### **McDowell & Rackner PC**

SARAH J. ADAMS Direct (503) 595-3927 sarah@mcd-law.com

September 28, 2007

#### VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

PUC Filing Center Public Utility Commission of Oregon PO Box 2148 Salem, OR 97308-2148

Re: Docket ARB 789

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket is an original and 6 copies of Beaver Creek Cooperative Telephone Company's Supplemental Testimony and Exhibit. A copy of this filing has been served on all parties to this proceeding.

Very truly yours

Sarah J. Adams

cc: Service List

Docket: ARB 789 Exhibit: BCT/108 Witness: Tom Linstrom

## OF THE STATE OF OREGON

#### BEAVER CREEK COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANY

**Supplemental Testimony of Tom Linstrom** 

September 28, 2007

- 1 Q. Please state your name and address for the record.
- 2 A. Tom A. Linstrom, Beaver Creek Cooperative Telephone Company ("BCT"),
- 3 15223 S. Henrici Road, Oregon City, Oregon.
- 4 Q. What is your position with BCT?
- 5 A. I am the CEO/President and General Manager of BCT.
- 6 Q. Please describe your responsibilities as CEO/President and General
- 7 Manager.
- 8 A. It is my responsibility to manage BCT in such a way as to implement and carry
- 9 out the policies that are established by the cooperative's members through the
- 10 Board of Directors.
- 11 Q. What is the purpose of your Supplemental Testimony?
- 12 A. The purpose of my supplemental testimony is to introduce and explain BCT
- Exhibit 109, which is an amendment to the interconnection agreement between
- 14 BCT and Qwest Corporation that was approved by the Oregon Public Utility
- 15 Commission in Docket ARB 747 (the "BCT-Qwest ICA").
- 16 Q. How does the BCT-Qwest ICA relate to this proceeding?
- 17 A. Except to the extent that the BCT-Qwest ICA allows BCT to transit BCT's CLEC
- traffic to and from Clear Creek Mutual Telephone Company ("CCMT"), the BCT-
- 19 Qwest ICA is not directly relevant to the interconnection agreement at issue in
- 20 this proceeding. However, CCMT has cited the reciprocal compensation
- 21 provisions of the BCT-Qwest ICA as support for its proposed reciprocal
- 22 compensation rates.
- 23 Q. What were the parties' positions with respect to reciprocal compensation
- 24 in Docket ARB 747?

- 1 A. In Docket ARB 747, BCT proposed bill and keep as the form of compensation for 2 the BCT-Qwest ICA. Qwest countered that, although bill and keep was the 3 presumptive form of compensation under the Federal Communication 4 Commission's precedent, reciprocal compensation was appropriate because 5 Qwest claimed that it was not technically feasible at the time the ICA was 6 negotiated for Qwest to rebut the presumption that the traffic between the parties 7 was in balance. This was because, at that time, BCT was commingling its CLEC 8 and ILEC traffic on its local/EAS trunks.
- 9 Q. What form of compensation did the arbitrated BCT-Qwest ICA ultimately10 require?
- 11 A. The Arbitrator accepted Qwest's arguments and ordered reciprocal
  12 compensation for local/EAS and ISP traffic at the Federal Communication
  13 Commission's ISP ordered rates as the form of compensation under the BCT14 Qwest ICA.
- 15 Q. Please briefly describe BCT Exhibit 109.
- A. Exhibit 109 is a copy of an amendment to the BCT-Qwest ICA, which changes the form of compensation under the ICA for both local/EAS and ISP traffic from reciprocal compensation to bill and keep. BCT and Qwest signed this amendment on September 21, 2007, and September 24, 2007, respectively.

  Qwest will file the amendment for approval with the Commission shortly.
- 21 Q. Please explain what led up to Qwest's and BCT's decision to amend the 22 ICA.
- As the amendment states, BCT and Qwest amended the ICA to provide for bill and keep because the traffic between the parties is roughly in balance. Given the fact that traffic is in balance, BCT and Qwest agreed that bill and keep is the

most cost effective method of compensation. To list all necessary codes for reciprocal compensation billing, bills between Qwest and BCT were often over 300 pages in length, with postage for each bill in excess of \$6. Despite this, the total amount of monthly bills was often under \$50. Considering the cost of data processing, record keeping, printing, and postage, it simply was not worth it to continue reciprocal compensation billing.

