

7.2.2.8 LIS Forecasting

7.2.2.8.1 Both CLEC and Qwest shall work in good faith to define a mutually agreed upon forecast of LIS trunking.

7.2.2.8.2 Both Parties shall have the obligation to participate in joint planning meetings at ~~quarterly~~ semi-annual intervals to establish trunk design and provisioning requirements. The Parties agree to provide mutual trunk forecast information to ensure end user call completion between the Parties' networks. Such forecasts shall be for LIS trunking which impacts the switch capacity and facilities of each Party.

7.2.2.8.3 Switch capacity growth requiring the addition of new switching modules may require six months to order and install. To align with the timeframe needed to provide for the requested facilities, including engineering, ordering, installation and make ready activities, ~~the Parties will utilize Qwest standard forecast timelines, as defined in the standard Qwest LIS Trunk Forecast Forms for growth planning. For capacity growth, Qwest will utilize CLEC forecasts to ensure availability of switch capacity.~~

7.2.2.8.4 ~~Each Party will utilize the Forecast cycle outlined on the Qwest LIS Trunk Forecast Forms, which stipulates that forecasts be submitted on a quarterly basis.~~ The forecast will identify trunking requirements for a two (2) year period. From the ~~quarterly~~ semi-annual close date as outlined in the forecast cycle, the receiving Party will have one month to determine network needs and place vendor orders which may require a six (6) month interval to complete the network build. Seven (7) months after submission of the forecast, Qwest will have the necessary capacity in place to meet orders against the forecast. For ordering information see Section 7.4. See also Section 7.2.2.8.6.

7.2.2.8.5 Both Parties will follow the forecasting and provisioning requirements of this Agreement for the appropriate sizing of trunks, and use of direct end office vs. tandem routing. See Section 7.2.2.1.3.

7.2.2.8.6 LIS Forecasting Deposits: In the event of a dispute regarding forecast quantities, where in each of the preceding 18 months, trunks-required is less than fifty percent (50%) of ~~forecast~~ trunks in service, Qwest will make capacity available in accordance with the lower forecast..

7.2.2.8.6.1 In the event of a dispute regarding forecast quantities, where in each of the preceding 18 months, trunks-required is less than fifty percent (50%) of ~~service~~ trunks in service forecast each month, Qwest will make capacity available in accordance with the higher forecast if CLEC provides Qwest with a deposit according to the following terms. As to the difference between the lower and higher forecast, Qwest reserves the right to require, prior to construction, a refundable deposit of up to one

hundred percent (100%) of the estimated cost to provision the new trunks, if CLEC's trunk utilization over the prior eighteen (18) months is less than fifty percent (50%) of trunks in service forecast each month. Qwest will return the deposit if CLEC's state-wide average trunks in service trunk forecast to trunk usage (utilization) ratio exceeds fifty percent (50%) within six (6) months of the forecasting period to which the deposit applies. If CLEC does not achieve the fifty percent (50%) utilization within six (6) months, Qwest will retain a pro-rata portion of the deposit to cover its capital cost of provisioning. The pro-rata shall assume a full refund when the average utilization ratio meets or exceeds fifty percent (50%) for the six (6) months following receipt of deposit. The pro-rata assumes half of the deposit is refunded when the average utilization ratio for the six months after receipt of deposit is twenty five percent (25%). In the event Qwest does not have available facilities to provision Interconnection trunking orders that CLEC forecasted and for which CLEC provided a deposit, Qwest will immediately refund a pro rata portion of the deposit associated with its facility shortfall. Ancillary trunk groups, such as mass calling, are excluded from the ratio.

7.2.2.8.6.2 Where there is a reasonably reliable basis for doing so, Qwest shall include in the trunks-required calculation any usage by others, including but not limited to Qwest itself, of facilities for which that CLEC has made deposit payments. Qwest shall not be required to credit such usage more than once in all the trunks-required calculations it must make for all CLECs in the relevant period.¹

7.2.2.8.7 Joint planning meetings will be used to bring clarity to the process. Each Party will provide adequate information associated with the Qwest LIS Trunk Forecast Forms in addition to its forecasts. During the joint planning meetings, both Parties shall provide information on major network projects anticipated for the following year that may impact the other Party's forecast or Interconnection requirements. No later than two weeks prior to the joint planning meetings, the Parties shall exchange information to facilitate the planning process. Qwest shall provide CLEC a report reflecting then current spare capacity at each Qwest switch that may impact the Interconnection traffic. Qwest shall also provide a report reflecting then current blocking of local direct and alternate final trunk groups, Interconnection and non-Interconnection alike. CLEC will be provided Interconnection trunk group data on its own trunks. The information is proprietary, provided under non-disclosure and is to be used solely for Interconnection network planning.

