

April 13, 2006

VIA EMAIL 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:

As you know, the parties held a technical conference on March 7 and 8, 2006, and David Booth was kind enough to agree to travel to Portland to serve as facilitator. The conference was very helpful, and both parties left with a clearer understanding of the other's network architecture.

During the conference, the parties cooperated to produce a diagram designed to illustrate those portions of the Level 3 and Qwest networks relevant to the issues in this case. The parties continued to revise the diagram over the past several weeks. Based upon its review of the competing sets of diagrams—a Mack Greene version for Level 3 and a Phil Linse version for Qwest, Level 3 believes that for all intents and purposes the parties have completed the technical details of the diagram and are agreed. What remains, it appears to Level 3, are simply “labeling” issues that have more to do with legal arguments than technical arguments. Out of an abundance of caution, however, Level 3 has contacted Qwest again and is doing one more final review of both versions to ensure that all technical details are 100% correct without regard to what legal or other label might finally be attached to them. Accordingly, Level 3 will withhold attaching any versions of the diagrams pending conclusion of these discussions. Level 3 has expressed to Qwest its desire to move ahead with scheduling a hearing and believes Qwest agrees with the concept of moving ahead to hearing at this point.

At the technical conference, the parties agreed that once the network diagram was filed that we would set a schedule for the rest of the Arbitration docket. Specifically, Level 3 envisions setting a date for filing supplemental testimony, and four days for a hearing. In addition, we would like to discuss the procedure for the Complaint docket, which would entail a day long hearing.

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To reduce time for both hearings, however, Level 3 suggests a technical conference on the record, as some states, such as Washington, have taken in highly technical proceedings. Based upon our experience in other proceedings in other states and with other carriers Level 3 believes that a hearing dealing with the Arbitration alone could be accomplished in as little as two days and if combined with the Complaint proceeding, at least for evidentiary purposes related to the network configurations involved, could be accomplished in three days.

Qwest and Level 3 have agreed to request a prehearing conference for some time next week.

Sincerely,



Lisa F. Rackner

cc: ARB 665 Service List

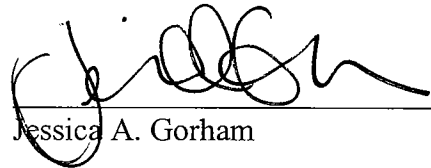
**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
ARB 665**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of **LEVEL 3'S LETTER TO JUDGE PETRILLO** was served via U.S. Mail on the following parties on April 13, 2006:

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