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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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KRISTIN K. MAYES  
Chairman  
GARY PIERCE  
Commissioner  
PAUL NEWMAN  
Commissioner  
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Commissioner  
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Commissioner

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AZ CORP COMMISSION  
DOCKET CONTROL

Arizona Corporation Commission  
**DOCKETED**  
NOV 22 2010

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**JOINT NOTICE AND APPLICATION OF QWEST CORPORATION, QWEST COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY, LLC, QWEST LD CORP., EMBARQ COMMUNICATIONS, INC. D/B/A CENTURY LINK COMMUNICATIONS, EMBARQ PAYPHONE SERVICES, INC. D/B/A CENTURYLINK, AND CENTURYTEL SOLUTIONS, LLC FOR APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED MERGER OF THEIR PARENT CORPORATIONS QWEST COMMUNICATIONS INTERNATIONAL INC., AND CENTURYTEL, INC.**

DOCKET NOS. T-01051B-10-0194  
T-03902A-10-0194  
T-02811B-10-0194  
T-20443A-10-0194  
T-04190A-10-0194  
T-03555A-10-0194

NOTICE OF FILING SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN AND AMONG COX, CENTURYLINK AND QWEST

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The Joint Applicants named in the caption ("Joint Applicants") notify the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") that their respective parent companies have entered into certain understandings and agreements with the parent company of Cox Arizona Telcom, L.L.C. ("Cox"), memorialized in the attached letter agreement dated November 19, 2010 (the "Agreement").

The Agreement satisfies the issues raised by Cox Arizona Telcom, L.L.C. before the Commission in this docket, regarding the Application for Approval of the

1 Proposed Merger (the "Transaction"). In consideration of the Agreement, Cox states that  
2 the Transaction should be approved by the Commission as in the public interest.

3 In part, the Agreement relates to certain obligations upon Qwest Corporation and  
4 Cox Arizona Telecom, L.L.C. regarding an amendment to their interconnection  
5 agreement in Arizona, which amendment will be executed within thirty (30) days of the  
6 closing date of the Transaction. At that time, Qwest Corporation will submit the  
7 amendment to the Commission for approval under Section 252 of the Communications  
8 Act, as amended.  
9

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12 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2010.

13 **QWEST CORPORATION**

14  
15 By: Norman G. Curtright  
16 Norman G. Curtright  
17 Associate General Counsel, Qwest  
18 20 E. Thomas Rd., 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
19 Phoenix, Arizona 85012  
20 Attorney for Qwest Corporation

21 **SNELL & WILMER, L.L.P.**

22 By: Norman G. Curtright (for)  
23 Jeffrey W. Crockett  
24 Bradley S. Carroll  
25 One Arizona Center  
26 400 East Van Buren  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2202

*and*

Kevin K. Zarling  
(admitted *pro hac vice*)  
Senior Counsel, CenturyLink

400 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 315  
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**ORIGINAL** and 13 copies of the foregoing  
filed this 22 day of November, 2010 with:

Docket Control  
ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION  
1200 W. Washington Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

**COPY** of the foregoing hand-delivered this  
same day to:

Belinda Martin, Administrative Law Judge  
Hearing Division  
ARIZONA CORPORATION  
COMMISSION  
1200 W. Washington Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Lyn Farmer  
Chief Administrative Law Judge  
ARIZONA CORPORATION  
COMMISSION  
1200 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Janice Alward, Chief Counsel  
Legal Division  
ARIZONA CORPORATION  
COMMISSION  
1200 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Steve Olea, Director  
Utilities Division  
ARIZONA CORPORATION  
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1200 W. Washington Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Maureen Scott, Staff Attorney  
Legal Division  
ARIZONA CORPORATION  
COMMISSION  
1200 W. Washington Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

**COPY** of the foregoing mailed and/or emailed  
this same day to:

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CenturyLink™

November 19, 2010

Jennifer Hightower  
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs  
Law & Policy Group  
Cox Communications, Inc.  
1400 Lake Hearn Drive  
Atlanta, GA 30319

Re: CenturyLink/Qwest Transaction

Dear Ms. Hightower:

The purpose of this letter is to memorialize the terms and understanding among CenturyLink, Inc. ("CenturyLink"), Qwest Communications International, Inc. ("QCII") ("Joint Applicants"), and Cox Communications, Inc. ("Cox") in satisfaction of the issues raised by Cox before the Arizona Corporation Commission and the Nebraska Public Service Commission regarding the CenturyLink and Qwest Transaction.<sup>1</sup> In consideration of the Agreement outlined herein, and without modification, Cox agrees that its objections, issues and proposed conditions raised in Arizona and Nebraska related to the Transaction are resolved through this negotiated compromise and, therefore, that the Transaction should be approved by the Arizona Corporation Commission and Nebraska Public Service Commission as in the public interest. Cox further agrees that it will no longer participate before the Federal Communications

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<sup>1</sup> See Joint Notice and Application of Qwest Corporation, Qwest Communications Company, LLC, Qwest LD Corp., Embarq Communications, Inc. d/b/a/ CenturyLink Communications, Embarq Payphone Services, Inc. d/b/a/ CenturyLink, and CenturyTel Solutions, LLC for Approval of the Proposed Merger of their Parent Corporations Qwest Communications International Inc. and CenturyTel, Inc., Docket No. T-01051B-10-0194; T-02811B-10-0194; T-04190A-10-0194; T-20443A-10-0194; T-03555A-10-0194; T-03902A-10-0194 (Arizona Application); Joint Application of Qwest Communications International, Inc. and CenturyLink, Inc. for Approval of Indirect Transfer of Control of Qwest Corporation, Qwest Communications Company, LLC, and Qwest LD Corporation, Application No. C-4280 (Nebraska Application), and description of the Plan of Merger contained therein ("Transaction").

Commission regarding this Transaction<sup>2</sup> and will offer no advocacy (directly or indirectly) contrary to this Agreement before the FCC or state commissions.

Cox agrees that the terms set forth in the Integra Settlement entered into on November 6, 2010 and attached hereto satisfactorily resolves the issues of Cox in Arizona and Nebraska. To the extent applicable, references to "Integra" or "CLECs" within the terms of the Integra Settlement will be deemed to be references to "Cox" for purposes of the understanding memorialized in this letter. For avoidance of doubt, CenturyLink and Qwest agree that the terms of the Integra Settlement will apply in all states within Qwest Corporation's fourteen-state incumbent territory where Cox presently has operations as well as any states where Cox becomes certified to do business or does business. In addition, CenturyLink acknowledges that the terms of paragraphs 1, 6, 9, 11, 13 and 15 as to the Merged Company apply in all states in which it operates an ILEC.

Nothing in this agreement shall prevent Cox from obtaining the benefit of any additional FCC conditions not addressed in this Agreement, whether they are based on voluntary commitments by the merging parties or conditions mandated by the FCC. In addition, if any FCC terms or conditions are inconsistent with this Agreement, Cox, at its sole discretion, has the choice of the terms and conditions set forth herein or those applicable to CLECs contained in the FCC's order approving the Transaction, except to the extent such FCC condition is state-specific or such choice is not permitted by the FCC order. Nothing in this Agreement will preclude Cox from benefitting from commitments or conditions approved by the Arizona or Nebraska commissions or any other state commission consistent with the terms of paragraph 15 of the attached Integra Settlement.

Within 30 days of the closing date, Qwest Corporation and Cox further agree to execute an amendment to their Interconnection Agreements in Arizona and Nebraska that will have the effect of extending the existing terms related to sub-loop access at MDUs for an additional 4 years, for an additional payment of \$75,000 to be paid upon the expiration of the current sub-loop agreement.

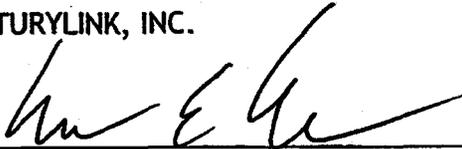
Please confirm that this letter accurately describes your understanding and agreement to these terms by signing in the space provided below, and return the executed copy to the attention of Linda Gardner. The parties agree that this Agreement is not confidential and that it will be filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission and the Nebraska Public Service Commission upon execution.

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<sup>2</sup> See, *Applications Filed by Qwest Communications International Inc. and CenturyTel, Inc., d/b/a CenturyLink for Consent to Transfer of Control*, WC Dkt. No. 10-110 (rel. May 28, 2010) and description of the Plan of Merger contained therein ("Transaction").

Jennifer Hightower  
November 19, 2010  
Page 3

CENTURYLINK, INC.



By: William E. Cheek,  
President Wholesale Operations

Dated:

QWEST COMMUNICATIONS INTERNATIONAL, INC.

By: R. Steven Davis,  
Sr VP—Public Policy & Government Relations

Dated:

COX COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

By: Jennifer Hightower,  
VP- Regulatory Affairs, Law & Policy Group

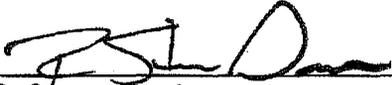
Dated:

CENTURYLINK, INC.

---

By: William E. Cheek,  
President Wholesale Operations  
Dated:

QWEST COMMUNICATIONS INTERNATIONAL, INC.



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By: R. Steven Davis,  
Sr VP—Public Policy & Government Relations  
Dated: Nov. 19, 2010

COX COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

---

By: Jennifer Hightower,  
VP- Regulatory Affairs, Law & Policy Group  
Dated:

Jennifer Hightower  
November 19, 2010  
Page 3

CENTURYLINK, INC.

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By: William E. Cheek,  
President Wholesale Operations  
Dated:

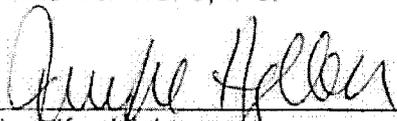
QWEST COMMUNICATIONS INTERNATIONAL, INC.

---

By: R. Steven Davis,  
Sr VP—Public Policy & Government Relations  
Dated:

COX COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

---

  
By: Jennifer Hightower,  
VP, Regulatory Affairs, Law & Policy Group  
Dated:

11/19/2010

## SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Settlement Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into this 6th day of November, 2010, by and among CenturyLink, Inc., a Louisiana Corporation ("CenturyLink"), and its affiliates, Qwest Communications International, Inc. ("QCI"), a Delaware Corporation, and its affiliates, including Qwest Corporation, Integra Telecom, Inc., an Oregon Corporation, and its affiliates (collectively "Integra" or "CLEC(s)") with operations in the state of Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, Utah, and Washington, among others. To the extent that Integra becomes certified to do business or does business in Iowa, Nebraska, New Mexico, South Dakota, and Wyoming during the time periods covered by this Agreement, this Agreement will also apply. CenturyLink, QCI and Integra may be referred to collectively as the "Parties."

*Whereas*, CenturyLink and QCI have entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated April 21, 2010, which, upon completion, will result in QCI becoming a wholly owned subsidiary of CenturyLink ("Transaction").

*Whereas*, the Transaction requires the approval of the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") and various state commissions in states where CenturyLink, QCI, or Integra operate, among other approvals.

*Whereas*, CenturyLink and QCI have filed applications for authorization to effectuate the Transaction at the FCC and in several states, including in the states of Arizona, Colorado, Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, Montana, Oregon, Utah, and Washington.

*Whereas*, Integra intervened in the state commission review proceedings in Arizona, Colorado, Minnesota, Montana, Oregon, Utah, and Washington, and filed or presented testimony expressing concerns related to the Transaction. Integra also made filings with the FCC raising similar concerns, objections, and proposed conditions and has presented its concerns regarding the Transaction to various Legislators.

