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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION RECEIVED

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AZ CORP COMMISSION
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IN THE MATTER OF U S WEST
COMMUNICATIONS, INC.'S COMPLIANCE
WITH § 271 OF THE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996.

DOCKET NO. T-00000A-97-0238

**QWEST CORPORATION'S OPPOSITION TO STAFF'S
MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME FOR CGE&Y TO ISSUE ITS FINAL
REPORT and AT&T'S AND WORLDCOM'S RESPONSES TO THAT MOTION**

Qwest Corporation (Qwest) hereby submits its Response to Staff's Motion for Extension of Time for CGE&Y to Issue its Final Report (Staff's Motion) and AT&T's and WorldCom's Responses to that Motion.

I. The Schedule in Staff's Motion for Extension should be Slightly Modified.

Qwest understands the Staff's request for an extension of time for Cap-Gemini, Ernst & Young (CGE&Y) to issue its Final Report, although Qwest does not agree that an extension is necessary. However, Qwest believes that a more reasonable deadline for publication of CGE&Y's Final Report would be March 25, 2002, rather than March 29, 2002. Accordingly, if the deadline for CGE&Y's Final Report is modified, Qwest requests that it be changed to March 25, 2002.

II. Any Modification of the Procedural Order should Include a Schedule for Finalizing the Remaining Workshop Reports.

Qwest asks that any modification of the Procedural Order include specific dates for all remaining workshop reports and for special open meetings so that the Commission can consider the results of the tremendous amount of work that has been done in this case.

Specifically, Qwest requests that the Procedural Order include dates for submission of Staff's recommended reports for Section 272, General Terms & Conditions, and Public Interest/Track A. The parties on the record have addressed all the issues covered by those reports several months ago and those reports should not continue to be delayed. Qwest further requests that the Procedural Order be modified to include dates for the Hearing Division's issuance of recommended orders regarding Qwest's Performance Assurance Plan, Checklist Item 4, and Line Splitting/NIDs. In addition, Qwest requests that a date be set for the Commission's special open meeting to finalize these remaining items.

III. The Parties to this Proceeding have Enjoyed Ample Process -- No Further Workshops are Required or Warranted.

AT&T and WorldCom suggest that additional workshops regarding OSS testing are required. In so doing, they ignore both the extensive record in this proceeding and the provisions of the procedural orders in this proceeding.

A. The test process has provided virtually unlimited CLEC participation.

This case has been proceeding for more than three years. During that time, the Commission has conducted more than 40 initial and follow-up workshops over the course

of more than 100 days. The OSS test has been underway for more than two and a half years – the first workshop to discuss test design was held in September 1999.

The Commission has conducted every stage of this test in an open manner that allowed full public discussion on all testing issues. Before the OSS test began, the Commission conducted nine workshops on test and performance measurement design. While the OSS test was proceeding, the parties participated in more than 50 TAG meetings to discuss testing issues. CGE&Y has issued numerous draft reports, and the Commission has conducted eight workshops to consider test results. Prior to the workshops, CGE&Y responded in writing to thousands of written questions from the parties and provided tens of thousands of pages of supporting materials available for review. The parties were allowed to ask follow-up questions at the workshops.

The results of the OSS test have been the subject of eight workshops over the past seven months; the parties to this proceeding have participated in seven workshops to discuss the results of the OSS test. During the twenty-one days of workshops held, all parties were allowed to inquire into any and all areas. Sufficient time was allotted for these workshops so that all parties could raise and thoroughly discuss all issues. No party was prevented from participating or raising any issue at these workshops. The fact that nearly every workshop concluded early demonstrates that all parties were afforded as much time to address issues as they required. Indeed, the Final Report workshop concluded a full day early, even though some parties -- most notably, AT&T -- filed extensive comments in advance.

There can be no question that all parties have been afforded a full and fair opportunity to raise and discuss any and all issues and that all such issues have been addressed. Accordingly, no further workshops are warranted.

B. While the Parties have known for Many Months that New Materials would be Included in the Final Report, the Procedural Orders in this Proceeding have Never Contemplated Holding Workshops After the Final Report is Issued.

Despite the hundreds of hours the parties have already spent reviewing and discussing the test results, AT&T and WorldCom claim that additional workshops are required. Specifically, AT&T points to Hewlett Packard's (HP's) testing of SATE release 9, HP's analysis of preorder/order integration of Qwest's EDI using LSOG 5, re-testing of Qwest's Daily Usage Files (DUF), CGE&Y's review of the Qwest Change Management Process (CMP), and outstanding impasse issues. None of these issues warrants holding additional workshops.

As an initial matter, many of these issues will be addressed in CGE&Y's Final Report or Staff's Report and all parties will have the opportunity to comment on those reports. Moreover, the parties to this proceeding have known for many months that additional materials will appear in the Final Report that had not been discussed in a workshop. Throughout the workshops on the draft Final Reports, the parties have discussed various follow-up items that would be addressed in the Final Report. However, no procedural order in this docket has ever contemplated holding a workshop after the Final Report is issued. Accordingly, no party could reasonably have expected that such a workshop would be held.