- Q. What is the significance, if any, of this amendment to the interconnection agreement at issue in this proceeding?
- 9 Α. BCT's and Qwest's decision to switch to bill and keep is consistent with BCT's 10 position in this proceeding that bill and keep is the most appropriate form of 11 compensation, especially when a very low volume of traffic is at issue. Here, the 12 evidence shows that the traffic is either in balance, based on BCT's traffic study, 13 or out of balance in BCT's favor, based on CCMT's traffic study. Either way, 14 CCMT will not be harmed if the form of compensation under this agreement is 15 bill and keep. As Exhibit 109 shows, bill and keep is the simplest, least costly 16 method of compensating for the exchange of traffic and is appropriate where 17 traffic is roughly in balance.
- 18 Q. Does this conclude your Supplemental Testimony?
- 19 A. Yes.

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Docket ARB 789 Exhibit BCT/109 Witness: Tom Linstrom

## OF THE STATE OF OREGON

BEAVER CREEK COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANY

Exhibit Accompanying Supplemental Testimony of Tom Linstrom

BILL AND KEEP AMENDMENT TO THE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

BETWEEN QWEST CORP. AND BEAVER CREEK COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE CO.

September 28, 2007

# Bill and Keep Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation and Beaver Creek Cooperative Telephone Company for the State of Oregon

This is an Amendment ("Amendment") to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation ("Qwest"), a Colorado corporation, and Beaver Creek Cooperative Telephone Company ("CLEC"), an Oregon cooperative. Qwest and CLEC shall be known jointly as the "Parties".

#### **RECITALS**

WHEREAS, the Parties entered into an Interconnection Agreement, for service in the State of Oregon, that was approved by the Public Utility Commission of Oregon on February 27, 2007, as referenced in ARB 747, Order No. 07-064 ("Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, the Parties agree to amend the Agreement under the terms and conditions contained herein.

#### **AGREEMENT**

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual terms, covenants and conditions contained in this Amendment and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

#### **Amendment Terms**

The Agreement is hereby amended by changing the EAS/Local Traffic Reciprocal Compensation Election from FCC ISP ordered rates to Bill and Keep. The language is hereby amended by replacing the existing Sections 7.3.4 (Exchange Service (EAS/Local) Traffic) and 7.3.6 (ISP-Bound Traffic), with the terms and conditions set forth in Attachment 1, attached hereto and incorporated herein.

#### Effective Date

This Amendment shall be deemed effective upon Commission approval; however, the Parties agree to implement the provisions of this Amendment upon execution.

#### **Amendments**; Waivers

Except as modified herein, the provisions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. The provisions of this Amendment, including the provisions of this sentence, may not be amended, modified or supplemented, and waivers or consents to departures from the provisions of this Amendment may not be given without the written consent thereto by both Parties' authorized representative. No waiver by any Party of any default, misrepresentation, or breach of warranty or covenant hereunder, whether intentional or not, will be deemed to extend to any prior or subsequent default, misrepresentation, or breach of warranty or covenant hereunder or affect in any way any rights arising by virtue of any prior or subsequent such occurrence.

#### **Entire Agreement**

The Agreement as amended (including the documents referred to herein) constitutes the full and entire understanding and agreement between the Parties with regard to the subjects of the Agreement as amended and supersedes any prior understandings, agreements, or representations by or between the Parties, written or oral, to the extent they relate in any way to the subjects of the Agreement as amended.

The Parties intending to be legally bound have executed this Amendment as of the dates set forth below, in multiple counterparts, each of which is deemed an original, but all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument.

