. Okay. If neither of those apply and Qwest
- 5 has to come before the Commission to obtain a phase-out
- 6 order, am I correct that Eschelon is not proposing any
- 7 criteria for the Commission to apply in determining
- 8 whether Qwest should be permitted to phase out a
- 9 product?
- 10 A. That's correct, I think the merits of the
- 11 argument for the particular proposal would be, you know,
- 12 what should be weighed by the Commission, so we don't
- 13 have a specific set of criteria here.
- Q. Okay. On the issue of comingled
- 15 arrangements, Issue 9-58, just to provide context would
- 16 you agree that this issue involves the processes that
- 17 Qwest would follow for ordering, provisioning, and
- 18 billing so-called comingled arrangements?
- 19 A. I mean, right, it deals -- it -- if I can
- 20 just say in my own words, I mean this issue deals with
- 21 the manner in which, you know, comingled arrangements,
- 22 which are UNE and non-UNE combinations, would be
- ordered, billed, provisioned, you know, repaired, yes.
- 24 Q. Okay.
- 25 A. So I think that's --

- 1 Q. And Eschelon is proposing several changes to
- 2 Qwest's current ordering, provisioning, and billing
- 3 processes for comingled arrangements; isn't that right?
- 4 A. Well, I mean I -- I disagree with that
- 5 because there is no -- I mean our view there is no
- 6 current process, this is a new -- this is a new product
- 7 that's out there. Qwest has never -- has never put
- 8 forth, you know, Qwest may have invented some internal
- 9 process, but it's never come to Eschelon and negotiated
- 10 or any other CLEC that I'm aware of and said here's the
- 11 way we would like to see these work, here's the way --
- 12 so there is no existing process. This is a new
- 13 combination, comingling.
- Q. Well, Qwest has been providing comingled
- 15 arrangements for several years now, hasn't it?
- 16 A. I believe Qwest just unilaterally implemented
- 17 the way that it felt it should be done, but I don't
- 18 agree that that's some kind of existing process. Qwest
- 19 dictated what was done in the past and refused to deal
- 20 with it then, and now you're telling me I'm stuck by
- 21 what you've done there, so I disagree.
- Q. Well, you can characterize it how you would
- 23 like, but the fact is that for several years Qwest has
- 24 been provisioning comingled arrangements to CLECs in
- 25 Washington and throughout its territory pursuant to

- 1 ordering, billing, and provisioning processes that Owest
- 2 has followed to carry that out; isn't that right?
- 3 A. I would say Qwest -- I would say it as Qwest
- 4 unilaterally implemented a process without any CLEC
- 5 review or input in order of how these things would be
- 6 ordered and billed and did not deal with it at the time
- 7 either through CMP or non-CMP processes.
- 8 Q. Let's take a look at Exhibit 130, your direct
- 9 testimony, please. At page 146, line 10, actually
- 10 beginning at line 8, the question is:
- 11 Will Eschelon's proposal cause Qwest to
- incur significant costs?
- 13 And you answer:
- No, Eschelon is not asking Qwest to
- modify systems and incur costs.
- 16 So what I want to ask you in connection with
- 17 that statement is, if any of Eschelon's proposals would
- 18 actually require Qwest to change its systems, its
- 19 operation support systems, and incur costs in doing so,
- 20 are you saying that that's something Qwest would not be
- 21 required to do under your proposal?
- 22 A. So your question is under our proposal, would
- 23 our --
- Q. Well -- I'm sorry, go ahead.
- 25 A. So you're asking if under our proposal would

- 1 Qwest have to modify its systems?
- Q. No, let me state it another way.
- 3 You have proposals here, and I will summarize
- 4 them. One is that orders for comingled arrangements
- 5 instead of being submitted on a local service request
- 6 for the UNE piece and an ASR for the tariff piece be
- 7 submitted on one order. You also have a proposal that
- 8 for comingled EELs there would be one bill instead of
- 9 two, one for the UNE piece and one for the tariff piece.
- 10 You also have a proposal instead of two circuit IDs, one
- 11 for the UNE piece and one for the tariff piece, Qwest
- 12 start using one circuit ID. My question for you is,
- 13 given this statement that Eschelon is not asking Qwest
- 14 to modify systems and incur cost, would you agree with
- 15 me that Qwest shouldn't be required to do any of the
- 16 things I just named if they require system changes and
- 17 costs?
- 18 A. No, I wouldn't agree with that, and I -- in
- 19 the context of this negotiation, this issue is what's
- 20 important. When we started these discussions after the
- 21 TRO came out, we tried to have conversations with Qwest
- 22 on how --
- Q. Mr. Denney, I'm going to ask you to limit
- 24 your answer to my question.
- 25 A. This is answering your question, because to

