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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

UM 1098

In the Matter of)	
)	
QWEST CORPORATION)	ORDER
)	
Performance Assurance Plan.)	

DISPOSITION: FACILITATOR FUNDS APPROVED

During Qwest Corporation’s (Qwest) Section 271 approval process, a Performance Assurance Plan (PAP) was developed to ensure that the quality of Qwest’s wholesale services to competitive local exchange carriers (CLECs) does not diminish in the future. The PAP includes Service Performance Indicator Definitions (PIDs) developed by a collaborative representing Qwest, participating CLECs, and the staffs of state commissions, including Oregon.

All members of the collaborative agree there is a need to hire a facilitator to organize and facilitate the discussions among participants to change, add, or delete PIDs. In order for the collaborative to hire a facilitator, each participating state must commit to the process and provide their portion of the costs for the facilitator.

The exact cost to each state for the facilitator is unknown. Based on the number of participating states, it is estimated that the cost will range from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per year. Most states’ contribution for the facilitator will come from so-called “Tier 2” monetary penalties paid by Qwest under the PAP. In Oregon, however, such monies are dedicated to the School Technology Account of the Connecting Oregon Communities Fund pursuant to ORS 759.445(8).

Given the importance of the work of the PID collaborative to help promote competitive markets in Oregon, we find that it is appropriate to participate in the collaborative and to use agency monies to support the program. Our continued participation will ensure that needs specific to Oregon are addressed and that a uniform procedure is followed in all states in which Qwest has been granted Section 271 authority. In the future, we hope that appropriate modifications to ORS 759.445 can be made to allow a portion of the Tier 2 monies to be used to support the administration of the program.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that Oregon participate in the collaborative and the request for funds necessary to hire a Long-Term PID Administration facilitator is approved.

Made, entered, and effective _____.

Roy Hemmingway
Chairman

Lee Beyer
Commissioner

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.