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# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

# **OF OREGON**

ARB 679(1), ARB 680(1), ARB 681(1), ARB 682(1), ARB 683(1), ARB 684(1), ARB 685(1), ARB 686(1), ARB 687(1), ARB 688(1), ARB 689(1), ARB 690(1), ARB 692(1), ARB 693(1), ARB 694(1), ARB 696(1), ARB 701(1), ARB 702(1), ARB 707(1), ARB 717(1), ARB 782(1), ARB 941(1)

In the Matter of

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON STAFF,

**ORDER** 

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

DISPOSITION: STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED

At its Public Meeting on March 12, 2013, the Public Utility Commission of Oregon adopted Staff's recommendation in this matter. The Staff Report with the recommendation is attached as Appendix A.

BY THE COMMISSION:

Becky L. Beier Commission Secretary

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 by filing a petition for review with the Court of Appeals in compliance with ORS 183.480 through 183.484.

ITEM NO. CA8

# PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON STAFF REPORT **PUBLIC MEETING DATE: March 12, 2013**

CONSENT X EFFECTIVE DATE N/A REGULAR DATE: March 1, 2013 **Public Utility Commission** TO: FROM: Mitch Moore THROUGH: Jason Eisdorfer, Bryan Conway, and 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 amendments to previously negotiated agreements listed below, with the amendments 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).

ARB Agreements March 1, 2013 Page 2

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 amendments submitted for Commission approval:

<b>Docket</b> ARB 679(1) ARB 680(1)	Parties to the Amendment or Agreement United States Cellular Corporation and Cascade Utilities, Inc. United States Cellular Corporation and Trans-Cascades Telephone Company
ARB 681(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and Mount Angel Telephone Company
ARB 682(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and North-State Telephone Co.
ARB 683(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and Monroe Telephone Company
ARB 684(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and Stayton Cooperative Telephone Company
ARB 685(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and Oregon Telephone Corporation
ARB 686(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and Eagle Telephone System, Inc.
ARB 687(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and Nehalem Telecommunications, Inc.
ARB 688(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and St. Paul Cooperative Telephone Association
ARB 689(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and Pioneer Telephone Cooperative
ARB 690(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and People's Telephone Co.
ARB 692(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and Molalla Telephone Company
ARB 693(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and Gervais Telephone Company
ARB 694(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and Colton Telephone Company
ARB 696(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and Scio Mutual Telephone Association

ARB Agreements March 1, 2013 Page 3

ARB 701(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and Monitor Cooperative
	Telephone Company
ARB 702(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and Helix Telephone Co.
ARB 707(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and Pine Telephone System,
•	Inc.
ARB 717(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and Clear Creek Mutual
	Telephone Company
ARB 782(1)	United States Cellular Corporation and Beaver Creek
	Cooperative Telephone Company
ARB 941(1)	MCImetro Access Transmission Services, LLC dba Verizon and
	United Telephone Company of the Northwest dba CenturyLink

Staff recommends approval of the amendments. Staff finds that the amendments 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 amendments.

# PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

The amendments to previously negotiated agreements listed above be approved.

ARB agreements 3-12-13.doc