- 1 say no needs to be put in the proper context. It says
- 2 that when these issues were negotiated, I mean when
- 3 these were set out, there was nothing that exists from
- 4 Qwest. Qwest on the side went ahead and implemented
- 5 something knowing full well that there was disagreement
- 6 as to how that should be implemented. So to say that
- 7 Eschelon should have to pay for Qwest to fix something
- 8 that it probably shouldn't have done in the first place
- 9 is why I'm answering no to that question.
- 10 O. Okay, so you're not disagreeing that the
- 11 changes that you're proposing that I just summarized
- 12 would cause Qwest to have to modify its systems and
- 13 processes and incur costs, correct?
- 14 A. Well, I don't know that that's the case
- 15 either way. You asked me if Qwest did have to do these
- 16 things, what was my answer.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 A. It's not clear to me that Qwest would have to
- 19 do that. You currently, you know, you currently bill
- 20 EELs on a single bill, you currently place a single
- 21 order for EELs. Comingled arrangements are just EELs
- 22 with one component priced, you know, as a non-UNE and
- 23 another comprised as a UNE.
- Q. The comingled EELs also involve a tariff
- 25 component that's provisioned out of different

- 1 inventories and through different ordering processes
- 2 than UNEs; isn't that right?
- 3 A. They involve tariffed components, that's
- 4 correct.
- 5 Q. Okay. And have you analyzed from an OSS
- 6 perspective what Qwest would have to do to begin
- 7 accepting orders for comingled EELs through one order,
- 8 provision them through one inventory system, and use one
- 9 circuit ID for them, have you analyzed if any changes
- 10 would be required, and if so, what costs would be
- 11 incurred?
- 12 A. I have not done that analysis because Qwest
- 13 does these things today for EELs, and this is a -- it's
- 14 a change in a rate of one of the components.
- 15 Q. Okay. And so where you're falling back is
- 16 that there's no distinction between an EEL and a
- 17 comingled EEL?
- 18 A. They're the same facility.
- 19 Q. And I do think you would agree with me that
- 20 under The Act, Qwest has a right to recover costs it
- 21 incurs to provide access to UNEs and interconnection
- 22 services; is that correct?
- 23 A. Yes, that's correct, and I think Mr. Starkey
- 24 referred to 5.1.6 of our, you know, of our contract that
- 25 talks about the process by which Qwest could go out and

- 1 seek recovery of reasonable costs, so that's agreed-to
- 2 language in the contract.
- 3 Q. And my question for you in connection with
- 4 this particular issue is if this Commission were to
- 5 require Qwest to make the changes that you have asked
- 6 for, that is one order, one circuit ID, one bill, would
- 7 Eschelon agree to language in which it says it will
- 8 compensate Qwest for the reasonable costs incurred to
- 9 make those changes?
- 10 A. I would not agree here today to separate
- 11 language that says that. There's already set out
- 12 through the agreement methods by which Qwest can go to
- 13 seek recovery of reasonable costs. We already know
- 14 there's some disagreement over what is reasonable in
- 15 that, so I wouldn't put in some explicit language here
- 16 that made someone to think that we meant something
- 17 special for this part of the contract than we mean for
- 18 the rest of the contract. Qwest has its right under the
- 19 contract to recover reasonably incurred costs, and
- 20 that's the provision by which Qwest could seek recovery
- 21 of those costs.
- Q. I don't want to beat this into the ground,
- 23 but there's one fine distinction, you said that the
- 24 agreed language allows Owest to seek to recover its
- 25 costs, and I'm asking a different question, and that is,

- 1 if this Commission adopts the very costly proposals that
- 2 Eschelon has made here, will Eschelon agree not to just
- 3 allow Qwest to seek its costs but to agree to reimburse
- 4 for some reasonable costs?
- 5 A. You're throwing two things, you're talking
- 6 about significant cost and reasonable cost as though
- 7 they're the same thing, and we already know that there's
- 8 a disagreement there. All of the rates that are, you
- 9 know, in Exhibit A Qwest is supposed to seek approval to
- 10 the Commission to charge those rates to Eschelon or
- 11 there's some negotiation that would take place for those
- 12 rates, so I don't see it as being a distinction that
- 13 Qwest would need to get Commission approval before it
- 14 could charge rates.
- 15 Q. Last question on this, is it your position or
- 16 Eschelon's position that Qwest should be required to
- 17 make all of these changes without recovering any costs
- 18 from Eschelon?
- 19 A. That is not our position.
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 Last issue I would like to discuss with you
- 22 is Issue 9-51, unbundled dark fiber, and I think that
- 23 this issue was fairly well defined this morning, and as
- 24 I understand it, and see if you agree, the issue
- 25 involves whether the Commission approved rate for dark

