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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION RECEIVED

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION
 OF QWEST CORPORATION FOR PARTIAL
 WAIVER FROM ITS EXCHANGE AND
 NETWORK SERVICE PRICE CAP TARIFF

Docket No. T-01051B-03-0255¹

**AT&T'S RESPONSE TO QWEST
 CORPORATION'S REQUEST
 FOR PARTIAL WAIVER FROM
 ITS EXCHANGE AND NETWORK
 SERVICE PRICE CAP TARIFF**

AT&T Communications of the Mountain States, Inc. ("AT&T") hereby responds to Qwest Corporation's Request for Partial Waiver from Its Exchange and Network Services Price Cap Tariff ("Petition").

In March 2003, AT&T requested that Qwest Corporation ("Qwest") install thirty (30) residential lines into its Arizona service center in order to test AT&T's internal processes and systems and Qwest's operations support systems.² AT&T wishes to conduct testing to verify its ability to place, and Qwest's ability to process, UNE-P orders to serve residential customers in

¹ On April 29, 2003, AT&T filed this Response to Qwest Corporation's Request for Partial Waiver From Its Exchange and Network Service Price Cap Tariff in Docket Nos. T-02428A-96-0417 and T-01051B-96-0417. Today, at Commission Staff's direction, AT&T hereby files this identical response in the new docket for this matter: Docket No. T-01051B-03-0255.

² Qwest's Petition incorrectly states that AT&T requested the installation of 35 residential lines.

Arizona. This is a preliminary step by AT&T in the process of making a final decision whether to provide residential service using UNE-P.

In response to AT&T's request, Qwest sent AT&T a questionnaire to fill out. AT&T provided a response to Qwest's questionnaire on April 2, 2003. AT&T advised Qwest in its transmittal that it wanted the lines installed by April 25, and in the response to the questionnaire, AT&T indicated it wanted the lines installed in late April.

On April 22, 2003, Qwest, without advising or discussing the matter with AT&T, filed its Petition. AT&T believes the Petition is unnecessary, and believes that any question regarding possible restrictions could have been dealt with informally and much earlier.³ By waiting to file the Petition until April 22, twenty days after the questionnaire was provided to Qwest and three days before the date AT&T's desired installation of the lines, AT&T's testing schedule is in serious jeopardy, which may indefinitely delay testing and the benefits of residential competition to Arizona consumers. Qwest's unilateral decision to file the Petition 3 days before AT&T's requested installation date is extremely frustrating to AT&T.

Qwest's tariff may contain limitations on obtaining residential service in business locations. However, AT&T is not seeking lines to provide residential service to residential customers, nor is AT&T seeking the lines to provide business service to customers. AT&T is seeking the lines to test AT&T's and Qwest's abilities to provision residential lines using UNE-P. Once the test is over, AT&T will place an order to disconnect the lines. Therefore, the purpose and intent of the Qwest tariff is not being contravened.

³ In its response to the questionnaire, AT&T advised that if Qwest believed a waiver was necessary, it would work with Qwest to obtain one. However, AT&T was not contacted to discuss the method of obtaining such a waiver, nor advised that Qwest would demand one be obtained as a condition of the test.

AT&T is interested in obtaining residential lines for the test because AT&T is attempting to make an informed decision regarding residential market entry. AT&T is seeking to have residential lines installed in a business location as a matter of convenience. It is much easier to have 35 residential lines installed in one business location to conduct the test than it is to identify potentially dozens of residential locations to obtain the desired line count. The experience and information that AT&T is seeking to acquire is not dependent upon the test using residential lines at multiple locations at actual residences.

After the test lines have been installed, AT&T and Qwest will proceed as if AT&T was offering local service to residential consumers. AT&T will pay all retail tariff charges for the retail test accounts that are established. AT&T will subsequently convert the retail accounts to AT&T UNE-P accounts with various combinations of features. Once the retail accounts are converted to AT&T UNE-P accounts, AT&T will pay the applicable UNE-P charges. AT&T does not believe Qwest will incur any unaccounted for costs by providing retail service and UNE-P to AT&T. However, AT&T has indicated it is willing to discuss any extraordinary expenses Qwest believes it would incur.

In a prior Minnesota UNE-P test, AT&T's focus was on gaining a high level understanding of Qwest's business rules and how they related to AT&T's internal processes and AT&T's understanding of EDI gained through development with other incumbent local exchange carriers. Consequently, the prior interface did not include any pre-order capabilities. Nor was that prior interface linked to AT&T's front-end order processing systems. The lack of any EDI pre-order capabilities did not permit AT&T to test its ability to develop an interface with pre-order capabilities nor was it able to test its ability to successfully integrate pre-order information into orders. The prior test also did not permit AT&T to test the integration of its

internal front-end systems with a Qwest-specific EDI interface. In preparation for this latest test, AT&T has developed pre-order capabilities, integrated the pre-order information into orders and has linked the EDI interface to its internal front-end order processing systems. Additionally, this test will permit end-to-end testing of AT&T's internal work centers and processes.

AT&T does not intend to focus on repair interfaces. AT&T's plan is to report problems through Qwest's documented processes. Installation problems within 72 hours of installation will be reported to the Qwest ISC. Installation problems occurring 72 hours after installation will be reported to the Qwest Repair Center. Connectivity and EDI-related problems will be reported to the Help Desk.

AT&T cannot stress enough the need to address this issue on an expeditious basis. Time is of the essence. Valuable time has been lost. If installation of the lines and testing does not start in the very foreseeable future, AT&T may have to delay indefinitely any further evaluation of residential market entry in Arizona and reallocate resources to another jurisdiction.

AT&T respectfully requests that the Commission immediately determine whether a waiver is necessary and, if the Commission believes a waiver is necessary, grant Qwest's waiver request.

Respectfully submitted this 1st day of May, 2003.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the original and 13 copies of AT&T's Response to Qwest Corporation's Request for Partial Waiver From Its Exchange and Network Services Price Cap Tariff regarding Docket No. T-01051B-03-0255 were hand delivered this 1st day of May, 2003, to:

Arizona Corporation Commission
Docket Control – Utilities Division
1200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

and that a copy of the foregoing was hand delivered this 1st day of May, 2003, to the following:

Christopher Kempley, Chief Counsel
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and that a copy of the foregoing was sent via United States Mail, postage prepaid, on the 1st day of May, 2003, to:

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Brenda Wendt