

ORDER NO. 12 003

ENTERED JAN 10 2012

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

ARB 1001, ARB 1002

In the Matter of

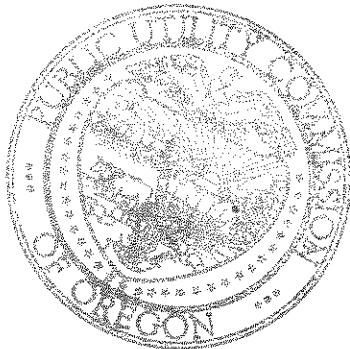
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF
OREGON STAFF,

Request to approve Negotiated Interconnection
Agreements and Amendments Submitted
Pursuant to Section 252(e) of the
Telecommunications Act of 1996.

ORDER

DISPOSITION: STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED

At its Public Meeting on January 10, 2012, the Public Utility Commission of Oregon adopted Staff's recommendation in this matter, attached as Appendix A.



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael Grant".

Michael Grant
Chief Administrative Law Judge
Administrative Hearings Division

A party may request rehearing or reconsideration of this order under 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 860-001-0720. A copy of the request must also be served on each party to the proceedings as provided in OAR 860-001-0180(2). A party may appeal this order to a court pursuant to applicable law.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON
STAFF REPORT

PUBLIC MEETING DATE: January 10, 2012

REGULAR _____ CONSENT X EFFECTIVE DATE _____ N/A _____

DATE: December 30, 2011

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: ^{MM} Mitch Moore

THROUGH: ^{BK} Bryan Conway and ^{KM} Kay Marinos

SUBJECT: OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION STAFF: Request to approve Negotiated Interconnection Agreements and Amendments submitted pursuant to Section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Commission approve the new negotiated interconnection agreements listed below, with the agreements to be considered legally enforceable on the date of Commission approval.

DISCUSSION:

47 U.S.C. Sections 252(a) and (e) (hereafter "Section 252") require that any negotiated interconnection agreement, including amendments to an existing agreement, be submitted to a state commission for approval. Under the Act, the Commission must approve or reject such agreements within 90 days of filing. The Commission may reject an agreement only if it finds that:

(i) the agreement, or portion thereof, discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement; or

(ii) the implementation of such agreement, or portion thereof, is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. See Section 252(e)(2).

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An interconnection agreement or amendment thereto is not legally enforceable until approved by a state commission. See Sections 252 (a) and (e). Accordingly, although the contracting parties may state in the agreement that each will abide by the agreement prior to its approval by the Commission, the legally enforceable date under Section 252 of any submitted agreement or amendment is the date the Commission approves it.

Staff has reviewed the following new interconnection agreements submitted for Commission approval:

Docket	Parties to the Amendment or Agreement
ARB 1001	Qwest Communications Company, LLC and United Telephone Company of the Northwest fka Embarq dba CenturyLink
ARB 1002	Comcast Phone of Oregon, LLC dba Comcast Digital Phone and CenturyTel of Eastern Oregon, Inc. dba CenturyLink and CenturyTel of Oregon, Inc. dba CenturyLink

Staff recommends approval of the agreements. Staff finds that the agreements do not discriminate against non-party telecommunications carriers and do not appear to be inconsistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. Accordingly, Staff concludes that there is no basis under the Act to reject the agreements.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

The new interconnection agreements listed above be approved.

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