

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

NORTHWEST TELEPHONE, INC.,

Complainant,

v.

QWEST CORPORATION,

Respondent.

Docket No. UT-053081


**NARRATIVE SUPPORTING
SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

- 1 Pursuant to WAC 480-07-740(2), this Narrative Supporting Settlement Agreement (“Narrative”) summarizes the confidential Settlement Agreement that is being filed concurrently with this Narrative. It is not intended to modify any terms of the Settlement Agreement.
- 2 This docket concerns disputes between Northwest Telephone, Inc. (“NTI”) and Qwest Corporation (“Qwest”) concerning the nature and compensation for the facilities NTI obtains from Qwest to interconnect the parties’ networks. NTI alleged in its complaint that those facilities should have been provided as local interconnection service under the Parties’ interconnection agreement and subject to relative use cost sharing. Qwest disputed those allegations, responding that NTI had ordered the facilities out of Qwest’s tariff and that the full tariff rates were properly applied.
- 3 NTI and Qwest agreed to settle and compromise the disputes by entering into a confidential Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement resolves the past compensation issues and includes an amendment to the Parties’ interconnection agreement to address other issues.

- 4 The amendment to the interconnection agreement between the Parties will be filed with the Commission for approval in a separate docket.
- 5 These matters are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. The Parties assert that the Settlement Agreement resolves the issues raised in NTI's complaint and is in the public interest.
- 6 NTI and Qwest have filed a joint motion requesting Commission approval of the confidential Settlement Agreement. The Parties do not believe that a hearing on the Settlement Agreement is necessary but will provide witnesses in support of the Settlement if requested to do so by the Commission.


DATED this 25th day of April, 2006.

QWEST CORPORATION



Lisa A. Anderl, WSBA #13236
Adam L. Sherr, WSBA #25291
1600 7th Avenue, Room 3206
Seattle, WA 98191
Phone: (206) 398-2500

NORTHWEST TELEPHONE, INC.



Gregory J. Kopta, WSBA #20519
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP
1501 Fourth Avenue, Suite 2600
Seattle, WA 98101-1688
Phone: (206) 628-7692