- 1 fiber terminations is for just one termination or it
- 2 includes the costs of multiple terminations; is that a
- 3 fair description?
- 4 A. I think that's the outcome of the discussion,
- 5 but the discussion is really about the terms in the
- 6 contract regarding the description of the rate
- 7 application. It's not really about the cost study
- 8 itself, but it's about how is that described in the
- 9 contract.
- 10 O. And I --
- 11 A. I understand the link, there's a link between
- 12 the two of those things, one depends on the other.
- 13 Q. I know from our discussions in other states
- 14 that you recognize with unbundled dark fiber Qwest may
- 15 be required to perform multiple terminations, correct?
- 16 A. That's correct.
- 17 Q. And I think you also recognize and Eschelon
- 18 recognizes that Qwest should be compensated for each
- 19 termination reasonably required for unbundled dark
- 20 fiber; is that correct?
- 21 A. I agree with that. And just to make clear
- 22 that it's how that rate element recovers that is the
- 23 question. So whether or not Qwest is compensated is a
- 24 different question as to whether Owest should be
- 25 compensated.

- 1 Q. Okay, and that goes to the rate the
- 2 Commission ordered, correct, and whether it's sort of an
- 3 average multiple terminations or whether it just
- 4 reflects one termination?
- 5 A. That's correct, and if we could just look in
- 6 that cost study, then we would be able to make that
- 7 determination.
- 8 Q. And I'm glad you said that, because if we
- 9 give you that cost study and you see that this study is
- 10 just for a single termination, I take it from your
- 11 testimony you would agree to resolve this issue?
- 12 A. That's been our position for over a year now
- 13 in negotiations, and going forward if we could verify
- 14 through the cost study the way this was supposed to
- 15 apply that we could close this issue.
- 16 Q. I'm happy to tell you that we're going to
- 17 accommodate that request.
- 18 MR. DEVANEY: That's all I have, thank you.
- 19 JUDGE CLARK: Redirect, Mr. Merz?
- 20 MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 21
- 22 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 23 BY MR. MERZ:
- Q. Mr. Denney, Mr. Devaney had some questions
- 25 for you about the rates that, the interim rates that

- 1 Eschelon had proposed for design changes for loops and
- 2 CFA; do you recall that questioning?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And he asked you what -- whether there was a
- 5 cost study supporting those proposed rates, what are the
- 6 rates that Eschelon has proposed based on?
- 7 A. Well, the rates are -- I mean the rates are
- 8 based on a review of the types of activities that would
- 9 be involved, that there's differences in the costs
- 10 between performing design changes for transport and
- 11 versus those doing it for loops, the fact that the
- 12 current studies were really designed around transport
- 13 and ASR studies, you know, we looked at. Because we
- 14 know a design change is a change to the installation
- 15 process, you can use as a benchmark the cost of
- 16 installation to the cost of design change, so you
- 17 wouldn't expect the design change for loop costs to be
- 18 greater than the installation costs.
- 19 For CFA changes, those costs are really based
- 20 on there's a -- what happens during a CFA is you're
- 21 getting ready to turn up the circuit, our proposal is
- 22 really limited to a coordinated installation situation,
- 23 Qwest and the CLEC are often on the phone during that
- 24 time, they go to plug it in and something happens during
- 25 the coordination, there's no dial tone, and it's

- 1 determined that perhaps it's a bad CFA, you don't always
- 2 know that, so you assign a different CFA. Qwest calls
- 3 in, types in the new CFA, makes sure it's available,
- 4 plugs the -- kind of plugs these wires back into the
- 5 different slots of the new CFA to take the -- it takes a
- 6 few minutes to do this, they update the records when
- 7 everything works. So the CFA change is a -- it's a
- 8 small charge, it happens in a limited -- it's limited,
- 9 our language, the situation of coordinated cutovers for
- 10 two or four wire loops, nothing complex, on the day of
- 11 cut.
- 12 Q. I want to change issues now and talk for just
- 13 a moment about UCCRE, and you had some questions about
- 14 who had ordered UCCRE in the past. Do you know whether
- 15 Qwest's TRO TRRO amendment removed UCCRE from the
- 16 contracts of the CLECs that signed that amendment?
- 17 A. Right, I mean I read the TRO amendment, in
- 18 the very beginning of that amendment it lists out the
- 19 things that are being removed from people's contracts,
- 20 UCCRE is not on that list of any TRRO TRO amendment that
- 21 I have reviewed.
- Q. Where did you review that document?
- 23 A. Well, they have -- Qwest has had different
- 24 versions of it available on their website. I have also
- 25 seen numerous other CLECs that -- the TRRO TRO

