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Alex M. Duarte Corporate Counsel



EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION REQUESTED

February 13, 2006

Honorable Allan Arlow Administrative Law Judge Public Utility Commission of Oregon P. O. Box 2148 Salem, OR 97308-2148

Re: <u>UX 29</u>- Qwest's Request for One-week Extension to File Post-hearing Reply Brief Dear Judge Arlow:

Qwest respectfully requests that Your Honor slightly modify the procedural schedule in this docket to extend the due date for Qwest's post-hearing reply, currently scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2006, for one week, to **Friday, February 24, 2006**. (There is a national holiday in the interim.) The reason for this request is that Qwest's regulatory director is on vacation this entire week, and Qwest's main witness will have been on vacation for parts of this week and next week. These individuals are closely involved in reviewing the brief, providing input, and ultimately approving the final brief, which replies to four response briefs totaling about 150 pages. All parties have responded that they have no objections to this request.

In any event, there would be *no prejudice* to any party from a granting of this request. First, this is Qwest's petition, and thus any delay in receiving the final Commission order would not harm any party other than potentially Qwest. Second, since the hearing has concluded, the reply brief will be the last pleading before the Commission issues its order. Third, Qwest further notes that although the four responding parties had about a month and a half (from December 9, 2005 to January 25, 2006) to respond to Qwest's 58-page opening brief, Qwest currently has only 22 days in which to reply to four separate briefs, totaling about 150 pages. Finally, Qwest asked all parties on Friday, February 10, 2006, whether they had any objections to this request, and all parties have now responded that they do not oppose such a request.

Finally, given that the current February 16, 2006 due date is fast approaching, Qwest kindly requests that Your Honor give **expedited consideration** to this request.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions about this request, please feel free to call me at your convenience.

Service List (via email)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

UX-29

I hereby certify that on the 13th day of February, 2006, I served the foregoing **QWEST CORPORATION'S LETTER TO THE HONORABLE ALLAN ARLOW** in the above entitled docket on the following persons via U.S. Mail (or via e-mail if so indicated), by mailing a correct copy to them in a sealed envelope, with postage prepaid, addressed to them at their regular office address shown below, and deposited in the U.S. post office at Portland, Oregon.

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DATED this 13th day of February, 2006.

QWEST CORPORATION

By:

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