7.2.2.8.8 In addition to the above information, CLEC shall provide:

- a) Completed Qwest LIS Trunk Forecast Forms; and

¹ Seven State Action, Second Report, Workshop One at 45.

- b) Any planned use of an alternate tandem provider.

7.2.2.8.9 In addition to the above information, the following information will be available through the Local Exchange Routing Guide or the Interconnections (ICONN) Database. The LERG is available through Telcordia. ICONN is available through the Qwest Web site.

- a) Qwest Tandems and Qwest end offices (LERG);
- b) CLLI codes (LERG);
- c) Business/Residence line counts (ICONN);
- d) Switch type (LERG or ICONN); and
- e) Current and planned switch generics (ICONN).

Qwest will notify a CLEC six (6) months prior to LERG amendment, the anticipation of a new local tandem switch.

7.2.2.8.10 Qwest Network Disclosure of deployment information for specific technical capabilities (e.g., ISDN deployment, 64 CCC, etc.) shall be provided on Qwest's web site, <http://www.uswest.com/disclosures>.

7.2.2.8.11 When appropriate, Qwest will notify CLEC through the Qwest Trunk Group Servicing Request (TGSR) process of the need to take action and place orders in accordance with the forecasted trunk requirements. CLEC shall respond to the TGSR within ten (10) business days of receipt.

7.2.2.8.12 The following terms shall apply to the forecasting process:

7.2.2.8.12.1 CLEC forecasts ~~shall~~ may be provided to Qwest ~~as detailed in the standard on the Qwest~~ Trunk Forecast Form.

7.2.2.8.12.2 CLEC forecasts provided to Qwest and forecasting information disclosed by Qwest to CLEC shall be deemed Confidential Information and the Parties may not distribute, disclose or reveal, in any form, this material other than as allowed and described in subsections 7.2.2.8.12.3 and 7.2.2.8.12.4.

7.2.2.8.12.3 The Parties may disclose, on a need to know basis only, CLEC forecasts and forecasting information disclosed by Qwest, to legal personnel, if a legal issue arises, as well as to network and growth planning personnel responsible for preparing or responding to such forecasts or forecasting information. In no case shall the aforementioned personnel who have access to such Confidential Information be involved in the Parties' retail marketing, sales or strategic planning. The Parties will inform all of the aforementioned personnel, with access to such Confidential Information, of its confidential nature and will require personnel to

execute a nondisclosure agreement which states that, upon threat of termination, the aforementioned personnel may not reveal or discuss such information with those not authorized to receive it except as specifically authorized by law.

7.2.2.8.12.4 The Parties shall maintain confidential forecasting information in secure files and locations such that access to the forecasts is limited to the personnel designated in subsection 7.2.2.8.12.3 above and such that no other personnel have computer access to such information.

7.2.2.8.13 If a trunk group is consistently utilized (trunks required over trunks in service) at less than fifty percent (50%) of rated busy hour capacity each month of any consecutive three (3) month period, Qwest will notify CLEC of Qwest's desire to resize the trunk group. Such notification shall include Qwest's information on current utilization levels. If CLEC does not submit an ASR to resize the trunk group within thirty (30) calendar days of the written notification, Qwest may reclaim the unused facilities and rearrange the trunk group. When reclamation does occur, Qwest shall not leave the trunk group with less than twenty five percent (25%) excess capacity. Ancillary trunk groups are excluded from this treatment.

7.2.2.8.14 Intentionally Left Blank

7.2.2.8.15 Each Party shall provide a specified point of contact for planning, forecasting and trunk servicing purposes.

7.2.2.8.16 Interconnection facilities provided on a route that involves extraordinary circumstances may be subject to the Construction Charges, as detailed in Section 19 of this Agreement. When Qwest claims extraordinary circumstances exist, it must apply to the Commission for approval of such charges by showing that CLEC alone is the sole cause of such construction. Qwest shall initiate such proceeding within ten (10) calendar days of notifying CLEC in writing that it will not construct the requested facilities, or within ten (10) calendar days of notice from CLEC in writing that Qwest must either commence construction of the facilities or initiate such proceeding with the Commission. In this proceeding, Qwest shall not object to using the most expeditious procedure available under state law, rule or regulation. Qwest shall be relieved of its obligation of constructing such facilities during the pendency of the proceeding before the Commission. If the Commission approves such charges, Qwest and CLEC will share costs in proportion to each Party's use of the overall capacity of the route involved. Qwest and CLEC may also choose to work in good faith to identify and locate alternative routes that can be used to accommodate CLEC forecasted build. Extraordinary circumstances include, but are not limited to, natural obstructions such as lakes, rivers, or steep terrain, and legal obstructions such as governmental, federal, Native American or private rights of way. The standard Qwest forecast period of six (6) months may not apply under

these circumstances. Construction Charges shall not apply in the event that construction is an augment of an existing route.