ORDER NO. 24-255

ENTERED Aua 07 2024

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

ARB 513(7)(8); ARB 715(4); ARB 772(12); ARB 1063(2); ARB 1065(2); ARB 1240

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 August 6, 2024, 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:

Alison Lackey 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.

ITEM NO. CA6

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON STAFF REPORT PUBLIC MEETING DATE: August 6, 2024

 REGULAR
 CONSENT
 X
 EFFECTIVE DATE
 N/A

- **DATE:** July 29, 2024
- **TO:** Public Utility Commission
- FROM: Mitchell Moore
- THROUGH: Bryan Conway and Matt Muldoon SIGNED
- **SUBJECT:** OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION STAFF: Request to approve Negotiated Interconnection Agreement and Amendments submitted pursuant to Section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the new negotiated interconnection agreement and amendments listed below, with the new and amended agreements legally enforceable on the date of Commission approval.

DISCUSSION:

lssue

Whether the Commission should approve the new negotiated interconnection agreements and amendments.

Applicable Law

47 U.S.C. Sections 252(a) and (e) require that any negotiated interconnection agreement, including amendments to an existing agreement, be submitted to a state commission for approval before they become legally enforceable.

OAR 860-016-0020 governs Commission review of interconnection agreements and amendments. Specifically:

(3) After the parties reach agreement under Section 252(a) of the Act, they

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must file an application with the Commission seeking approval of the agreement, or for approval of an amendment to an approved agreement on file with the Commission. The application must include the negotiated agreement and a completed Carrier-to-Carrier Agreement Checklist. A copy of the checklist is available on the Commission's website. The parties may also include any other supporting information with their application. The application and checklist must be filed electronically as required in OAR 860-001-0170.

(4) The Commission will approve or reject the agreement within 90 days of filing, with written findings as to any deficiencies. Prior to rejecting the agreement, the Commission will notify the negotiating parties of its intended action and provide an opportunity for the carriers to respond. The grounds for rejection are that the agreement:

(a) Discriminates against a carrier not a party to the agreement; or

(b) Is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. Applicable Commission policies will be a factor in public interest, convenience, and necessity determinations.

<u>Analysis</u>

As noted above, an interconnection agreement or amendment thereto is not legally enforceable until approved by a state commission. See 47 U.S.C. Sections 252(a) and (e). Accordingly, Staff notes that 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 47 U.S.C. Section 252 of any submitted agreement or amendment is the date the Commission approves it.

Staff has reviewed the following new agreement and amendments organized by filing date and submitted for Commission approval:

Docket	Parties to Agreement or Amendment
ARB 1240	Level 3 Communications, and Molalla Telephone Company
ARB 513(7)(8)	Zayo Group LLC, and Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC
ARB 715(4)	Zayo Group, LLC, and Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC
ARB 772(12)	MCImetro Access Transmission Services LLC, and Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC

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ARB 1063(2)	Electric Lightwave LLC dba Allstream, and Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC
ARB 1065(2)	Electric Lightwave LLC dba Allstream, and Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC

<u>Conclusion</u>

Staff recommends approval of the agreement and amendments. Staff finds that the new and amended 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 agreement or amendments.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Approve the new negotiated interconnection agreements and amendments listed above.

CA6 – ARB Interconnection Agreements