

**Qwest**

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September 12, 2005

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

RE: Billing Dispute Settlement Agreement between United Communications,  
Inc. d/b/a UNICOM and Qwest Corporation

Dear Ms. Washburn:

On August 26, 2005, Qwest filed with the Commission an amendment to the interconnection agreement with United Communications, Inc. d/b/a UNICOM (“UNICOM”) for review and approval under Section 252(a) and (e) of the Telecommunications Act.

I have enclosed unredacted and redacted versions of another agreement between Qwest and UNICOM that the parties negotiated contemporaneously with the filed amendment to the interconnection agreement. The enclosed agreement is not an “interconnection agreement” or “interconnection amendment” under Section 252(a) and (e) of the Telecommunications Act, because it does not create any on-going obligations pertaining to services provided under Sections 251(b) or (c) of the Telecommunications Act.<sup>1</sup> Thus, Qwest has not filed the enclosed agreement for review and approval by the Commission pursuant to Section 252(e).

Qwest encloses this agreement for informational purposes and to present the context in which the Section 251 agreement arose. Qwest is providing this information in the spirit of cooperation with state commissions relating to the Section 252 filing requirement.

We emphasize our review and analysis of the enclosed agreement results in the conclusion that it is not an interconnection agreement or amendment within the Section 252 filing requirement. The enclosed agreement has no legal connection to the

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<sup>1</sup> See *In the Matter of Qwest Communications International Inc. Petition for Declaratory Ruling on the Scope of the Duty to File and Obtain Prior Approval of Negotiated Contractual Arrangements under Section 252(a)(1)*, WC Docket No. 02-89 (Rel. October 4, 2002), ¶¶ 8-14.

Ms. Carole Washburn

September 12, 2005

Page 2

amendment to the UNICOM interconnection agreement. The filed amendment to the interconnection agreement stands on its own independent of the enclosed agreement, and parties will be able to opt into the interconnection amendment without reference to the terms of the enclosed contract.

Because the enclosed agreement contains information that the parties consider proprietary in nature, such as settlement amounts, please treat this agreement and its contents as confidential information pursuant to WAC 480-07-160.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions or concerns about the attached agreement. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Adam L. Sherr

ALS/mep