Further, the major issues AT&T cites as requiring additional workshop time have already been evaluated in written reports fully discussed at workshop: HP's SATE report,

preorder/order integration analysis, and CGE&Y's CMP evaluation have all been discussed at workshops. In fact, each of the reports on these issues has found that Qwest has satisfied the criteria in each evaluation. HP's SATE report concluded that SATE is "adequate to support Qwest CLEC testing in the State of Arizona, given current levels of CLEC usage".¹ As a result of its preorder/order integration analysis on LSOG 3, HP concluded that CLECs can utilize Qwest's EDI preorder transactions to submit an order without data manipulation.² CGE&Y's CMP evaluation concluded that Qwest's CMP process, as it exists today, is currently sufficient to address the deficiencies CGE&Y identified during testing.³ HP's subsequent work to confirm that SATE is available to CLECs for new release testing and perform a preorder/order integration analysis on LSOG 5, and CGE&Y's additional monitoring of Qwest's CMP redesign process does not change the findings that Qwest has passed the tests in these areas. These issues simply constitute additional work that will be reflected in the Final Report or separate reports, as provided in the March 4, 2002 Procedural Order -- all of which is consistent with the parties' reasonable expectations and agreements. All parties will be afforded the opportunity to submit written comments on these reports.⁴ No additional workshop is necessary.

Similarly, the DUF re-testing does not justify holding an additional workshop. Indeed, the first reason Staff cited in its Motion for Extension was to allow CGE&Y to finish the DUF re-testing for inclusion in the Final Report. Again, the March 4, 2002

¹ HP's SATE Summary Evaluation Report, Version 3.0, Section 2.1.

² Final Report Workshop, January 31, 2002, at 669-673.

³ Qwest Change Management Redesign Process Report, Draft Final Report, dated February 21, 2002, at 10.

⁴ March 4, 2002 Procedural Order at 3.

Procedural Order provides that all parties will have the opportunity to submit written comments on the results. No additional workshop is necessary.

The final issue cited by AT&T is outstanding impasse issues. Staff indicated that it would issue decisions on those issues the week of March 11, 2002. Even if the resolutions of those issues requires some additional work, the extension for CGE&Y to submit its Final Report will allow CGE&Y to address most, if not all of the those issues. Issues not addressed in CGE&Y's Final Report can be addressed in Staff's Report. Indeed, in the March 4, 2002 Procedural Order, the Administrative Law Judge explained any remaining issues will be handled:

Staff believes that in certain circumstances, re-testing can continue even after the Final Report issues. If re-testing is ongoing after the CGE&Y Final Report, Staff should either delay issuance of its Staff Report until after the re-testing is complete or provide justification in its Staff Report why it believes the Commission should consider the CGE&Y Final Report and Staff's recommendations prior to the completion of all re-testing. All interested parties will have an opportunity to comment on the completeness and conclusions of the CGE&Y Final Report and Staff Report.

Staff may either address the Change Management Redesign Process and the Stand Alone Test Environment ("SATE") in its Staff Report on the Final Report or in separate reports.

March 4, 2002 Procedural Order at 3.

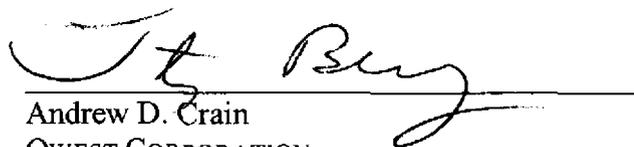
AT&T implies that it is entitled to cross-examine witnesses regarding the contents of the reports. This is simply not true. As noted above, this claim is inconsistent with the parties' acknowledgement that some additional materials would be included in the Final Report and that there would not be any workshops held after the Final Report is issued. More importantly, a policy docket such as this does not require the same level of procedural protections as would be required in a contested proceeding. This docket was

established to allow the Commission to make a recommendation to the FCC. As fully discussed above, even though lesser procedural protections were justifiable for this docket, all parties to this docket have been afforded the opportunity for virtually unlimited participation and input. Moreover, the March 4, 2002 Procedural Order already provides for a complete and fair process for the consideration of the issues raised by AT&T -- including a process that allows all parties to comment on the completeness of and conclusions in both the CGE&Y Final Report and the Staff Report. No additional workshops are necessary or required. The parties are not entitled to more.

IV. Conclusion

Qwest requests that the extension proposed by Staff be slightly modified to require CGE&Y to issue its Final Report by March 25, 2002, and that any modification to the Procedural Order also include a schedule for finalizing the remaining checklist items, including special open meeting of the Commission.

Respectfully submitted this 14th day of March, 2002.



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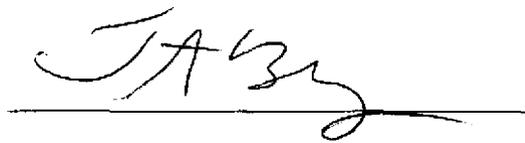
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