BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of Review of Unbundled Loop and Switching Rates and Review of the Deaveraged Zone Rate Structure DOCKET NO. UT-023003

COMMISSION STAFF'S MOTION TO EXTEND THE SCHEDULE FOR FILING TESTIMONY

The Commission Staff (Staff) moves the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) for an order extending the schedule for filing the final two rounds of testimony in this matter.

On July 17, 2003, the Administrative Law Judge issued an order in this docket revising the procedural schedule. *In the Matter of the Review of Unbundled Loop and Switching Rates; the Deaveraged Zone Rate Structure; and Unbundled Network Elements, Transport, and Termination*, Docket No. UT-023003, Eleventh Supplemental Order (July 17, 2003). The order resulted from a prehearing conference during which the parties discussed continuing the procedural schedule for the nonrecurring costs portion of this case. *Id.* ¶ 5. Moving the nonrecurring cost schedule left the January 2004 hearing dates that were previously reserved for hearing on the nonrecurring costs issues open.

The Administrative Law judge moved the hearing dates for the recurring cost issues from the December 2003 dates to the January 2004 dates. Id . \P 6. The order further states that a "procedural schedule for the recurring and nonrecurring costs

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portions of the proceeding will be established by separate notice." *Id.* The effect of the

order was to extend the hearing dates by about one month.

The Commission Staff requests that the dates for filing the final two rounds of

testimony in this docket also be extended by one month. Therefore, the Staff requests

that response testimony be due on October 3, 2003, and the rebuttal testimony due on

November 14, 2003. Under the present schedule, responsive testimony is due on

September 4, 2003, and rebuttal testimony is due on October 16, 2003. The Commission

Staff's request makes sense in light of the change in hearing dates, and will give parties

sufficient time to prepare conduct discovery on the future rounds of testimony, prepare

their testimony, and prepare for hearing.

Staff contacted the parties prior to making this request. MCI, AT&T, XO, and

Qwest affirmative stated they had no objection to Staff's proposal. Verizon stated it had

no objection to an extension of time, but proposed alternate dates for filing testimony.

No other party responded to Staff's inquiry.

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Dated: July 29, 2003.

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