

**Public Utility Commission** 

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October 20, 2011

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS DIVISION PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON 550 CAPITOL STREET NE SUITE 215 SALEM OR 97301-2551

RE: ARB 759(2)

Attached are the Public Utility Commission's staff comments regarding the above named interconnection agreement between Silver Star Telecom, LLC and Qwest Corporation.

Mitch Moore Sr. Telecommunications Analyst Telecommunications Division 503-378-6635

cc: Michael Weirich, Department of Justice

Carla Butler, Qwest Communications Clint Warta, Silver Star Telecom, LLC

### BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

### OF OREGON

ARB 759(2)

In the Matter of	)	
In the Motter of SILVED STAD TELECOM	)	STAFF COMMENTS
In the Matter of SILVER STAR TELECOM,	)	STAFF COMMENTS
LLC and QWEST CORPORATION.	)	
	)	
Amendment to an existing Interconnection	)	
Agreement Submitted for Commission	)	
Approval Pursuant to Section 252(e) of the	)	
Telecommunications Act of 1996.		

#### RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE AMENDMENT

On August 2, 2011 Silver Star Telecom, LLC and Qwest Corporation filed an amendment to an existing interconnection agreement with the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission). The Parties seek approval of this amendment under Section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The Commission provided notice by posting an electronic copy of the amendment on its website at <a href="http://apps.puc.state.or.us/edockets/filings.asp">http://apps.puc.state.or.us/edockets/filings.asp</a>. The Commission Staff (Staff) offers these comments.

Under the Act, the Commission must approve or reject an agreement or amendment to an existing agreement reached through voluntary negotiation within 90 days of filing. The Commission may reject an agreement or an amendment only if it finds that:

- (1) the agreement (or portion thereof) discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement; or
- (2) the implementation of such agreement or portion thereof is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

Staff notes that an interconnection agreement or amendment thereto has no effect or force until approved by a state Commission. *See* 47 U.S.C. Sections 252 (a) and (e). Accordingly, Staff points out that the effective date of this filing will be the date the Commission signs an order approving it, and that any provision stating that the parties' amendment is effective prior to that date is not enforceable.

The amendment should have been placed on the Consent Agenda for the October 18, 2011 Public Meeting. However, the amendment inadvertently did not appear on the Public Meeting Agenda. The due date for the order for this amendment is October 30, 2011,

which is before the next regularly scheduled public meeting on November 1, 2011. Therefore, staff requests that a separate order be written approving the amendment.

Staff concludes that the amendment does not appear to discriminate against telecommunications carriers who are not parties to the agreement and does not appear to be inconsistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

Dated at Salem, Oregon, this 20th day of October, 2011.

Mitch Moore

Sr. Telecommunications Analyst Competitive Issues

Telecommunications Division

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

## **ARB 759**

I certify that I have, this day, served the foregoing document upon all parties of record in this proceeding by delivering a copy in person or by mailing a copy properly addressed with first class postage prepaid, or by electronic mail pursuant to OAR 860-001-0180, to the following parties or attorneys of parties.

Dated this 20th day of October, 2011 at Salem, Oregon

Kay Barnes

Public Utility Commission Regulatory Operations 550 Capitol St NE Ste 215 Salem, Oregon 97301-2551 Telephone: (503) 378-5763

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# **QWEST CORPORATION**

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