Beaver Creek Cooperative Telephone Company	Qwest Corporation
Signature	Signature
Name Printed/Typed	L. T. Christensen Name Printed/Typed
Title Cl 1	<u>Director – Interconnection Agreements</u> Title
	Date

#### **ATTACHMENT 1**

#### 7.3.4 Exchange Service (EAS/Local) Traffic

#### 7.3.4.1 End Office Call Termination

- 7.3.4.1.1 The Parties agree that, based upon the fact that the traffic exchanged between the Parties historically has been roughly balanced, end office call termination compensation for Exchange Service (EAS/Local) traffic shall be based upon the bill and keep compensation mechanism, whereby neither Party charges the other Party reciprocal compensation for the termination of EAS/Local traffic originated by the other Party. Bill and keep shall govern compensation for such traffic exchanged by the Parties in this State until the earlier of: (1) the expiration of the Agreement; (2) further action by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), or a court of competent jurisdiction, vacates, replaces, modifies, or supersedes the applicable rules adopted in Order on Remand and Report and Order, CC Docket Nos. 96-98, 99-68, FCC 01-131 (rel. Apr. 27, 2001); or (3) the balance of traffic exchanged between the Parties changes significantly.
- 7.3.4.1.2 Neither Party shall be responsible to the other for call termination charges associated with third party traffic that transits such Party's network.

#### 7.3.4.2 Tandem Switched Transport

- 7.3.4.2.1 For traffic delivered through a Qwest or CLEC tandem Switch, the Parties agree that, based upon the fact that the traffic exchanged between the Parties historically has been roughly balanced, tandem switched transport functions for Exchange Service (EAS/Local) non-transit traffic shall be compensated based upon the bill and keep compensation mechanism. Bill and keep will apply to both the tandem switching rate and the tandem transmission rate. Bill and keep shall govern compensation for such traffic exchanged by the Parties in this State until the earlier of: (1) the expiration of the Agreement; (2) further action by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), or a court of competent jurisdiction, vacates, replaces, modifies, or supersedes the applicable rules adopted in Order on Remand and Report and Order, CC Docket Nos. 96-98, 99-68, FCC 01-131 (rel. Apr. 27, 2001); or (3) the balance of traffic exchanged between the Parties changes significantly.
- 7.3.4.2.2 When Qwest receives an unqueried call from CLEC to a number that has been ported to another Switch within the EAS/Local Calling Area, and Qwest performs the query, mileage sensitive tandem transmission rates will apply which reflect the distance to the End Office Switch to which the call has been ported.
  - 7.3.4.2.2.1 To determine the responsible originating Carrier of unqueried calls for purposes of identification of the Carrier to bill

LNP query charges, Qwest and CLEC are required to utilize the Number Portability Administration Center (NPAC) database, or another database that is supported by OBF.

#### 7.3.6 ISP-Bound Traffic

7.3.6.1 The Parties agree that ISP-bound traffic is Interstate traffic and governed by the FCC's Order on Remand and Report and Order (Intercarrier Compensation for ISP-bound Traffic) CC Docket 01-131 (FCC ISP Order), effective June 14, 2001. However, the Parties agree to exchange ISP-bound traffic utilizing the bill and keep compensation mechanism. Bill and keep will apply to both end office call termination and tandem switched transport of ISP-bound traffic. Bill and keep shall govern compensation for such traffic exchanged by the Parties in this State until the earlier of: (1) the expiration of the Agreement; (2) further action by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), or a court of competent jurisdiction, vacates, replaces, modifies, or supersedes the applicable rules adopted in Order on Remand and Report and Order, CC Docket Nos. 96-98, 99-68, FCC 01-131 (rel. Apr. 27, 2001); or (3) the balance of traffic exchanged between the Parties changes significantly.

#### 1 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 2 I hereby certify that I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing document in 3 Docket ARB 789 on the following named person(s) on the date indicated below by email at 4 his or her last-known address(es) indicated below. 5 Tom Linstrom Jennifer Niegel Beaver Creek Cooperative Telco **Duncan Tiger & Niegel PC** 6 PO Box 69 PO Box 248 Beaver Creek OR 97004 Stayton OR 97383-0248 7 tlinstrom@bctelco.com jennifer@staytonlaw.com 8 9 DATED: September 28, 2007. 10 11 Sarah J. Adams 12 Attorney for Beaver Creek Cooperative 13 Telephone Company 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26