*Whereas*, the Parties have reached a mutually agreeable settlement of Integra's concerns, objections, and proposed conditions regarding the Transaction such that Integra believes that with this Agreement, and without modification or addition to its terms, the Transaction is in the public interest from Integra's perspective and should be approved by the FCC and the state commissions.

In consideration of the mutual representations and covenants contained herein, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

**A. Definitions:**

“Closing Date” or “Merger Closing Date” refers to the closing date of the Transaction for which the Applicants have sought approval from the FCC and state commissions.<sup>1</sup>

“Merged Company” refers to the post-merger company (CenturyLink and its operating companies, collectively, after the Closing Date).

“Operational Support Systems” or “OSS” are as defined by 47 CFR 51.319(g) and as interpreted in the rules and orders of the FCC.

“OSS Interfaces” are defined as existing or new gateways (including application-to-application interfaces and Graphical User Interfaces), connectivity and system functions that support or affect the pre-order, order, provisioning, maintenance and repair, and billing capabilities for local services (local exchange services) provided by CLECs to their end users.

“Qwest Corporation” and “Qwest” refer to Qwest Corporation and its successors and assigns.

**B. Terms:**

1. The Merged Company will not recover, or seek to recover through wholesale service rates or other fees paid by CLECs: a) one-time transition, branding, or any other transaction-related costs; b) any acquisition premium paid by CenturyLink for QCI; and c) any increases in overall management costs that result from the transaction, including those incurred by the operating companies. For purposes of this condition, “transaction-related costs” shall be construed to include all Merged Company costs related to or resulting from the transaction and any related transition, conversion, or migration costs and, for example, shall not be limited in time to costs incurred only through the Closing Date.
2. In the legacy Qwest ILEC service territory, the Merged Company shall comply with all wholesale performance requirements and associated remedy or penalty regimes for all wholesale services, including those set forth in regulations, tariffs, interconnection agreements, and Commercial agreements applicable to legacy Qwest as of the Merger Closing Date. In the legacy Qwest service territory, the Merged Company shall continue to provide to CLECs at least the reports of wholesale performance metrics that legacy Qwest made available, or was required to make available, to CLECs as of the Merger Closing Date,

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<sup>1</sup> See Applications Filed by Qwest Communications International Inc. and CenturyTel, Inc., d/b/a/ CenturyLink for Consent to Transfer of Control, Pleading Cycle Established, Public Notice, DA 10-993, WC Dkt. No. 10-110 (rel. May 28, 2010) (“Public Notice”) and related applications filed in state proceedings.

or as subsequently modified or eliminated as permitted under this Agreement or pursuant to any changes in law. The Merged Company shall also provide these reports to state commission staff or the FCC, when requested. The state commission and/or the FCC may determine that additional remedies are required, to the extent a state commission or FCC finds it is consistent with its jurisdiction. The Merged Company does not waive its right to oppose such a request.

a. The Parties will not seek to reduce or modify the Qwest Performance Indicator Definition (PID) or Qwest Performance Assurance Plan (QPAP)<sup>2</sup> that is offered, or provided via contract or Commission approved plan, as of the Merger Closing Date for at least eighteen months after the Closing Date.<sup>3</sup> After the eighteen month period, the Parties may seek modifications under the terms and conditions outlined in the QPAP. The Merged Company will not seek to eliminate or withdraw the QPAP for at least three years after the Closing Date. The QPAP will be available to all requesting CLECs unless the Merged Company obtains approval from the applicable state commission to eliminate or withdraw it.

i. For at least three years after the Closing Date, and consistent with the FCC's required conditions of the Embarq-CenturyTel merger, in the legacy Qwest ILEC service territory, the Merged Company shall meet or exceed the average wholesale performance provided by Qwest to CLEC, measured as follows:

- (a.) For the first three months after Closing Date, Qwest's performance will be compared to Qwest's performance for the twelve months prior to Closing Date.
- (b.) Thereafter, each successive month of Qwest's performance will be added to the three month period in (a.) in determining Qwest's performance until twelve months after Closing Date.
- (c.) Beginning one year after Closing Date, Qwest's performance will be measured by a rolling twelve month average performance.

b. If the Merged Company fails to provide wholesale performance levels as measured by the methodology described in this condition, the Merged Company must

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<sup>2</sup> In Colorado, the QPAP is known as the CPAP. In Minnesota, the QPAP is known as the MPAP. These state-specific terms will be used in agreements filed in Colorado and Minnesota.

<sup>3</sup> The limitations of paragraph 2.a.do not apply to implementation of any decision arising from Colorado Docket No. 02M-259T. In addition, the parties agree not to initiate any further action in North Dakota Docket No. PU-08-04, until at least eighteen months after the Closing Date, however the Parties may implement any decision arising from that docket. Qwest will implement Idaho Order No. 32106 in Case No. QWE-T-08-04. The Parties agree, however, that they will jointly request that the Idaho Commission take no further action in that docket until at least eighteen months after the Closing Date.

conduct a root cause analysis for the discrepancies and develop proposals to remedy each deficiency within thirty days and provide this to CLEC for review and comment.

i. CLEC may invoke the root cause procedure for deterioration in wholesale performance for any PID, product, or disaggregation included within a PID measure if CLEC determines that the performance it received for that PID, product, or disaggregation is materially different and provides the basis for CLEC's determination.

ii. If performance deficiencies are not resolved, CLEC may request a resolution or wholesale service quality proceeding before the state commission. The Merged Company does not waive its right to oppose such a request.

3. Notwithstanding any provision allowing one or both parties to Qwest interconnection agreements, Commercial agreements, Wholesale agreements, interstate tariffs, and intrastate tariffs, and other wholesale agreements between Qwest Corporation or its successors and assigns and CLEC ("Extended Agreements") to terminate the Extended Agreement upon or after expiration of the term of the agreement, the Merged Company shall not terminate or grandparent, change the terms or conditions, or increase the rates of any Extended Agreements during the unexpired term or for at least the Applicable Time Period identified below, whichever occurs later (the "Extended Time Period"), unless required by a change of law, or CLEC requests or agrees in writing to a change and any applicable procedure to effectuate that change is followed. In the event that the Extended Agreement expressly allows termination of the agreement in other circumstances, such as default due to non-payment, this Condition does not preclude termination of an Extended Agreement in those circumstances provided that the Merged Company follows both (1) the Extended Agreement's express provisions, and (2) any applicable procedures pertaining to such termination. Upon approval of the Transaction with this Agreement in the public record, the Parties will consider these terms to be part of the order of approval and thus not trigger or require the filing of an ICA amendment, unless directed otherwise by the commissions or FCC. To the extent an amendment is requested, the Parties agree to execute and file an amendment to the ICA within 30 days of the Closing Date, the terms of which will mirror the language in this Agreement, unless mutually agreed otherwise.

a. Interconnection Agreements. The Applicable Time Period for Qwest's interconnection agreements (ICAs) is at least thirty-six months after the Closing Date.<sup>4</sup> The Extended Time Period applies whether or not the initial or current term has expired or is in evergreen status.

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<sup>4</sup> Notwithstanding anything that may be to the contrary in paragraphs 3,3a, and 4, in Colorado where a cost docket is nearing completion but may not be final as of the Closing Date, the rates established in Colorado cost docket

i. The Merged Company shall allow CLEC to use its pre-existing interconnection agreement as the basis for negotiating an initial successor replacement interconnection agreement to the extended ICA. Where the parties agree it is reasonable to do so, the parties may incorporate the amendments to the existing agreement into the body of the agreement used as the basis for such negotiations of the initial successor replacement interconnection agreement.

ii. CLEC may opt-in to an interconnection agreement in its initial term or the extended term.

iii. If Qwest and CLEC are in negotiations for a replacement interconnection agreement before the Closing Date, the Merged Company will allow CLEC to continue to use the negotiations draft upon which negotiations prior to the Closing Date have been conducted as the basis for negotiating a replacement interconnection agreement. In the latter situation (ongoing negotiations), after the Closing Date, the Merged Company will not substitute a negotiations template interconnection agreement proposal of any legacy CenturyLink operating company for the negotiations proposals made before the Closing Date by legacy Qwest.

b. Commercial Agreements. The Applicable Time Period for Commercial agreements is at least eighteen months after the Closing Date for Qwest's Commercial agreements (*i.e.*, offerings made available after a UNE(s) becomes unavailable via ICA): Broadband for Resale, Commercial Broadband Services (QCBS), Commercial Dark Fiber, High Speed Commercial Internet Service (HSIS), Local Services Platform (QLSP), Internetwork Calling Name (ICNAM), and Commercial Line Sharing, as well as any other Commercial agreement to which Qwest and CLEC were parties as of the Closing Date. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in this Agreement:

i. After the eighteen month period, Qwest reserves the right to modify rates.

ii. If a Commercial agreement later becomes unavailable on a going forward basis, the agreement will remain available to CLEC on a grandparented basis to serve CLEC's embedded base of customers already being served via services purchased under that Commercial agreement, subject to Qwest's right to modify

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number 07A-211T will replace the corresponding rates in Qwest-CLEC Colorado ICAs as of the Closing Date for purposes of this paragraph 3; nor does the paragraph prevent implementation of the rates contemplated in paragraph 14.

rates, for at least eighteen months after Qwest has notified CLEC that the agreement is no longer available.

c. Wholesale Agreements. The Applicable Time Period for Wholesale agreements is at least eighteen months after the Closing Date for Qwest's Wholesale agreements (*i.e.*, offerings made available after a tariffed offering becomes unavailable via tariff): Wholesale Data Services Agreement (ATM, Frame Relay, GeoMax, HDTV-Net, Metro Optical Ethernet, Self-Healing Network, Synchronous Service Transport), as well as any other Wholesale agreement to which Qwest and CLEC were parties as of the Closing Date. Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in this Agreement:

i. After the eighteen month period, Qwest reserves the right to modify rates.

ii. If a Wholesale agreement later becomes unavailable on a going forward basis, the agreement will remain available to CLEC on a grandparented basis to serve CLEC's embedded base of customers already being served via services purchased under that Wholesale agreement for at least eighteen months after Qwest has notified CLEC that the agreement is no longer available, subject to Qwest's right to modify rates.

d. Tariffs. The Applicable Time Period is at least twelve months after the Closing Date for Qwest wholesale tariff offerings that CLEC ordered from Qwest via tariff as of the Closing Date. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in this Agreement, Qwest may engage in Competitive Response pricing as set forth in its tariffs.

i. Regarding term and volume discount plans, such plans offered by Qwest as of the Closing Date will be extended by twelve months beyond the expiration of the then existing term, unless CLEC indicates it opts out of this one-year extension.

ii. The Merged Company will honor any existing contracts for services on an individualized term pricing plan arrangement for the duration of the contracted term.

4. Rates Generally. The Merged Company, in paragraph 3, agrees not to increase the rates in Qwest interconnection agreements during the Extended Time Period<sup>5</sup>. If, during the

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<sup>5</sup> Notwithstanding anything that may be to the contrary in paragraphs 3, 3a, or 4, in Colorado where a cost docket is nearing completion but may not be final as of the Closing Date, the rates established in Colorado cost docket number 07A-211T will replace the corresponding rates in Qwest-CLEC Colorado ICAs as of the Closing Date for purposes of this paragraph; nor does the paragraph prevent implementation of the rates contemplated in paragraph 14.

Extended Time Period, the Merged Company offers a Section 251 product or service that is not offered under an interconnection agreement (a "new" product or service), the Merged Company may establish a rate using normal procedures. A product, service, or functionality is not "new" for purposes of this paragraph if Qwest was already providing that product, service, or functionality at existing rates as of the Closing Date in the legacy Qwest ILEC serving territory.

