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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

**OF OREGON**

ARB 443 + (1)

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
ELECTRIC LIGHTWAVE, INC. and QWEST CORPORATION	)	ORDER
	)	
Negotiated Interconnection Agreement and First Amendment, Submitted for Commission Approval Pursuant to Section 252 (e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.	)	

DISPOSITION:       AGREEMENT AND AMENDMENT APPROVED

On July 11, 2002, Electric Lightwave, Inc. and Qwest Corporation filed a negotiated interconnection agreement and subsequent first amendment with the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission). The current agreements replace ARB 339 adoption terms. The parties seek approval of this agreement and amendment under Section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The Commission provided notice by posting electronic copies on the World Wide Web, at: <http://www.puc.state.or.us/caragmnt/>. Only the Commission Staff (Staff) filed comments.

Under the Act, the Commission must approve or reject an agreement reached through voluntary negotiation within 90 days of filing. The Commission may reject an agreement 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 is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

Staff noted that an interconnection agreement or amendment thereto has no effect or force until approved by a state Commission. See 47 U.S.C. Sections 251 (a) and (e). Accordingly, Staff pointed out that the effective date of these filings will be the date the Commission signs an order approving them, and that any provision stating that the parties' agreements are effective prior to that date is not enforceable.

Staff recommended approval of the agreement and amendment. Staff concluded that the agreement and amendment do 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.

**OPINION**

The Commission adopts Staff's recommendation and concludes that there is no basis under the Act to reject the agreement and amendment. No participant in the proceeding has requested that the agreement or amendment be rejected or has presented any reason for rejection. Accordingly, the agreement and amendment should be approved.

**CONCLUSIONS**

1. There is no basis for finding that the agreement and amendment discriminate against any telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement.
2. There is no basis for finding that implementation of the agreement and amendment is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.
3. The agreement and amendment should be approved.

**ORDER**

IT IS ORDERED that the agreement and amendment, between Electric Lightwave, Inc. and Qwest Corporation, are approved.

Made, entered, and effective \_\_\_\_\_.

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**John Savage**  
Director  
Utility Program

A party may request rehearing or reconsideration of this order pursuant to ORS 756.561. A request for rehearing or reconsideration must be filed with the Commission within 60 days of the date of service of this order. The request must comply with the requirements in OAR 860-014-0095. A copy of any such request must also be served on each party to the proceeding as provided by OAR 860-013-0070(2). A party may appeal this order to a court pursuant to applicable law.