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Alex M. Duarte
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August 14, 2007

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

Re: UM 1326 – Qwest’s Response/Support of Substantive Relief Sought by Eschelon

Dear Judge Arlow:

On Monday, July 30, 2007, Eschelon filed two pleadings in this docket- a “motion for a standing protective order” based on a model order from Minnesota and “objections to Qwest’s petition for approval of 2007 additions to its non-impaired wire center list.” Unfortunately, I was out of the office for the past two weeks (the weeks of July 30, 2007 and August 6, 2007), and just returned to the office yesterday. However, the reason I write is to advise the Commission that both of Eschelon’s filings are moot since Qwest does not have any objections to the substantive relief that Eschelon seeks in its filings.

First, with respect to Eschelon’s “objections,” such objections were based on its position that the proposed settlement agreement in docket UM 1251 had not yet been approved, and therefore the settlement agreement should not trigger any filing requirements in this proceeding, and that the Joint CLECs should have 30 days from approval of the settlement agreement in docket UM 1251 to file any substantive objections they may have to Qwest’s updated wire center list in this proceeding. Eschelon’s objections are now moot, however. This is so because on August 6, 2007, after the Commission had issued Order No. 07-382 approving the settlement agreement in UM 1251 on July 31, 2007, Qwest advised the Commission that it had no objections to the Joint CLECs having 30 days (or until August 31, 2007) to file any objections they may have to Qwest’s recent filing to add wire centers to the non-impaired wire center list.

Second, with respect to Eschelon’s motion for a “standing” protective order, Qwest supports having the Commission, if it so desires, supersede the current protective order that it issued on June 27, 2007 (Order No. 07-281) with the “model” protective order from Minnesota that Eschelon attaches to its motion. Indeed, Qwest made that clear in its original motion for a protective order on June 22, 2007, as well as in its June 25, 2007 letter, in this docket. Obviously, it is up to the Commission to issue whatever form of a protective order that it deems appropriate, but Qwest supports the use of the Minnesota form.

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Nevertheless, having said that, and despite that the issue is now moot in light of Qwest's support of the relief that Eschelon seeks (a different protective order), Qwest notes that it does not agree with Eschelon's arguments and characterizations about the procedural background regarding Qwest's motion seeking a protective order. Indeed, if the Commission deems it necessary, Qwest would be more than willing to set forth the applicable facts regarding the background, and thus refute the points that Eschelon has made. However, given that Qwest supports the substantive relief that Eschelon seeks, and thus that it is a moot point, and further, given the lack of time to do so after my being out of the office for two weeks (and I am at the docket ARB 775 hearing today), Qwest does not believe it is necessary to do so. Accordingly, Qwest will not do so unless requested by the Commission.

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

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex M. Duarte', written in a cursive style.

Alex M. Duarte

cc Service List

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

UM 1326

I hereby certify that on the 14th day of August, 2007, 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, 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 14th day of August, 2007.

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By: _____

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