- a. Regarding rates changed via a state commission cost docket, the Merged Company may initiate a cost docket (or seek rate increases in a cost docket initiated by another party) before the expiration of the thirty-six month period for extension of ICA terms only if (i) the rate elements, charges or functionalities are not already provided under rates as of the Closing Date as described in paragraph 4; or (ii) the cost docket is not initiated until at least eighteen months after the Closing Date and any rates approved in the cost docket will not become effective until after expiration of the thirty-six month period for extension of ICA terms.
  - b. After the Closing Date, in the legacy Qwest ILEC serving territory, the Merged Company shall not assess any fees, charges, surcharges or other assessments upon CLECs for activities that arise during the subscriber acquisition and migration process other than any fees, charges, surcharges or other assessments that were approved by the applicable commission and charged by Qwest in the legacy Qwest ILEC service territory before the Closing Date, unless Qwest first receives Commission approval. This condition prohibits the Merged Company from charging such fees, charges, surcharges or other assessments, including:
    - i. Service order charges assessed upon CLECs submitting local service requests ("LSRs") for number porting;
    - ii. Access or "use" fees or charges assessed upon CLECs that connect a competitor's own self-provisioned loop, or last mile facility, to the customer side of the Merged Company's network interface device ("NID") enclosure or box; and
    - iii. "Storage" or other related fees, rents or service order charges assessed upon a CLECs' subscriber directory listings information submitted to the Merged Company for publication in a directory listing or inclusion in a directory assistance database.
5. In the legacy Qwest ILEC service territory, to the extent that an interconnection agreement is silent as to an interval for the provision of a product, service or functionality or refers to

Qwest's website or Service Interval Guide (SIG), the applicable interval, after the Closing Date, shall be no longer than the interval in Qwest's SIG as of the Closing Date. Either Party may request an amendment to the interconnection agreement to lengthen an interval after the thirty-six month period for extension of ICA terms.

6. CenturyLink and all of its incumbent local exchange carrier ("ILEC") affiliates will comply with 47 U.S.C. Sections 251 and 252. In the legacy Qwest ILEC service territory, the Merged Company will not seek to avoid any of its obligations on the grounds that Qwest Corporation is exempt from any of the obligations pursuant to Section 251(f)(1) or Section 251(f)(2) of the Communications Act.
7. In the legacy Qwest ILEC service territory, after the Closing Date, Qwest Corporation shall be classified as a Bell Operating Company ("BOC"), pursuant to Section 3(4)(A)-(B) of the Communications Act and shall be subject to all requirements applicable to BOCs, including Sections 271 and 272.
8. Qwest will not seek to reclassify as "non-impaired" any Qwest wire centers for purposes of Section 251 of the Communications Act, nor will the Merged Company file any new petition under Section 10 of the Communications Act seeking forbearance from any Section 251 or 271 obligation or dominant carrier regulation in any Qwest wire center before June 1, 2012.
9. The Merged Company shall provide to wholesale carriers, and maintain and make available to wholesale carriers on a going-forward basis, up-to-date escalation information, contact lists, and account manager information and will provide this information, when possible, thirty days prior to the Closing Date. If not possible, the Merged Company will provide the information within five business days, absent exigent circumstances. For changes to support center location, the Merged Company will provide at least thirty days advance written notice to wholesale carriers. For other changes, the Merged Company will provide reasonable notice, as circumstances permit, of the changes and will keep pertinent information timely updated. The information and notice provided shall be consistent with the terms of applicable interconnection agreements.
10. The Merged Company will make available to each wholesale carrier in the legacy Qwest ILEC service territory the types and level of data, information, and assistance that Qwest made available as of the Closing Date concerning Qwest's wholesale Operational Support Systems functions and wholesale business practices and procedures, including information provided via the wholesale web site (which Qwest sometimes refers to as its Product Catalog or "PCAT"), notices, industry letters, the change management process, and databases/tools (loop qualification tools, loop make-up tool, raw loop data tool, ICONN database, etc.).

11. The Merged Company shall ensure that Wholesale and CLEC operations are sufficiently staffed and supported, relative to wholesale order volumes, by personnel, including IT personnel, adequately trained on the Qwest and CenturyLink systems and processes. With respect to the Wholesale and CLEC operations, such personnel shall be dedicated exclusively to wholesale operations so as to provide a level of service that is not materially less than that which was provided by Qwest prior to the Merger Closing Date and to ensure that CLEC protected information is not used by the Merged Company's retail operations or marketing purposes. The Merged Company will employ people who are dedicated to the task of meeting the needs of CLECs and other wholesale customers.
  
12. In legacy Qwest ILEC service territory, after the Closing Date, the Merged Company will use and offer to wholesale customers the legacy Qwest Operational Support Systems (OSS) for at least two years, or until July 1, 2013, whichever is later, and thereafter provide a level of wholesale service quality that is not materially less than that provided by Qwest prior to the Closing date, including support, data, functionality, performance, electronic flow through, and electronic bonding. After the period noted above, the Merged Company will not replace or integrate Qwest systems without first establishing a detailed transition plan and complying with the following procedures:
  - a. Detailed Plan. The Merged Company will provide notice to the Wireline Competition Bureau of the FCC, the state commission of any affected state and parties to this agreement at least 270 days before replacing or integrating Qwest OSS system(s). Upon request, the Merged Company will describe the system to be replaced or integrated, the surviving system, and steps to be taken to ensure data integrity is maintained. The Merged Company's plan will also identify planned contingency actions in the event that the Merged Company encounters any significant problems with the planned transition. The plan submitted by the Merged Company will be prepared by information technology professionals with substantial experience and knowledge regarding legacy CenturyLink and legacy Qwest systems processes and requirements. CLEC will have the opportunity to comment on the Merged Company's plan in a forum in which it is filed, if the regulatory body allows comments, as well as in the Qwest Change Management Process.
  
  - b. CMP. The Merged Company will follow the procedures in the Qwest Change Management Process ("CMP") Document.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> The Qwest CMP Document is available at <http://www.qwest.com/wholesale/cmp/>

- c. Replacement or Retirement of a Qwest OSS Interface.
- i. The replacement or retirement of a Qwest OSS Interface may not occur without sufficient acceptance of the replacement interface by CLECs to help assure that the replacement interface provides the level of wholesale service quality provided by Qwest prior to the Closing Date (as described in paragraph 12 above). Each party participating in testing will commit adequate resources to complete the acceptance testing within the applicable time period. The Parties will work together to develop acceptance criteria. Testing will continue until the acceptance criteria are met. Sufficient acceptance of a replacement for a Qwest OSS Interface will be determined by a majority vote, no vote to be unreasonably withheld, of the CMP participants (Qwest and CLECs) in testing, subject to any party invoking the CMP's Dispute Resolution process. The requirements of this paragraph will remain in place only until completion of merger-related OSS integration and migration activity. If a dispute arises as to whether such merger-related OSS integration and migration activity is complete, the state commission will determine the completion date.
  - ii. The Merged Company will allow coordinated testing with CLECs, including a stable testing environment that mirrors production, jointly established test cases, and, when applicable, controlled production testing, unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties. Testing described in this paragraph associated with merger-related system replacement or integration will be allowed for the time periods in the CMP Document, or for 120 days, whichever is longer, unless otherwise mutually agreed to by the Parties.
  - iii. The Merged Company will provide the wholesale carriers training and education on any wholesale OSS implemented by the Merged Company without charge to the wholesale carrier.
- d. Billing Systems. The Merged Company will not begin integration of Billing systems before the end of the minimum two year or July 1, 2013 period, whichever is longer, noted above, or without following the above procedures, unless the integration will not impact data, connectivity and system functions that support or affect CLECs and their customers. .
- i. Any changes by the Merged Company to the legacy Qwest non-retail OSS will meet all applicable ICA provisions related to billing and, to the extent not included in an ICA, will be Ordering and Billing Forum (OBF) compliant.

13. After the Closing Date, the Merged Company will engineer and maintain its network in compliance with federal and state law, as well as the terms of applicable interconnection agreements.
  - a. The Merged Company shall not engineer the transmission capabilities of its network in a manner, or engage in any policy, practice, or procedure, that disrupts or degrades access to the local loop, as provided by 47 C.F.R. § 51.319(a)(8).
  - b. The Merged Company will retire copper in compliance with federal and state law, as well as the terms of applicable interconnection agreements and as required by a change of law.
14. No later than 30 days after the Closing Date, the Parties agree to amend its existing Qwest-CLEC interconnection agreements by executing the line conditioning amendment contained in Attachment A to this Agreement and by filing the amendment with the applicable state commissions. The terms of the amendment will be included in the ICAs between the Parties for the Extended Time Period contemplated in paragraph 3, unless required by a change in law. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, the Parties agree to implement the rates, terms and conditions of the amendment upon execution and applicable commission approval of the amendment. The Parties agree to execute and file the amendment within 10 days of execution of this Agreement for Qwest-CLEC Minnesota ICAs and further agree to implement the terms of the amendment no later than January 15, 2011 in Minnesota. Upon execution of this Agreement, CLEC agrees that this amendment satisfies its concerns on line conditioning expressed in Minnesota Docket No. P-421/CI-09-1066 and that it will seek no further relief on this issue in that docket. Nothing in this Agreement precludes Qwest and CLEC from filing the Amendment for commission approval in any other state before the Closing Date, if Qwest and CLEC mutually agree to do so.
15. After fully executed, filed with and, where necessary, approved by a Commission, this Agreement will be made available to any requesting carrier. Additionally, if an order approving this transaction includes any condition not contained in this Agreement or includes provisions inconsistent with those contained in this Agreement, the Merged Company will make that condition or provision available to other carriers in that state upon request, to the extent applicable.

**C. Process for Treatment of Agreement:**

The Parties agree that this Agreement resolves all contested issues, objections, proposed conditions and other advocacy related specifically to this Transaction as between them. Integra agrees that this Agreement, without modification or addition, is in the public interest.

Consequently, from its perspective, Integra believes that the Transaction is in the public interest and should be approved by the FCC and state commissions. The Parties acknowledge that this Agreement is not confidential and further agree to the issuance of a joint press release announcing that an Agreement has been reached and that, in consideration of this Agreement, approval of the Transaction is in the public interest from Integra's perspective. The Parties further agree to immediately notify the FCC and the state commissions upon execution that this Agreement has been reached and will provide a courtesy copy of this Agreement. This Agreement shall be filed with the state commissions in the states of Arizona, Colorado, Minnesota, Montana, Oregon, Utah and Washington<sup>7</sup> and any other states where required, within five business days of execution. Integra further commits that, upon request of CenturyLink and QCI, that within 10 days of execution, a representative of Integra with knowledge of this Agreement will accompany CenturyLink and QCI to meetings at the FCC or with members of Congress or their staff to explain that this Agreement, without modification or addition, is in the public interest from Integra's perspective and the Transaction should be approved.

Where testimony filed by one or both of the Integra witnesses has not yet been admitted into evidence and the procedural schedule and rules of a regulatory body permit, Integra will seek leave to withdraw or not submit into the evidentiary record the prefiled testimony of the Integra witnesses in that state, subject to Integra's right to file or re-file testimony as provided in this Agreement. Integra agrees it will represent that this Agreement adequately addresses its concerns and proposed conditions contained in its pre-filed testimony and will represent that, from its perspective, with this Agreement, the Transaction is in the public interest and should be approved. Furthermore, if required by a regulatory body or requested by CenturyLink, Integra will provide a witness to support this Agreement and will testify that with this Agreement, without modification, approval of the Transaction as in the public interest from its perspective. To the extent required by a regulatory body, Integra also agrees to provide such other information in support of this Agreement and approval of the Transaction. No Party to this Agreement will engage in any advocacy (directly or indirectly) contrary to this Agreement. Integra will not advocate for any other party's proposed wholesale conditions or opposition to the Transaction before any regulatory body, or otherwise, except as provided for in this Agreement regarding modification, rejection, or enforcement of this Agreement. Integra will no longer retain QSI Consultants, or any other consultant, as consultants or witnesses in a proceeding reviewing the Transaction after the date this Agreement is executed and filed in that proceeding, unless this Agreement is modified over Integra's objection or rejected. To the extent the consultants, witnesses, and outside counsel represent other intervenors before the FCC and the state commissions, Integra will inform them, as well as the FCC and those state commissions, that they are no longer representing Integra, nor advocating for Integra's positions, unless otherwise retained, at Integra's option, consistent with Integra's obligation under this Agreement.

