

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

ARB 655(3 & 4)

In the Matter of)	
)	
METROPOLITAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS)	
OF OREGON, INC., and QWEST)	ORDER
CORPORATION,)	
)	
Third and Fourth Amendments to)	
Interconnection Agreement, Submitted for)	
Commission Approval Pursuant to Section)	
252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.)	

DISPOSITION: AMENDMENTS APPROVED

On December 2, 2005, and January 12, 2006, Metropolitan Telecommunications of Oregon, Inc., and Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed third and fourth amendments to the interconnection agreement previously acknowledged by the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission), recognizing the adoption of ARB 526 terms. Subsequent amendments were approved in Orders No. 05-217 and 05-619. The parties seek approval of the amendments under Section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The Commission provided notice by posting an electronic copy of the agreement and amendments on the World Wide Web, at: <http://www.puc.state.or.us/caragmnt/>.

Under the Act, the Commission must approve or reject an agreement or amendment thereto 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.

An interconnection agreement or amendment thereto has no effect or force until approved by a state Commission. See 47 U.S.C. Sections 252 (a) and (e). Accordingly, the effective date of this filing will be the date the Commission signs an order approving it, and any provision stating that the parties' amendment is effective prior to that date is not enforceable.

Staff recommended approval of the amendments. Staff concluded that the amendments to the previously acknowledged agreement do not appear to discriminate against telecommunications carriers who are not parties to the agreement and do not appear to be inconsistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

OPINION

The Commission concludes that the amendments to the agreement do not appear to discriminate against telecommunications carriers who are not parties to the agreement and do not appear to be inconsistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. Accordingly, the amendments should be approved.

CONCLUSIONS

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

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that the amendments to the previously acknowledged agreement between Metropolitan Telecommunications of Oregon, Inc., and Qwest Corporation are approved.

Made, entered, and effective FEB 21 2006.



Michael Grant
Chief Administrative Law Judge
Administrative Hearings Division



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.