- 1 amendments that they have signed, we have reviewed some
- 2 of these as part of the wire center dockets, and so
- 3 these have not -- I have seen numerous CLECs' versions
- 4 of this, and it was not removed through that agreement.
- 5 Recently I was looking in Oregon, Qwest has a contract
- 6 with Qwest, its own CLEC affiliate, I looked through
- 7 that contract when the Qwest, I forget which one is
- 8 Qwest Corporation and which one is Qwest Incorporated,
- 9 but Qwest the CLEC signed a TRO amendment for its
- 10 agreement, it did not remove UCCRE in that TRO
- 11 amendment.
- 12 Q. Shifting gears again to comingled
- 13 arrangements, Mr. Devaney had asked you some questions
- 14 about Eschelon's proposal relating to a single circuit
- 15 ID, a single order, single bill for comingled
- 16 arrangements; do you recall that?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Does Eschelon have an alternative proposal to
- 19 the single circuit ID, single order, single bill
- 20 proposal?
- 21 A. Right, Eschelon does have an alternative
- 22 proposal which is kind of a meager proposal and, you
- 23 know, in the alternate says if you can't do this on a
- 24 single bill, provide the information really or allow the
- 25 process so we can at least relate the two separate bills

- 1 so we know that the two separates bills are separate
- 2 pieces of the circuit we're getting actually belong
- 3 together.
- 4 Q. Why is that important?
- 5 A. Well, I mean for bill verification for --
- 6 this is a circuit that's really an end to end -- I mean
- 7 it's a circuit that goes from a CLEC customer back to an
- 8 Eschelon, you know, an Eschelon collocation, so knowing
- 9 that you have -- being able to track that whole circuit
- 10 through for billing purposes is important in terms of if
- 11 that customer disconnected and you didn't know the
- 12 transport piece was related to the loop piece, what
- 13 happens sometimes you end up with these transport
- 14 circuits that you're still being billed for but you're
- 15 never -- you're potentially never using, so it just
- 16 makes bill verification a nightmare when you can't sync
- 17 up what the customer is actually using.
- 18 Another alternative proposal that we have
- 19 there is for repairs, it just says, you know, for repair
- 20 if you're not going to do a single circuit ID, can you
- 21 allow us so that when we call in a repair on the circuit
- 22 you repair the whole circuit from the customer -- you
- 23 look at the whole circuit from the customer location to
- 24 the CLEC collocation, look at that entire circuit at a
- 25 time to determine where the error is. Under Qwest's

- 1 process, they have you looking at one portion of the
- 2 circuit first and then another portion of the circuit
- 3 second, that delays the repairs, and really just getting
- 4 that -- I mean getting that customer repaired is a top
- 5 priority in that type of situation, so those are two
- 6 alternatives that are -- it would seem that it should be
- 7 fairly easy for Qwest to implement and, you know, go
- 8 forward as to those alternative proposals to the first
- 9 proposal that we have.
- 10 MR. MERZ: I don't have anything further,
- 11 thank you, Mr. Denney.
- 12 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you.
- 13 Thank you, Mr. Denney.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 15 JUDGE CLARK: All right, anything further to
- 16 be considered on this afternoon's docket?
- 17 MR. MERZ: That is Eschelon's last witness,
- 18 so that concludes our case.
- JUDGE CLARK: Mr. Topp.
- 20 MR. TOPP: Yeah, if I could clarify on one
- 21 issue, we have a briefing deadline is my understanding
- 22 from talking to Ms. Anderl that under Washington rules
- 23 there's a page limit for briefing of 60 pages.
- JUDGE CLARK: Yes.
- 25 MR. TOPP: And just wanted to confirm that

- 1 that's going to apply in this case, not seeking an
- 2 exception.
- JUDGE CLARK: Yes, it will apply.
- 4 Anything further that should be considered
- 5 this afternoon?
- 6 MR. DEVANEY: Not for Qwest.
- 7 MR. MERZ: On the issue of the page limits,
- 8 Your Honor, we're only filing one brief, we're not
- 9 filing any rebuttal round, and I'm wondering if you
- 10 would consider an extension of that page limit.
- JUDGE CLARK: Well, not very likely honestly.
- 12 Without meaning anything negative, there is a
- 13 significant amount of paper already submitted in this
- 14 docket that I think very adequately describes each
- 15 party's position in this particular arbitration hearing,
- 16 and I don't think it's necessary unless there's some,
- 17 you know, reason that you can put forth why it's
- 18 absolutely necessary to extend the briefing page limit.
- 19 If you can come up with that, with a motion, then file
- 20 it with the Commission, I will certainly consider that,
- 21 but the record does seem to be very adequate at this
- 22 juncture on all the issues.
- MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 24 JUDGE CLARK: With the exception of the
- 25 testimony that has yet to be filed, of course.

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       MR. MERZ: With that, we don't have anything
2 further.
              JUDGE CLARK: All right, if there is nothing
   further, we are adjourned.
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              (Hearing adjourned at 3:40 p.m.)
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