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<sup>7</sup> To the extent necessary to comply with a given state filing convention, the Parties agree to work cooperatively to present this Agreement in the appropriate format, without change in content.

In the event any portion of this Agreement is rejected or altered by a state regulatory body, Integra may submit or re-submit its pre-filed testimony in that jurisdiction. In the event this Agreement is modified or rejected, each Party reserves its right, upon written notice to the Commission and the parties within five (5) business days of the Commission's Order modifying or rejecting this Agreement, to withdraw from this Agreement as to that particular state, with the effect of respectfully requesting the Commission decide all contested issues based on the record, including any testimony that had been withdrawn or not filed due to the execution of this Agreement.

**D. Entire Agreement:**

This Agreement constitutes the Parties' entire agreement on all matters set forth herein, and it supersedes any and all prior oral and written understandings or agreements on such matters that previously existed or occurred in any proceeding related to this Transaction, and no such prior understanding or agreement or related representations shall be relied upon by the Parties.

**E. Agreement As Precedent:**

The Parties have entered into this Agreement to avoid further expense, inconvenience, uncertainty and delay. Nothing in this Agreement (or any testimony, presentation or briefing in any proceeding to approve the Transaction) shall be asserted or deemed to mean that a Party agreed with or adopted another Party's legal or factual assertions related to this Transaction. The limitations in this paragraph shall not apply to any proceeding to enforce the terms of this Agreement or any commission order adopting this Agreement in full, as appropriate.

Furthermore, because this Agreement represents a compromise position of the Parties no Party may use this Agreement as precedent on the appropriateness of the positions of that other Party or of other intervenors in any other proceeding and no conduct, statements or documents disclosed in the negotiation of this Agreement (not including non-privileged, publicly available documents) shall be admissible as evidence in any other proceeding.

**F. Effective Date:**

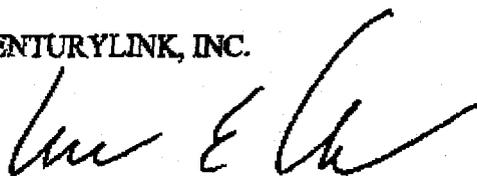
This Agreement is effective upon execution, however, the Settlement Terms contained in Section B shall not become effective unless and until the Transaction closes. If the Transaction does not close, this Agreement and Settlement Terms are null and void.

**G. Manner of Execution:**

This Agreement is considered executed when all Parties sign this Agreement. A designated and authorized representative may sign this Agreement on a Party's behalf. The Parties may execute this Agreement in counterparts. If this Agreement is executed in counterparts, all counterparts shall constitute one agreement. A faxed or scanned and emailed signature page containing the signature of a Party is acceptable as an original signature page signed by that Party. Each Party shall indicate the date of its signature on this Agreement.

Dated this 6th day of November 2011.

CENTURYLINK, INC.



By: William E. Check, President Wholesale Operations

Dated:

QWEST COMMUNICATIONS INTERNATIONAL, INC.

By: R. Steven Davis,  
Senior Vice President—Public Policy & Government Relations

Dated:

INTEGRA TELECOM, INC.

By: James H. Huesgen, President

Dated:

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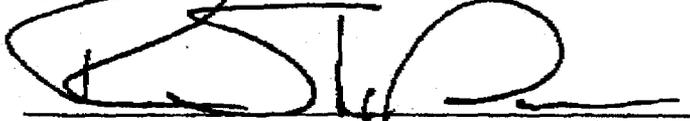
CENTURYLINK, INC.

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By: William E. Check, President Wholesale Operations

Dated:

QWEST COMMUNICATIONS INTERNATIONAL, INC.



By: R. Steven Davis,

Senior Vice President—Public Policy & Government Relations

Dated:

INTEGRA TELECOM, INC.

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Dated:

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CENTURYLINK, INC.

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By: William E. Check, President Wholesale Operations

Dated:

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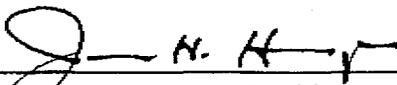
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By: R. Steven Davis,  
Senior Vice President—Public Policy & Government Relations

Dated:

INTEGRA TELECOM, INC.

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By:  James H. Huesgen, President

Dated:

**Attachment A to Settlement Agreement:**

**Unbundled Loops Used to Provide xDSL Services Amendment  
to the Interconnection Agreement between  
Qwest Corporation and  
[CLEC] for the State of [State]**

This is an Amendment ("Amendment") to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation ("Qwest"), a Colorado corporation, and [insert CLEC name] ("CLEC"). Qwest and CLEC shall be referred to jointly as the "Parties."

**RECITALS**

WHEREAS, the Parties entered into an Interconnection Agreement ("Agreement") in the state of [insert state], which was approved by the Commission;

WHEREAS, the Parties agree to amend the Agreement further under the terms and conditions contained herein.

**AGREEMENT**

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual terms, covenants and conditions contained in this Amendment and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

**Amendment Terms**

The Agreement is hereby amended by adding terms and conditions relating to xDSL Capable Loops, as set forth in Attachments 1-3 and Exhibit A to this Amendment, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference. The Parties agree the terms in this document are for the limited purposes of this Amendment. CLEC and Qwest reserve their rights to assert different language and/or term(s) in other contexts.

Qwest and CLEC agree that, in the new (replacement or successor) interconnection agreement between Qwest and CLEC, the language in Attachments 1-3 and Exhibit A will be added as closed (i.e., agreed upon) language to the interconnection agreement that is submitted in a compliance filing for Commission approval in [insert State]. Integra agrees to add the closed language reflected in Attachments 1-3 and Exhibit A to the Qwest-CLEC negotiations multi-state interconnection agreement negotiations draft.

Qwest will restore Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line ("ADSL"), including the NC code of LXR-, which Qwest previously grandparented. Qwest will reverse changes made via its Change Request ("CR") (CR #PC121106-1). Qwest will not re-notify or implement the changes initially announced in its March 13, 2009 notice (PROS.03.13.09.F.06150.LoopQualCLECJobAid\_V25) that Qwest did not implement (but indicated in its April 3, 2009 Response it will re-notify). Qwest will not take actions, or make statements in notices to CLECs, that are inconsistent with Qwest's obligation, under 47 C.F.R. § 51.319(a)(8), to not engineer the transmission capabilities of its network in a manner, or engage in any policy, practice, or procedure, that disrupts or degrades access to the local loop.

Intrabuilding cable is not addressed in this Amendment. CLEC and Qwest reserve their rights with respect to intrabuilding cable.

**Effective Date and Implementation Date**

This Amendment shall be deemed effective upon approval by the Commission; however, the Parties agree to begin implementation of the provisions of this Amendment upon execution.

**Further Amendments**

Except as modified herein, the provisions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. Except as provided in the Agreement, this Amendment may not be further amended or altered, and no waiver of any provision thereof shall be effective, except by written instrument executed by an authorized representative of both Parties.

**Entire Agreement**

Other than the publicly filed Agreement and its Amendments, Qwest and CLEC have no agreement or understanding, written or oral, relating to the terms and conditions of Attachments 1-3 and Exhibit A in the State of [insert state].

The Parties intending to be legally bound have executed this Amendment as of the dates set forth below, in multiple counterparts, each of which is deemed an original, but all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument.

**CLEC**

**Qwest Corporation**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Printed/Typed

L. T. Christensen  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Printed/Typed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

Director - Wholesale Contracts  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## ATTACHMENT 1

NOTE: The numbering in this Attachment 1 (which may not be consecutive) is used as a convenience to the Parties and may not be related to the numbering of the remainder of the Agreement.

### 2.0 Interpretation and Construction

2.3 Unless otherwise specifically determined by the Commission, in cases of conflict between the Agreement and Qwest's Tariffs, PCAT, methods and procedures, technical publications, policies, product notifications or other Qwest documentation relating to Qwest's or CLEC's rights or obligations under this Agreement, then the rates, terms and conditions of this Agreement shall prevail. To the extent another document abridges or expands the rights or obligations of either Party under this Agreement, the rates, terms and conditions of this Agreement shall prevail.

### 4.0 Definitions

Defined terms used but not defined in this Amendment are as defined in the Agreement. To the extent that a term is defined in both the Agreement and Section 4.0 of this Amendment, the definition in the Agreement is deemed deleted, and that definition is replaced with the definition in this Section 4.0 of this Amendment, unless the definition below indicates otherwise.

For purposes of the Agreement and this Amendment, the following terms are defined as follows:

"ADSL Compatible Loop" means the unbundled Loop complies with technical parameters of the specified Network Channel/Network Channel Interface codes as specified in the relevant technical publications and industry standards for Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line ("ADSL"), which is further described in the definition of Digital Subscriber Loop. Qwest makes no assumptions as to the capabilities of CLEC's Central Office equipment or the Customer Premises Equipment.

"Best Available Pair" means, for facilities assignment purposes, the Loop that has the least Estimated Measured Loss ("EML") and that is assigned taking into account the least amount of Conditioning, as described in Section 9.2.2.3.5.1.

"Bridged Tap" means the unused sections of a twisted pair subtending the Loop between the end user customer and the Serving Wire Center or extending beyond the end user customer. Regarding stub cable, see Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.5.1.1.1.

"Condition" or "Conditioning" has the meaning set forth in 47 C.F.R. §51.319 and as interpreted in the rules and orders of the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"). Conditioning includes when Qwest dispatches personnel and removes at least load coils, low pass filters, range extenders, any single Bridged Tap(s) greater than 2000 feet, total Bridged Tap(s) greater than 2500 feet, any Near-End Bridged Tap(s), and any Far-End Bridged Tap(s) from a

copper unbundled Loop or Subloop. Different rates and terms apply to Remove All Conditioning, as that term is defined in this Amendment.

"Digital Subscriber Loop," "DSL," "xDSL," or "xDSL Service" refers to a set of service-enhancing copper technologies that are designed to provide digital services over copper Loops or Subloops either in addition to or instead of analog voice service including, but not limited to, the following types of xDSL Service, and successor or successive (e.g., HDSL, HDSL2, HDSL4) technologies:

"ADSL" or "Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line" is a Passband digital Loop transmission technology that typically permits the transmission of up to 8 Mbps downstream (from the Central Office to the End User Customer) and up to 1 Mbps digital signal upstream (from the End User Customer to the Central Office) over one (1) copper pair.

"ADSL2" and ADSL2+" refer to technologies that extend the capability of ADSL in data rates up to 24 Mbit/s downstream and 3.5 Mbit/s upstream. ADSL2+ may achieve rates of 24 Mbps on telephone lines as long as 5,000 feet. ADSL2+ solutions will interoperate with ADSL and ADSL2, as well as with ADSL2+. ADSL2 is based on ITU standard G.992.3, and ADSL2+ is based on ITU standard G.992.5.

"HDSL" or "High-Data Rate Digital Subscriber Line" is a synchronous baseband DSL technology operating over one or more copper pairs. HDSL can offer 784 Kbps circuits over a single copper pair, T1 service over two (2) copper pairs, or future E1 service over three (3) copper pairs.

