

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Request of)	DOCKET NO. UT-043052
)	
)	ORDER NO. 01
VERIZON WIRELESS)	
)	
and)	
)	
CENTURYTEL OF WASHINGTON,)	
INC.; CENTURYTEL OF INTER)	
ISLAND, INC.; and CENTURYTEL OF)	
COWICHE, INC.)	
)	
)	ORDER APPROVING
For Approval of Negotiated)	NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT
Agreement Under the)	FOR WIRELESS
Telecommunications Act of 1996)	INTERCONNECTION
.....)	

BACKGROUND

1 This matter comes before the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) for approval of a negotiated wireless interconnection agreement (Agreement) under the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Telecom Act). The Agreement is between Verizon Wireless LLC (VAW) and CenturyTel of Washington, Inc., CenturyTel of Inter Island, Inc., and CenturyTel of Cowiche, Inc., (collectively CenturyTel). The parties filed a joint request for approval of the Agreement on June 16, 2004.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

2 (1) The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate public service companies, including

telecommunications companies. *RCW 80.01.040; Chapter 80.04 RCW and Chapter 80.36 RCW.*

- 3 (2) Section 252(e)(1) of the Telecom Act requires parties to a negotiated
 agreement to submit the agreement to the Commission for approval.
 Section 252(e)(2)(A) states that the Commission may only reject an
 agreement (or any portion thereof) adopted by negotiation if it finds that:
- 4 (i) the agreement (or any portion thereof) discriminates against a
 telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement; or
- 5 (ii) the implementation of such agreement or portion is not consistent
 with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.
- 6 (3) CenturyTel is engaged in the business of furnishing telecommunications
 services, including but not limited to, basic local exchange service within
 the state of Washington.
- 7 (4) VAW is licensed by the Federal Communications Commission as a
 commercial mobile radio service provider.
- 8 (5) On June 16, 2004, the parties filed with the Commission a joint request for
 approval of a negotiated wireless interconnection agreement, pursuant to
 the Telecom Act.
- 9 (6) The Agreement between VAW and CenturyTel was brought before the
 Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on September 8, 2004.
- 10 (7) The Agreement does not discriminate against any other
 telecommunications carrier.

- 11 (8) The Agreement will facilitate local exchange competition in the state of Washington.
- 12 (9) The Agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.
- 13 (10) The Agreement meets the requirements of Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecom Act, including Section 252(e).
- 14 (11) The laws and regulations of the State of Washington and Commission Orders govern the construction and interpretation of the Agreement. The Agreement is subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 15 (12) After examination of the proposed Agreement filed by CenturyTel and VAW on June 16, 2004, and giving consideration to all relevant matters, the Commission finds the proposed Agreement should be approved.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 16 (1) The Agreement for wireless network interconnection between Verizon Wireless LLC, and CenturyTel of Washington, Inc., CenturyTel of Inter Island, Inc., and CenturyTel of Cowiche, Inc., which the parties filed on June 16, 2004, is approved and effective as of the date of this Order.
- 17 (2) In the event that the parties revise, modify, or amend the agreement approved in this Order, the revised, modified, or amended agreement will be deemed to be a new agreement under the Telecom Act and must be

submitted to the Commission for approval, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(1) and relevant provisions of state law, prior to taking effect.

18 (3) The laws and regulations of the State of Washington and Commission Orders govern the construction and interpretation of the Agreement. The Agreement is subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.

19 The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 8th day of September, 2004.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary