

February 24, 2006

VIA E-MAIL AND US MAIL

Hon. Samuel J. Petrillo
Oregon Public Utility Commission
550 Capitol Street NE, Suite 215
PO Box 2148
Salem, OR 97308-2148

Re: ARB 665 – Technical Conference

Dear Judge Petrillo:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with an update on the parties' progress in scheduling the technical conference discussed at the last prehearing conference, and to seek your Honor's guidance as to the scope of and procedures for that conference.

The parties have agreed to hold the technical conference at the Commission over a two-day period of time on March 7th and 8th. Dave Booth has agreed to serve as facilitator for the meeting on those dates.

In preparation for the conference, Level 3 proposed to Qwest for its review a draft "rules of engagement" to ensure that the meeting goes smoothly. Accordingly, the parties have agreed that lawyers and subject matter experts ("SMEs") will attend the conference, and that the SMEs will come prepared to present information about their respective companies' networks. However, the process of working through more detailed rules for the conference has highlighted three fundamental differences in the parties' expectations.

First, Level 3 believes that the parties should limit their discussions to pure technical and physical descriptions of their respective networks, and avoid legal argument. Qwest believes that the parties should be free to discuss both technical and legal issues.

Second, Level 3 believes that it is critical that its SMEs be allowed to pose questions and provide whatever factual information they believe relevant to fully explore the issues with Qwest's SMEs regarding Qwest's network. Qwest would allow only Mr. Booth to pose questions to the SMEs and be the gatekeeper as to what factual information could be presented.

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Third, Level 3 believes that it would be helpful if your Honor could be available during the conference to help the parties to resolve any procedural issues that might arise. Qwest does not believe that this is appropriate.

The technical conference will be most productive if it is conducted with a common view of the ground rules. For this reason, Level 3 requests your Honor to provide guidance to the parties on the issues enumerated above. If appropriate, we suggest that the Commission schedule a brief pre-hearing conference to allow for further discussion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa F. Rackner', with a large, stylized initial 'R'.

Lisa F. Rackner

cc: ARB 665 Service List

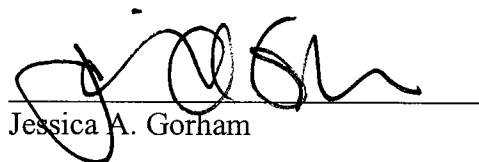
**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
ARB 665**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of **LEVEL 3'S LETTER TO JUDGE PETRILLO RE: TECHNICAL CONFERENCE** was served via U.S. Mail on the following parties on February 24, 2006:

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