"HDSL2" or "High-Data Rate Digital Subscriber Line 2" is a synchronous baseband DSL technology operating over a single pair capable of transporting a bit rate of 1.544 Mbps.

HDSL4" or "High-Data Rate Digital Subscriber Line 4" is a synchronous baseband DSL technology operating over two copper pairs and is capable of transporting an aggregate bit rate of 1.544. This transport offers extended reach in comparison to HDSL2.

"ISDL" or "ISDN Digital Subscriber Line" or "Integrated Services Digital Network Digital Subscriber Line" is a symmetrical, baseband DSL technology that permits the bi-directional transmission of up to 128 Kbps using ISDN CPE but not circuit switching.

"RADSL" or "Rate Adaptive Digital Subscriber Line" is a form of ADSL that can automatically assess the condition of the Loop and optimize the line rate for a given line quality.

"SDSL" or "Symmetric Digital Subscriber Line" is a baseband DSL transmission technology that permits the bi-directional transmission from up to 160 kbps to 2.048 Mbps on a single pair.

"SHDSL" or "Single-Pair High Speed DSL" provides for sending and receiving high-speed symmetrical data streams over a single pair of copper wires. The SHDSL payload may be 'clear channel' (unstructured), T1 or E1 (full rate or fractional), multiple ISDN Basic Rate Access (BRA), Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) cells, or Ethernet packets.

"G.SHDSL" or "Symmetric High Bit Rate DSL" features symmetrical data rates from 192 kbit/s to 2,304 kbit/s of payload in 64 kbit/s increments per pair. "E.SHDSL" or "Extended Single-Pair High Speed DSL" offers symmetrical data rates of up to 5,696 kbit/s in 64k increments per a pair. SHDSL is based on ITU standard G.991.2 with additional coverage of E.SHDSL in 802.3ah.

"VDSL" or "Very High Speed Digital Subscriber Line" is a baseband DSL transmission technology that permits the transmission of up to 52 Mbps downstream (from the Central Office to the End User Customer) and up to 2.3 Mbps digital signal upstream (from the End User Customer to the Central Office). VDSL can also be 26 Mbps symmetrical, or other combination.

"Embedded Base xDSL Capable Loop" refers to an xDSL Capable Loop (including ADSL Compatible Loop and Non-Loaded Loop) installed for CLEC before the Final Implementation Date of this Amendment.

"Estimated Measured Loss" or "EML" is an estimate based on a mathematical formula or algorithm and individual Loop make up. EML estimates how a requested Loop is likely to perform at the applicable specifications for a specified xDSL Service. EML is used to calculate insertion loss for various xDSL technologies based on Loop make up information in Qwest records. EML is described further in Section 9.2.2.3.5.1.

"Far-End" and/or "Near-End" Bridged Tap means Bridged Tap within 1,000 feet of the end user customer location or within 1,000 feet of the main distribution frame in the Central Office.

"LXR- xDSL Capable Loop" means an xDSL Capable Loop that is associated with the NC Code of "LXR-," including the codes identified with a Qwest LXR- NC code in Attachment 2 to this Amendment. LXR- xDSL Capable Loops include Loops with any of the NCI codes used in association with an LXR- NC code to identify the type of xDSL Service.

"Near-End" Bridged Tap – See Far-End and/or Near-End Bridged Tap

"Network Channel" or "NC" codes identify the technical details of channels provided by a Carrier, from the Point of Termination (POT) at another Carrier's Point of Presence (POP) to the central office.

"Network Channel Interface" or "NCI" codes identify interface elements such as physical conductors, protocol, impedance, protocol options, and transmission level points that reflect physical and electrical characteristics located at a POT at the switch or customer location. The NCI code communicates to Qwest the character of the signals CLEC is connecting to the network at each end-point of the metallic circuit. The NCI code tells Qwest of CLEC's specific technical requirements at a network interface. The NCI code indicates the type of xDSL Service to be deployed on the requested Loop or Subloop.

"Non-Embedded Base xDSL Capable Loop" refers to an xDSL Capable Loop (including ADSL Compatible Loop and Non-Loaded Loop) installed for CLEC on or after the Final Implementation Date of this Amendment.

"Performance Parameter Tests" means the threshold tests that Qwest will perform for Loops and Subloops used to provide xDSL Services, as set forth in Sections 9.2.2.3.5.3.1 and 9.2.2.3.5.4.2 of this Amendment.

"Remove All Conditioning" means Qwest dispatches personnel and removes all Bridged Taps, as well as any load coils, low pass filters, and range extenders, from a copper unbundled Loop or Subloop.

"xDSL Capable Loop" refers to 2-wire and 4-wire copper Loop(s) and copper Subloop(s) that transmit the digital signals needed to provide xDSL Service. Unbundled digital Loops may be provided using a variety of transmission technologies pursuant to the Agreement. For purposes of this Amendment, "xDSL Capable Loops" is used to refer specifically to Loops and Subloops used to provide narrowband or broadband services (or both) to customers served by copper Loops and Subloops (including those that are in active service and those that are deployed in the network as spares).

"xDSL Service" – See definition above for Digital Subscriber Loop.

## **9.0 Unbundled Network Elements**

### **9.2.2.3.5 xDSL Capable Loops**

**9.2.2.3.5.1 Assignment of Facilities - xDSL Capable Loops.** Qwest will assign facilities for xDSL Capable Loops using the criteria described in this Section.

9.2.2.3.5.1.1 Qwest will take into account the NC code and the NCI code when assigning facilities for xDSL Capable Loops.

9.2.2.3.5.1.2 For Loops 4,000 feet in length or longer, Qwest will assign the Best Available Pair using the criteria described in this Section.

9.2.2.3.5.1.2.1 Qwest will calculate Estimated Measured Loss ("EML") and assign Loops based on least EML. Qwest will calculate EML in each case using the following steps with respect to Conditioning assumptions:

9.2.2.3.5.1.2.1.1 First, Qwest will assume no Conditioning is needed. Second, if no qualifying Loop is otherwise available and CLEC pre-approved Conditioning, Qwest will re-calculate EML assuming Conditioning is needed. Finally, if no qualifying Loop is otherwise available and CLEC pre-approved Remove All Conditioning, Qwest will re-calculate EML assuming Remove All Conditioning is needed.

9.2.2.3.5.1.2.1.2 CLEC's pre-approval of Conditioning will not have any negative impacts on CLEC's service request. Qwest will still attempt to locate and assign facilities that do not require

Conditioning or, when Conditioning is needed, require the least amount of Conditioning.

9.2.2.3.5.1.2.2 In the case of each Loop assigned, Qwest will provide the EML used by Qwest to assign the Loop to CLEC on the Design Layout Record ("DLR").

9.2.2.3.5.1.2.3 For EML purposes, Qwest will measure insertion loss at 196 kHz (except ISDN BRI), as described in this Section. The maximum dB loss parameters used for EML purposes will vary by type of xDSL Service as follows:

9.2.2.3.5.1.2.3.1 For LXR- xDSL Capable Loops, including ADSL and ADSL2+:  
EML  $\leq$  81 dB (i.e., 78 dB +3db) at 196 kHz; maximum loss of 81 dB

9.2.2.3.5.1.2.3.2 For 2-wire LX-N xDSL Capable Loops, including HDSL2, G.SHDSL, and E.SHDSL - NCI codes of 02QB9.00H and 02QB5.00G:  
EML  $\leq$  31dB (i.e., 28 dB +3db) at 196 kHz; maximum loss of 31 dB

9.2.2.3.5.1.2.3.3 For 4-wire LX-N xDSL Capable Loops, including HDSL4 and G.SHDSL - NCI codes of 04QB9.00H, 04QB5.00G, and 04QB9.00F:  
EML  $\leq$  34dB (i.e., 31 dB +3db) at 196 kHz; maximum loss of 34 dB

9.2.2.3.5.1.2.3.4 For ISDN BRI, with NC/NCI codes of LX-N 02QC5.00S:  
EML  $\leq$  40 dB at 40 kHz; maximum loss of 40 dB

9.2.2.3.5.1.2.3.5 For all other LX-N xDSL Capable Loops, including Spectrum Management Classes 1-9, Qwest will assign the Best Available Pair using EML measured at 196 kHz (without a maximum dB loss level), except as described in Section 9.2.2.3.5.1.5. A Loop that fails EML or Actual Measured Loss ("AML") for the xDSL Services identified in Sections 9.2.2.3.5.1.2.3.1-9.2.2.3.5.1.2.3.3 may meet EML and/or AML for the xDSL Services identified in this Section 9.2.2.3.5.1.2.3.5.

9.2.2.3.5.1.3 For Loops shorter than 4,000 feet, Qwest will assign facilities using the criteria described in this Section.

9.2.2.3.5.1.3.1 If the facilities available for assignment to the same location do not all have the same cable gauge, Qwest will assign the Best Available Pair pursuant to the criteria in Section 9.2.2.3.5.1.2.

9.2.2.3.5.1.3.2 If the facilities available for assignment all have the same

cable gauge, Qwest will assign any pair in the cross box and terminal, subject to Section 9.2.2.3.5.1.3.3.

9.2.2.3.5.1.3.3 If CLEC requests multiple Loops to the same location, all Loops will have the same Loop make-up, including Loop lengths.

9.2.2.3.5.1.3.3.1 If Loops having the same Loop make-up are not available for all of the multiple Loops to the same location, Qwest will assign as many of these Loops as possible with the same Loop make-up, including Loop lengths. For remaining Loops shorter than 4,000 feet, if any, Qwest will assign any pair in the cross box and terminal.

9.2.2.3.5.1.4 Loops and Subloops that require Conditioning, as well as Loops and Subloops that fail EML, fall out of the automatic facilities assignment process. Qwest will follow the manual steps for copper loop assignment, as applicable.

9.2.2.3.5.1.4.1.1 If, after the manual steps for copper loop assignment and Conditioning, no loop meets the criteria described above for facilities assignment, Qwest will validate that there is no such loop. Qwest will notify CLEC using the jeopardy notification process. CLEC may supplement its service request either to modify it or to cancel it. If CLEC does not supplement its service request, Qwest will cancel it consistent with the held order terms in the Agreement.

9.2.2.3.5.1.4.1.2 Regarding Subloops generally, to the extent that processes and procedures for Subloops are different from, or more manual than, the processes and procedures for Loops, the Parties will work together to develop mutually agreeable processes for Subloops.

9.2.2.3.5.1.5 For Non-Embedded Base xDSL Capable Loops, Qwest will not assign any Loop that exceeds a length of 18,000 feet for LXR- xDSL Capable Loops or 22,000 feet for LX-N xDSL Capable Loops. If, however, changes in technologies or industry standards occur that allow CLEC to reasonably use Loops in excess of one or both of these Loop lengths for providing advanced services, Qwest will assign xDSL Capable Loops in excess of the affected Loop length(s) consistent with those standards when requested by CLEC.

#### **9.2.2.3.5.2 Conditioning - xDSL Capable Loops.**

9.2.2.3.5.2.1 CLEC may indicate on its service request that it pre-approves Conditioning (Conditioning, and/or Remove All Conditioning) in the event Conditioning is necessary. Upon CLEC pre-approval or approval of Conditioning (except as provided in Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.3), and only if Conditioning is necessary, Qwest will dispatch personnel to Condition the Loop.

9.2.2.3.5.2.1.1 If CLEC pre-approves Remove All Conditioning and Qwest performs Remove All Conditioning, Qwest will bill only one charge

(the Remove All Conditioning charge) for Conditioning, even though CLEC may also have pre-approved Conditioning on its service request.

9.2.2.3.5.2.1.2 If CLEC has not pre-approved Conditioning, Qwest will obtain CLEC's consent prior to undertaking any Conditioning efforts, except in the scenario described in Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.3.

