

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

In the Matter of the Request of)	DOCKET NO. UT-043106
)	
Quality Telephone, Inc.)	ORDER NO. 01
)	
and)	
)	
Verizon Northwest, Inc.)	
)	ORDER APPROVING
For Approval of Negotiated)	NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT
Agreement Under the)	FOR INTERCONNECTION OF
Telecommunications Act of 1996)	SERVICES
.....)	

BACKGROUND

1 This matter comes before the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) for approval of a negotiated agreement for interconnection of specified exchange services (Agreement) under the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Telecom Act). The Agreement is between Quality Telephone, Inc. (Quality), and Verizon Northwest, Inc. (Verizon). The parties filed a joint request for approval of the Agreement on November 2, 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) 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 (4) Verizon is engaged in the business of furnishing telecommunications
services including, but not limited to, basic local exchange service within
the state of Washington.
- 7 (5) Quality is authorized to provide telecommunications services to the public
in the state of Washington.
- 8 (6) On November 2, 2004, the parties filed with the Commission a joint
request for approval of a negotiated interconnection, pursuant to the
Telecom Act.
- 9 (7) Quality and Verizon voluntarily negotiated the entire Agreement.
- 10 (8) The Agreement between Quality and Verizon was brought before the
Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on December 29, 2004.
- 11 (9) The Agreement does not discriminate against any other
telecommunications carrier.
- 12 (10) The Agreement will facilitate local exchange competition in the state of
Washington.
- 13 (11) The Agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and
necessity.

- 14 (12) The Agreement meets the requirements of Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecom Act, including Section 252(e).
- 15 (13) 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.
- 16 (14) After examination of the proposed Agreement filed by Verizon and Quality on November 2, 2004, and giving consideration to all relevant matters, the Commission finds the proposed Agreement should be approved.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 17 (1) The Agreement for interconnection of services between Quality Telephone, Inc. and Verizon Northwest, Inc., which the parties filed on November 2, 2004, is approved and effective.
- 18 (2) In the event that the parties revise, modify, or amend the agreement approved herein, 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.
- 19 (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.

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 29th day of December, 2004.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary