ORDER NO. 26-394

ENTERED Oct 27 2026

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF OREGON

ARB 1242, ARB 1243, ARB 1244

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 October 27, 2026, 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 appeal this order to a court pursuant to applicable law.

ITEM NO. CA15

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON
STAFF REPORT
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: October 27, 2026

REGULAR ____ **CONSENT** X **EFFECTIVE DATE** N/A

DATE: October 12, 2026

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Nicola Peterson

THROUGH: Nolan Moser and Russ Beitzel **SIGNED**

SUBJECT: OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION STAFF:
(Docket Nos. ARB 1242, ARB 1243, ARB 1244)
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 agreements listed below, with the new and amended agreements to be considered legally enforceable on the date of Commission approval.

DISCUSSION:

Issue

Whether the Commission should approve the new negotiated interconnection agreements.

Applicable Rule or 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 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.

Analysis

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 agreements submitted for Commission approval:

Docket	**Parties to the Agreement or Amendment**
ARB 1242	Barr Tell USA, Inc. and CenturyTel of Eastern Oregon, Inc. dba CenturyLink; CenturyTel of Oregon, Inc. dba CenturyLink
ARB 1243	Barr Tell USA, Inc. and Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC.

ARB 1244	Barr Tell USA, Inc. and United Telephone Company of the Northwest dba CenturyLink

Conclusion

Staff recommends approval of the agreements. Staff finds that the new 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.

PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:

Approve the new negotiated interconnection agreements listed above.

CA15 – ARB 1242 & ARB 1243 &ARB 1244