9.2.2.3.5.2.1.3 See Section 9.2.2.3.5.1.2.1.2 regarding pre-approval and facilities assignment.

**9.2.2.3.5.2.2 Remove All Conditioning During Loop Delivery and Acceptance, When Requested by CLEC but Not Pre-Approved.** (After service order completion, see Sections 9.2.2.3.5.2.4 and 9.2.2.3.5.4 regarding Repair.)

9.2.2.3.5.2.2.1 If CLEC does not indicate on its initial service request that it pre-approves Remove All Conditioning and then, during Loop delivery and acceptance (e.g., upon receiving test results), CLEC requests Remove All Conditioning, if the Qwest technician is still available (so that an additional dispatch is not required), Qwest will perform Remove All Conditioning, and CLEC will pay only the Remove All Conditioning charge for Conditioning.

9.2.2.3.5.2.2.1.1 Qwest will use the Provider Initiated Activity ("PIA") field on the Firm Order Confirmation ("FOC") to communicate changes Qwest made to the service order that are different from what CLEC requested on the service request (*i.e.*, to indicate Remove All Conditioning).

9.2.2.3.5.2.2.1.2 No CLEC service request, supplement, or supplemental service request is required in this circumstance.

9.2.2.3.5.2.2.2 Alternatively (or if the terms of Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.2.1 are not met), if CLEC does not indicate on its initial service request that it pre-approves Conditioning or Remove All Conditioning and then, during Loop delivery and acceptance, CLEC desires such conditioning, CLEC may elect to supplement its service request to request the desired conditioning.

9.2.3.5.2.2.3 If CLEC pre-approves Conditioning but not Remove All Conditioning and Qwest performs Conditioning, Qwest may charge CLEC for both Conditioning and Remove All Conditioning if: (1) Qwest performs Conditioning, (2) the scenario described in Section 9.2.2.3.5.3.2 does not apply, and (3) CLEC later requires Qwest to perform another dispatch and perform Remove All Conditioning.

**9.2.2.3.5.2.3 Remove All Conditioning During Loop Delivery and Acceptance, When Not Approved.** (After service order completion, see Sections 9.2.2.3.5.2.4 and 9.2.2.3.5.4 regarding Repair). In the single scenario described in this Section, Qwest may perform and charge CLEC for Remove All Conditioning, even though CLEC has neither pre-approved nor approved Remove All Conditioning. In this scenario, Qwest will charge only one charge (the Remove

All Conditioning charge) for Conditioning.

9.2.2.3.5.2.3.1 The no approval for Remove All Conditioning situation may occur only after both (1) CLEC has pre-approved Conditioning (or, if it did not pre-approve it, CLEC has supplemented its service request to approve it after receiving a jeopardy or reject notice indicating Conditioning is required), and (2) Qwest has performed Conditioning, but such Conditioning does not bring the loop within the applicable dB level and therefore Remove All Conditioning is required to meet the applicable dB level.

9.2.2.3.5.2.3.2 If during Loop delivery and acceptance Qwest conducts the Performance Parameter Tests or other tests as described in Section 9.2.2.3.5.3.1 and, even though the applicable EML was achieved during facilities assignment, actual testing shows that the applicable dB level (as set forth in Section 9.2.2.3.5.4.3 and Attachment 3) cannot be achieved without Remove All Conditioning (*i.e.*, removal of Bridged Taps would bring the Loop within the applicable dB level), Qwest may perform and charge CLEC for Remove All Conditioning, even though CLEC has neither pre-approved nor approved Remove All Conditioning.

9.2.2.3.5.2.3.3 In the scenario described in Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.3.2, if CLEC has enrolled in Provider Test Access ("PTA"), within three (3) business days, Qwest will provide before and after test results in writing to CLEC which confirm that Remove All Conditioning was required to bring the Loop within the applicable dB level. Qwest will provide the before and after test results via PTA, so that CLEC may access them electronically. If Qwest fails to provide complete written before and after test results as described in this Section within three (3) business days, Qwest shall not charge CLEC for performing Remove All Conditioning.

9.2.2.3.5.2.4 Conditioning During Repair.

9.2.2.3.5.2.4.1 CLEC may request Conditioning or Remove All Conditioning when submitting a trouble report. No CLEC service request, supplement, or supplemental request is required. Qwest will apply the applicable charges for conditioning, using the rates in Exhibit A to this Amendment.

9.2.2.3.5.2.4.1.1 When Qwest performs Remove All Conditioning during Repair, Qwest will attempt to condition the Loop and clear the trouble within four (4) hours of receipt of the trouble report, except as provided in Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.5.1.2.1. When Qwest performs Remove All Conditioning during Repair, the 4-hour Repair commitment time described in Section 9.2.2.3.5.4.5 does not apply, however. In addition, CLEC's trouble report will be excluded from MR-5 (All Troubles Cleared Within 4 Hours) in the Performance Indicator Definitions (PIDs) in Exhibit B to the Agreement. Qwest will code Remove All Conditioning to an excluded code, which does not identify CLEC or CLEC's customer as the cause of the trouble.

9.2.2.3.5.2.4.2 Because Embedded Base xDSL Capable Loops, by definition, were installed before the Final Implementation Date of this Amendment, Conditioning will occur in the context of Repair for Embedded Base xDSL Capable Loops.

9.2.2.3.5.2.5 Exclusions. If an Exclusion pursuant to Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.5.1.1 applies, Qwest will notify CLEC of the Exclusion via jeopardy notice, reject notice, or Customer Electronic Maintenance and Repair (CEMR) (or successor system), as applicable, and CLEC may elect to request a different Loop. (If no compatible Loop is available, see Section 9.2.2.3.5.1.4.1.1.) If an Exclusion pursuant to Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.5.1.2 applies, Qwest may not reject the request and must perform Remove All Conditioning, but the charge may vary as described in Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.5.1.2.1. If a dispute arises as to whether an Exclusion applies, Qwest bears the burden of proof.

9.2.2.3.5.2.5.1 Notwithstanding anything that may be to the contrary in this Amendment, the following Exclusions apply to Conditioning, subject to Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.5.2.

9.2.2.3.5.2.5.1.1 Exclusions to Conditioning. Qwest is not required to remove the following Stub Cable or Bridged Taps, unless Qwest removes them for itself or its retail customers:

9.2.2.3.5.2.5.1.1.1 Stub Cable. Stub Cable is short lengths (not to exceed 50 feet) of cable that may have been placed in feeder or distribution plant for ease of future additions or changes. Cable or other plant identified as Bridged Tap in Qwest Loop make up records is not Stub Cable for purposes of this Amendment, unless Qwest promptly provides CLEC with mutually agreeable verifying documentation that demonstrates that the device is Stub Cable as described in this Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.5.1.1.1 and is not Bridged Tap (*i.e.*, the Loop make up records are inaccurate).

9.2.2.3.5.2.5.1.1.2 Bridged Tap in Inaccessible Plant – Buried. Inaccessible Plant – Buried means a Direct Buried Splice Enclosure that it is not technically feasible to access.

9.2.2.3.5.2.5.1.1.3 Bridged Tap in Inaccessible Plant – Safety. Inaccessible Plant – Safety means specific plant for which access has been restricted on safety grounds by a regulatory agency, such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (“OSHA”), or by a Commission or court order addressing the specific plant in issue. If Qwest has a permit to access the plant, with no safety restriction, the plant is not excluded as inaccessible. In the event of an emergency that does not fall within this description but poses safety dangers to personnel, Qwest and CLEC will

work together to resolve the issue on a case-by-case basis.

**9.2.2.3.5.2.5.1.2 Exclusions to Performing Remove All Conditioning for the Remove All Conditioning rate set forth in Exhibit A.** When the following circumstances exist, Qwest will perform Remove All Conditioning and charge for it as follows:

**9.2.2.3.5.2.5.1.2.1 More Than Eight (8) Hours of Qwest Technician Time.** If more than eight (8) hours of technician time is required to perform Remove All Conditioning, Qwest will provide CLEC with a description of work and not-to-exceed quotation for charges for Qwest technician time in excess of eight (8) hours in Qwest's response to CLEC's service request or trouble report. Qwest will provide the quotation as soon as reasonably possible but no later than within four (4) business days of receiving CLEC's service request or within one (1) business day of receiving CLEC's trouble report. To the extent that Qwest incurs fees for permits that are exclusive to CLEC's request for Remove All Conditioning and under which Qwest will perform no other activity, Qwest may include the amount of the permitting fee(s) in the quotation, provided Qwest also provides documentation of the permitting fee use and expense to CLEC. If CLEC accepts the quotation and Qwest performs Remove All Conditioning, Qwest may charge CLEC for the Remove All Conditioning rate described in Exhibit A to this Amendment, technician time in excess of eight (8) hours at the applicable half hourly rate in Exhibit A to the Agreement, and such documented permitting fees, if any.

**9.2.2.3.5.2.5.2 The Exclusions in Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.5 are intended to be narrow exclusions that occur relatively rarely.** The Parties have agreed to the negotiated terms in this Amendment, including the rates in Exhibit A, in part based on this assumption made by both Parties.

**9.2.2.3.5.2.5.2.1 Regarding the Exclusions pursuant to Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.5.1.1,** if after implementation of this Amendment this assumption is inconsistent with actual practice, the Parties reserve the right to request amendment of the Agreement, including changes to the rates, terms, and conditions of this Amendment.

**9.2.2.3.5.2.5.2.2 Regarding the Exclusions pursuant to Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.5.1.2,** the Parties agree to meet on an annual basis to review the instances of Remove All conditioning requiring more than Eight (8) hours of technician time to perform, that exceed the greater of 10 instances or ten percent (10%) of all Remove All conditioning performed on behalf of CLEC in a state, and will mutually determine if it is appropriate to make adjustments to the technician time cap, the level of instances requiring greater than

Eight (8) hours or the rate for Remove All Conditioning.

9.2.2.3.5.2.6 See Section 9.2.3.11 below regarding Conditioning Rate Elements.

**9.2.2.3.5.3 Loop Delivery and Acceptance - xDSL Capable Loops.** Although an estimate is used for facilities assignment purposes, Loop delivery and acceptance will be based upon actual testing.

9.2.2.3.5.3.1 Qwest will conduct the threshold tests set forth in Attachment 3 to this Amendment, at the levels described in Attachment 3 (Performance Parameter Tests) as needed to deliver a properly working Loop. If Qwest conducts other tests when performing such testing for itself or its retail customers, Qwest will also perform those tests for CLEC. When lack of access to CLEC's central office equipment precludes Qwest from performing the same tests that Qwest performs for itself or its retail customers, however, Qwest will perform comparable tests for CLEC.

9.2.2.3.5.3.1.1 Qwest will perform testing using an insertion loss measured at 196 kHz. The dB loss parameters used to test and validate Actual Measured Loss (AML) will vary by type of xDSL Service, as described in Section 9.2.2.3.5.4.3.1. Qwest will provision a Loop meeting at least the performance parameters specified in Attachment 3.

9.2.2.3.5.3.1.1.1 If upon testing the Loop does not meet the performance parameters specified in Attachment 3, Qwest will take action to bring the Loop within those parameters before Loop acceptance. If meeting the parameters requires Conditioning, see Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.

9.2.2.3.5.3.1.1.2 *Failure to Meet AML Due to Incorrect Information in Qwest Records, Including Loop Make Up records.*

9.2.2.3.5.3.1.1.2.1 Qwest will attempt to resolve any issues resulting from inaccuracies in Qwest's records (e.g., discrepancies between EML and AML) to ensure timely delivery of a Loop. (Qwest may, for example, correct its records and re-calculate EML based on correct information.) Regardless of any inaccuracies in the records, if AML is met (e.g., AML is below the applicable maximum dB level, as described in Section 9.2.2.3.5.4.3.1), the records discrepancy is not a basis for not delivering the Loop.

