July 11, 2005

Via UPS Overnight Delivery

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

Re: In the Matter of the Joint Application of Verizon Communications Inc., and MCI, Inc. For Approval of Agreement and Plan of Merger; Docket No. UT-050814

Dear Ms. Washburn:

Enclosed for filing are the original and 12 copies of Covad's Answer to Verizon's motion to modify the protective order in the above named docket.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

Gregory T. Diamond

Encls.

cc: Service list (w/encls.)