

Qwest

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Alex M. Duarte
Corporate Counsel

May 23, 2005

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

Re: UM 1168 – Testimony and stipulation submitted for Commission order and approval

Dear Judge Smith:

On March 23, 2005, you issued a prehearing conference report with dates for testimony, including a May 13, 2005 response testimony date and a May 27, 2005 reply testimony date for Staff and Qwest. However, no intervenor filed any response testimony, and thus no party has opposed the stipulation that Staff and Qwest have entered into. As such, Staff and Qwest agree that no reply testimony will be necessary (it was scheduled in the event an intervenor opposed the stipulation), and further, they believe the Commission has all of the evidence (the stipulation and the testimony supporting it) that it needs to issue an order. Staff and Qwest further request that the Commission's order approve the stipulation for the reasons set forth in their testimony.

Accordingly, Qwest and Staff respectfully request that the Commission issue its order at its earliest convenience so that they can, assuming Commission approval, file the stipulation with the Marion County Circuit Court for approval. Further, Staff has authorized Qwest to send this letter and request on behalf of both Staff and Qwest.

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

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex M. Duarte". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Alex M. Duarte

cc Service List (via email only)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

UM-1168

I hereby certify that on the 23rd day of May, 2005, I served the foregoing **QWEST CORPORATION'S LETTER TO THE HONORABLE CHRISTINA SMITH** in the above entitled docket on the following persons via e-mail to their e-mail addresses as shown below:

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DATED this 23rd day of May, 2005.

QWEST CORPORATION



By: _____

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