9.2.2.3.5.3.1.1.2.2 If failure to meet AML is both (1) caused by incorrect information in Qwest's records (e.g., Loop make up records), and (2) Qwest cannot resolve the discrepancy (such as an inaccurate indication of Loop length in Qwest records that cannot be resolved), then Qwest will notify CLEC of the discrepancy and the cause of the discrepancy (e.g., the actual Loop length is longer than

the maximum length allowable under AML) before Loop delivery.

9.2.2.3.5.3.1.1.2.2.1 Qwest will send a jeopardy notice to CLEC for the defective Loop, attempt to identify a compatible Loop and, if available, deliver a different Loop that meets the performance parameters. If no other compatible Loop is available after the manual steps for copper Loop assignment, Qwest will provide CLEC with a jeopardy notice for no available facilities.

9.2.2.3.5.3.1.1.2.3 Qwest will correct its records to indicate accurate information.

9.2.2.3.5.3.2 When Qwest completes testing, Qwest will provide CLEC with test results for all of the types of tests performed for each delivered xDSL Capable Loop, including each of the Performance Parameter Tests. This obligation to provide test results applies when CLEC orders xDSL Capable Loops via any Provisioning Option. When Qwest completes its tests, Qwest will provide the test results to CLEC before Loop acceptance in a mutually agreeable manner that allows CLEC either to view posted results electronically or to designate the personnel to receive the results by email, such as via Qwest's Provider Test Access ("PTA") or similar email system. When requested, Qwest will also provide the test results orally.

9.2.2.3.5.3.3 See Sections 9.2.2.3.5.2.2 and 9.2.2.3.5.2.3 regarding Conditioning during Loop delivery and acceptance.

**9.2.2.3.5.4 Repair - xDSL Capable Loops.** Repairs may occur shortly after service order completion or later (e.g., after a CLEC customer has been receiving service from CLEC for a longer period of time). The terms and conditions for Repair are the same for Embedded Base xDSL Capable Loops and Non-Embedded Base xDSL Capable Loops, except as described in Sections 9.2.2.3.5.4.6 and 9.2.2.3.5.4.7. Although an estimate is used for facilities assignment purposes, Repair will be based upon actual testing, including Actual Measured Loss ("AML").

9.2.2.3.5.4.1 Qwest will take into account the NC code and the NCI code when Repairing xDSL Capable Loops.

9.2.2.3.5.4.2 Qwest will conduct the Performance Parameter Tests set forth in Attachment 3 to this Amendment (which is not an exhaustive list) as needed to fully resolve the trouble. If Qwest conducts other tests for itself or its retail customers when performing such testing and Repairs, Qwest will also conduct those tests for CLEC. When lack of access to CLEC's central office equipment precludes Qwest from performing the same tests that Qwest performs for itself or its retail customers, however, Qwest will perform comparable tests for CLEC. Other testing may be needed to repair a Loop so that it performs consistent with industry standards for the type of xDSL Service deployed. If the trouble is not resolved, CLEC may escalate directly to its Qwest service manager, who will immediately escalate internally to ensure needed testing is identified and

conducted to resolve the trouble. Tests to be performed after escalation may include, for example, wideband noise and impulse noise, if not performed earlier as part of the testing outlined above. The Qwest Service Manager will track each escalation for purposes of Section 9.2.2.3.5.4.6.

9.2.2.3.5.4.3 Qwest will perform testing using an insertion loss measured at 196 kHz (except ISDN BRI), as described in Section 9.2.2.3.5.4.3.1. As indicated in Section 9.2.2.3.5.4.3.1, the AML must meet or fall below the maximum AML. In addition, except for ISDN BRI, with NC/NCI codes of LX-N 02QC5.OOS, the AML may be no more than five (5) dB greater than the EML calculated for the Loop.

9.2.2.3.5.4.3.1 The dB loss parameters used to test and validate Actual Measured Loss (AML) will vary as follows:

9.2.2.3.5.4.3.1.1 For LXR- xDSL Capable Loops, including ADSL and ADSL2+:

AML = up to 5 dB greater than EML at 196 kHz; maximum loss of 78 dB, if such limit is within test set capability.

9.2.2.3.5.4.3.1.2 For 2-wire LX-N xDSL Capable Loops, including HDSL2, G.SHDSL, and E.SHDSL - NCI codes of 02QB9.00H and 02QB5.00G:

AML = up to 5 dB greater than EML at 196 kHz; maximum loss of 28 dB

9.2.2.3.5.4.3.1.3 For 4-wire LX-N xDSL Capable Loops, including HDSL4 and G.SHDSL - NCI codes of 04QB9.00H, 04QB5.00G, and 04QB9.00F:

AML = up to 5 dB greater than EML at 196 kHz; maximum loss of 31 dB

9.2.2.3.5.4.3.1.4 For ISDN BRI, with NC/NCI codes of LX-N 02QC5.OOS:

AML  $\leq$  40 dB at 40 kHz; maximum loss of 40 dB

9.2.2.3.5.4.3.1.5 For all other LX-N xDSL Capable Loops, including Spectrum Management Classes 1-9, Qwest will measure AML at 196 kHz (without a maximum dB loss level).

AML = up to 5 dB greater than EML at 196 kHz; no maximum dB loss

9.2.2.3.5.4.3.1.6 Regarding Embedded Base xDSL Capable Loops, see Section 9.2.2.3.5.4.6.1.1.

9.2.2.3.5.4.4 In the case of every Repair of an xDSL Capable Loop, when Qwest completes testing, Qwest will provide CLEC with test results for all of the types of tests performed for each repaired xDSL Capable Loop, including each of the Performance Parameter Tests performed. This obligation to provide test results for Repairs applies regardless of the Provisioning Option used by CLEC when ordering the xDSL Capable Loop. When the tests are performed, Qwest will

make the test results available through Customer Electronic Maintenance and Repair (CEMR) or successor system. CLEC may access the results electronically. When requested, Qwest will also provide the test results to CLEC orally.

9.2.2.3.5.4.4.1 If Qwest fails to provide complete test results as described in Section 9.2.2.3.5.4.4, Qwest shall not code the Repair to CLEC or CLEC's customer when assigning a disposition code. The trouble is considered in Qwest's network for disposition and billing purposes.

9.2.2.3.5.4.5 Qwest's Repair commitment time for xDSL Capable Loops is four (4) hours, except as provided in Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.4.1.1.

9.2.2.3.5.4.6 Qwest and CLEC will meet to review the root cause analysis as performed by Qwest of the troubles escalated pursuant to Section 9.2.2.3.5 and mutually determine if other tests are appropriate to add to Attachment 3 for a type of xDSL Service.

9.2.2.3.5.4.7 See Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.4 regarding Conditioning during Repair.

#### **9.2.2.3.5.5 NC/NCI CODES – xDSL Capable Loops**

9.2.2.3.5.5.1 For Embedded Base xDSL Capable Loops, there may be instances when the NC code and/or NCI code associated with the CLEC customer's xDSL Service [which has been working for the customer, irrespective of the NC/NCI code(s) associated with the customer's xDSL Service] is not the same as the NC code and/or NCI code the Parties will use after the Final Implementation Date. When the need for a Repair occurs or Spectrum Management issues arise (e.g., after a Qwest network maintenance and modernization activity), however, CLEC may desire a change in the NC/NCI code(s) to conform it to the NC/NCI code(s) reflected in this Amendment. Qwest may not decline to proceed with Conditioning or with accepting and working to resolve trouble reports on the grounds that the NC/NCI code(s) are different or need changing for Embedded Base xDSL Capable Loops.

9.2.2.3.5.5.1.1 For Embedded Base xDSL Capable Loops, when submitting a trouble report, CLEC may request that Qwest change the NC code and/or NCI code to the applicable NC code and/or NCI code, such as described in Attachment 2. No CLEC service request, supplement, or supplemental request is needed to change the NC/NCI code(s) before CLEC submits a trouble report or before Qwest performs the Repair. After submitting a trouble report, CLEC will promptly submit a service request to change the NC/NCI codes to the xDSL Service actually deployed on the Embedded Base xDSL Capable Loop. Qwest will implement the change to the NC code and/or NCI code in Qwest's records with no change to the circuit identifier. After processing of the service request, the circuit history in CEMR (or successor system) will reflect the change in NC/NCI code(s) to identify the new NC/NCI code(s). These NC/NCI code changes do not require project handling.

9.2.2.3.5.5.1.1.1 Regarding future changes to NC/NCI codes, see Section 9.2.2.3.5.5.3.1.

9.2.2.3.5.5.2 For Non-Embedded Base xDSL Capable Loops, the Parties agree to use the NC/NCI codes as described in Attachment 2 and Section 9.2.2.3.5.5.3. If, after a Non-Embedded Base xDSL Capable Loop is installed, CLEC desires a change in the NC/NCI code(s), CLEC will submit a service request to change the NC/NCI code(s) for Non-Embedded Base xDSL Capable Loops.

9.2.2.3.5.5.3 After the Final Implementation Date of this Amendment, CLEC will order xDSL Capable Loops using the applicable NC/NCI codes described in Attachment 2 to this Amendment.

9.2.2.3.5.5.3.1 Particularly as technologies and industry standards change over time, NCI/SECNCI codes may be added or revised and will be available to CLEC. If those NCI/SECNCI codes in any respect replace or modify the codes identified in Attachment 2, Loops installed before Qwest implementation of such new or revised NCI/SECNCI codes will continue with the existing NCI/SECNCI codes as though the code were the new code or, if CLEC desires a change to conform to a revised code, the terms described in Section 9.2.2.3.5.5.1 will apply to changes in NCI/SECNCI codes in these circumstances.

9.2.2.3.5.5.3.1.1 For example, at the time of execution of this Amendment, Qwest has not implemented the Telcordia NCI/NCI codes for HDSL2 (LX-N 02QB9.00E), so CLEC will order HDSL2 using the NC/NCI code identified in Attachment 2 (LX-N 02QB9.00H). If Qwest later implements the Telcordia NC/NCI codes for HDSL2 (LX-N 02QB9.00E), installed CLEC HDSL2 Loops at that time will continue to be treated as HDSL2 Loops (for all purposes, including Repair and Spectrum Management), even though Qwest begins using different NC/NCI codes for HDSL2. Installed CLEC HDSL2 customers will be the equivalent of Embedded Base xDSL Capable Loops at that point for this purpose. See Section 9.2.2.3.5.5.1. Qwest may not withhold services (e.g., Conditioning or trouble report submission) on the grounds that code(s) need changing (such as via CLEC service request, supplement or supplemental service request, or a project conversion) in this circumstance.

#### **9.2.2.8 Loop Qualification/Make Up Information or Tool.**

9.2.2.8.8 Qwest will provide CLEC with: (1) the formula(s)/algorithm(s) that Qwest uses for calculation of EML, and/or (2) a Loop Qualification tool that calculates insertion loss for xDSL Capable Loops, using the same formula(s)/algorithm(s) that Qwest uses for calculation of EML.

#### **9.2.3 Unbundled Loop Rate Elements - xDSL Capable Loops**

##### **9.2.3.11 Rate Elements - Conditioning**

9.2.3.11.1 The rates for the following rate elements for Conditioning of xDSL Capable Loops are set forth in Exhibit A of this Amendment.

9.2.3.11.1.1 Conditioning.

9.2.3.11.1.2 Remove All Conditioning.

9.2.3.11.2 The rates for the rate elements in Section 9.2.3.11.1 do not apply unless Qwest dispatches a technician (or other personnel) and performs the specified Conditioning. If, for example, Qwest's records indicate that Conditioning is required but in fact the records are incorrect and therefore none is performed, no Conditioning charge applies.

