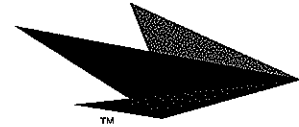


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EMBARQ™

Embarq
Mailstop: ORHDRA0412
902 Wasco
Hood River, OR 97031
embarq.com

January 29, 2007

Oregon Public Utility Commission
Attention: Filing Center
550 Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 215
Salem, OR 97308-2148

**Re: UM 1280 – Request to Withdraw of United Telephone Company
of the Northwest d/b/a Embarq**

Dear Filing Center:

United Telephone Company of the Northwest, d/b/a Embarq (“Embarq”) requests that the Commission grant it permission to withdraw from this docket. In Oregon, Embarq receives federal interstate access support, not traditional high cost universal service support, the latter of which is the subject of this docket. As a result, Embarq will not be subject to any disaggregation plan adopted in this proceeding. Thus, Embarq’s participation unnecessarily consumes company resources and provides little or no benefit to the Commission.

Embarq has conferred with the Commission’s Staff and USCC and neither party objects to Embarq’s withdrawal. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

William E. Hendricks

cc. Service List
ALJ Allan Arlow

William E. Hendricks
ATTORNEY
Voice: (541) 387-9439
tre.hendricks@embarq.com