9.2.3.11.3 Each of the rates for the rate elements in Section 9.2.3.11.1 may be applied no more than one time per Loop per CLEC customer at any time before disconnection. If, for example, CLEC approves Conditioning, Qwest removes a Near-End Bridged Tap, and Qwest charges the Conditioning charge, Qwest may not charge the Conditioning charge again if later it is discovered that a single Bridged Tap greater than 2000 feet requires removal, because removal of a single Bridged Tap greater than 2000 feet is included in the one-time Conditioning charge. Qwest will track payment of Conditioning charges.

9.2.3.11.4 Conditioning is not a prerequisite to Remove All Conditioning. If CLEC pre-approves Remove All Conditioning or CLEC requests only Remove All Conditioning and Qwest performs Remove All Conditioning, only the Remove All Conditioning charge applies for Conditioning.

9.2.3.11.5 If, as part of Conditioning, Qwest removes all Bridged Taps on the Loop, only the applicable Conditioning charge applies for Conditioning. The fact that all Bridged Taps were removed is not a basis for charging the Remove All Conditioning charge in this situation because, although all of the Bridged Taps were removed, they were within the definition of Conditioning. For example, if the only Bridged Tap on a Loop is a Near-End Bridged Tap, removal of that Bridged Tap (which falls within the Conditioning definition) does not result in a Remove All Conditioning charge simply because the only (i.e., all) Bridged Tap on the Loop was removed.

9.2.3.11.6 The need to perform Conditioning is considered trouble in Qwest's network for purposes of disposition coding and billing, except as provided in Section 9.2.2.3.5.2.4.1.1. When Qwest charges CLEC the rate(s) in Exhibit A for Conditioning, Qwest may not also cause charges such as Maintenance of Service charges to apply by coding the need for Conditioning to CLEC or CLEC's customer.

**9.2.6 Spectrum Management - xDSL Capable Loops**

9.2.6.10 Advanced services Loop technology will be deployed, and spectrum and binder groups will be managed, in accordance with the Act and the Agreement.

9.2.6.11 See Section 9.2.2.3.5.5 regarding NC/NCI codes.

## **12.4 Maintenance and Repair - xDSL Capable Loops**

12.4.1.6.3 When CLEC elects not to perform trouble isolation and CLEC requests Qwest to perform optional testing, Qwest will perform at least the Performance Parameter Tests described in Section 9.2.2.3.5.3.1 and Attachment 3 for xDSL Capable Loops as needed to isolate and fully resolve the trouble. If trouble is isolated to the Qwest network, Qwest will proceed to perform trouble isolation and work to resolve the trouble. At the time Qwest completes testing, Qwest will provide the test results to CLEC electronically. When CLEC does not submit the trouble report electronically, Qwest will contact CLEC by telephone to provide test results at the time Qwest completes testing. Qwest will charge CLEC the applicable optional testing charge.

12.4.1.6.4 Optional testing charges do not apply when CLEC performs trouble isolation. When CLEC submits a trouble report to Qwest with test results isolating trouble to the Qwest network, Qwest will not require CLEC to authorize optional testing charges and Qwest will not decline to proceed with Repair on the grounds that CLEC has not authorized optional testing. For xDSL Capable Loops, CLEC test results isolating trouble to Qwest's network may, for example, result from signal-to-noise ratio, Loop attenuation, margin, circuit resistance, or any of the tests identified in Attachment 3, and may include tests results such as those indicating bad splices, wet cable, opens, grounds, shorts, or Bridged Tap. When CLEC reports that CLEC has isolated trouble to the Qwest network, Qwest will proceed to perform trouble isolation and work to resolve the trouble.

12.4.3.5 Qwest Maintenance and Repair and routine test parameters and levels will be in compliance with Qwest's Technical Publications, which will be consistent with Telcordia's General Requirement Standards for Network Elements, Operations, Administration, Maintenance and Reliability and/or the applicable ANSI standard.

Exhibit A (Conditioning)

							Notes		
				Requested	Commission Proposed	Rate	+	+	+
<b>9.0 Unbundled Network Elements (UNEs)</b>									
<b>9.2</b>	<b>Unbundled Loops</b>								
	<b>9.2.2</b>	Nonloaded Loops							
		<b>9.2.2.4</b>	Cable Unloading / Bridge Tap Removal						
			<b>9.2.2.4.1</b>	Conditioning					
			<b>9.2.2.4.2</b>	Remove All Conditioning					
						\$250.00			+++
									++++
<b>NOTES:</b>									
++++ Rate shall be provided only Commission approved.									
+++ Negotiated Rate									
++++ When the Commission approved rate is greater than \$250, the Commission approved rate will be used for Remove All Conditioning.									

**ATTACHMENT 2:**  
**Qwest NC/NCI Code Combinations for LX-N and LXR- xDSL Capable Loops<sup>1</sup>**

NC Code	NCI Code		BRIEF DESCRIPTION
	Qwest CO-NI	Customer EU-NI	
<b>ADVANCED DIGITAL TRANSPORT – SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT COMPATIBLE</b>			
LX-N	02QB5.001	02DU5.001	Spectrum Management Class 1
LX-N	02QB5.002	02DU5.002	Spectrum Management Class 2
LX-N	02QB5.003	02DU5.003	Spectrum Management Class 3
LX-N	04QB5.003	04DU5.003	Spectrum Management Class 3
LX-N	02QB5.004	02DU5.004	Spectrum Management Class 4
LX-N	02QB9.005	02DU9.005	Spectrum Management Class 5
LX-N	02QB9.006	02DU9.006	Spectrum Management Class 6
LX-N	02QB5.007	02DU5.007	Spectrum Management Class 7
LX-N	02QB5.008	02DU5.008	Spectrum Management Class 8
LX-N	02QB9.009	02DU9.009	Spectrum Management Class 9
LX-N	04QB5.00F	04DU5.00F	Spectrum Management HDSL4. Technology Specific. Transmission System
LX-N	02QB5.00G	02DU5.00G	Spectrum Management G. SHDSL, E.SHDSL Technology specific. Transmission System
LX-N	04QB5.00G	04DU5.00G	Spectrum Management G. SHDSL Technology Specific. Transmission System
LX-N	02QB5.00S	02DU5.00S	Spectrum Management 281QSDSL.

<sup>1</sup> References to a type of xDSL Service (e.g., ADSL, HDSL) are general and include successive xDSL Services (e.g., ADSL2+, HDSL2).

NC Code	NCI Code		BRIEF DESCRIPTION
	Qwest CO-NI	Customer EU-NI	
			Technology Specific Transmission System
LX-N	04QB5.00S	04DU5.00S	Spectrum Management 281QDSL. Technology specific. Transmission System
<b>DIGITAL SUBSCRIBER LINE BASIC RATE ISDN – DSL (ISDN BRI) COMPATIBLE</b>			
LX-N	02QC5.OOS	021S5.N	Digital Subscriber Line with 2B1Q Signaling Format Compatible Loop
<b>HIGH-BIT-RATE DIGITAL SUBSCRIBER LINE (HDSL) COMPATIBLE</b>			
LX-N	02QB9.00H	02DU9.00H	HDSL and HDSL2 Compatible Loop, Metallic Facility
LX-N	04QB9.00H	04DU9.00H	HDSL and HDSL2 Compatible Loop, Metallic Facility
<b>ASYMMETRIC DIGITAL SUBSCRIBER LINE (ADSL) COMPATIBLE</b>			
LXR-	02QB9.00A.	02DU9.00A	Revised Resistance Design (RRD)n Non-Loaded Loop with ANSIT1.413 DMT Signaling Format
LXR-	02QB9.01A	02DU9.01A	RRD, Non-Loaded Loop with ANSIT1.413 DMT Signaling Format and one POTS Channel
LXR-	02QB9.00C	02DU9.00C	RRD, Non-Loaded Loop with CAP Signaling Format
LXR-	02QB9.01C	02DU9.01C	RRD, Non-Loaded Loop with CAP Signaling Format one POTS Channel
<b>UNBUNDLED DISTRIBUTION LOOPS</b>			
LX-N	02QE5.001	02DU5.001	Distribution Loop, without loading coils, Spectrum Management Class 1
LX-N	02QE5.002	02DU5.002	Distribution Loop, without loading coils, Spectrum Management Class 2
LX-N	02QE5.003	02DU5.003	Distribution Loop, without loading coils, Spectrum Management Class 3

NC Code	NCI Code		BRIEF DESCRIPTION
	Qwest CO-NI	Customer EU-NI	
LX-N	02QE5.004	02DU5.004	Distribution Loop, without loading coils, Spectrum Management Class 4
LX-N	02QE9.005	02DU9.005	Distribution Loop, without loading coils, Spectrum Management Class 5
LX-N	02QE9.006	02DU9.006	Distribution Loop, without loading coils, Spectrum Management Class 6
LX-N	02QE5.007	02DU5.007	Distribution Loop, without loading coils, Spectrum Management Class 7
LX-N	02QE5.008	02DU5.008	Distribution Loop, without loading coils, Spectrum Management Class 8
LX-N	02QE9.009	02DU9.009	Distribution Loop, without loading coils, Spectrum Management Class 9
LX-N	02QE9.005	02DUM.LS5	Distribution Loop, without loading coils, Spectrum Management Class 5 and one POTS Channel

**ATTACHMENT 3:  
xDSL CAPABLE LOOP PERFORMANCE PARAMETER TESTS**

Note: As between Attachment 1 and Attachment 3, the terms of Attachment 1 control, should any discrepancy or apparent discrepancy be identified. See Attachment 1 regarding Conditioning.

Required Tests	Expected Field Measurement Results	Notes
Loop Length	Actual (Capacitive)	
Load Coils	None	
Opens	None	
Grounds	None	
Shorts	None	
Bridge Tap	LX-N Maximum: Total Length <2500 ft Single Tap Length < 2000ft  LXR- Maximum: Total Length <2500 ft Single Tap Length < 2000 ft No Near End /Far End BT( >1000 ft)  Remove All Maximum: None	See Exclusions
1004 Hz Loss	< -8.5dBm	
196 kHz Loss	Actual Measured Loss (AML): Maximum AML = EML + 5 dB  LX-N Maximum dB Loss: 2- wire (e.g., NCI codes of 02QB9.00H and 02QB5.00G) <28.dB  4- wire (e.g, NCI codes of 04QB9.00H, 04QB5.00G, and 04QB9.00F) <31.dB  LXR- Maximum dB Loss: LXR- <78.dB	<78 dB if such limit is within test set capability
40 kHz Loss	ISDN BRI <40.dB	
Insulation Resistance	Tip – Ground > 3.3 Meg Ohms Ring – Ground > 3.3 Meg Ohms Tip – Ring > 3.3 Meg Ohms	

Foreign Voltage - DC	Tip - Ground < 8 VDC Ring - Ground < 8 VDC Tip - Ring < 8 VDC	
Foreign Voltage - AC	Tip - Ground <50VAC Ring to Ground <50VAC	
Noise (C - Message)	< 23 dBmC Far end 600 Ohm Termination	< 20 dBmC Acceptable, >20 < 30 dBmC Marginal, > 30 Unacceptable
Noise (C - Notch)	< 45 dB	1004 Hz, 0 dBm Transmit
Line Balance	< to 10%	The length of the Tip side of the line compared to the length of the Ring to 10% difference
Longitudinal Balance	965 Type Meter <= <= 50 dB @ 196khz Other Meters <= 40 dB @ 196khz	
Power Influence	<=90 dBmC	
D-Mark Tagged	Yes	