



Qwest
607 14th Street, NW, Suite 950
Washington, DC 20005
Phone 202.429.3121
Fax 202.293.0561

Cronan O'Connell
Vice President-Federal Regulatory

EX PARTE

October 7, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W., TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

Re: *In the Matter of Telephone Number Portability*, CC Docket No. 95-116 and
In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service,
CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On October 3, 2003, Gary Lytle, Senior Vice President, Federal Relations, Cronan O'Connell, and John Morabito of Qwest Communications International Inc. ("Qwest") met with Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy, Matthew Brill, Senior Legal Advisor, Jennifer Manner, Senior Counsel and Amber Stocks, Intern to Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy, to discuss intermodal LNP issues and separately met with Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy, Jennifer Manner, and Amber Stokes to discuss universal service.

Regarding LNP, Qwest addressed: 1) the competitive inequities for all providers who implemented LNP according to the Commission's rules, in effect since 1996, should the Commission modify the current LNP rules and the current criteria that all parties abide by today, but as presently being opposed by the wireless providers; 2) the technical burdens created by changing the LNP rules in place today coupled with the fact that we do not yet have a clear definition of how the rules would be changed; and 3) the fact that the Commission has not yet properly notified the public and the industry of the Commission's potential LNP rule changes and given the public sufficient time to establish a proper record on which it can rely in determining which rule changes are in the public interest.

With respect to universal service, Qwest argued that the current distribution formula for allocating non-rural support is inequitable and that the Joint Board's *Recommended Decision* does not comply with the Tenth Circuit's remand¹. The discussions were consistent with Qwest's comments and *ex partes* as filed on the record in the above mentioned proceedings.

¹ Qwest Corp. v. FCC, 258 F.3d 1191 (10th Cir. 2001).

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In accordance with FCC Rule 47 C.F.R. § 1.49(f), this *ex parte* letter is being filed electronically for inclusion in the public record of the above-referenced proceedings pursuant to FCC Rule 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(2).

Sincerely,
/s/ Cronan O'Connell

cc:

Kathleen Abernathy (via e-mail at kathleen.abernathy@fcc.gov)

Matthew Brill (via e-mail at matthew.brill@fcc.gov)

Jennifer Manner (via e-mail at jennifer.manner@fcc.gov)

Amber Stocks (via e-mail at amber.stocks@fcc.gov)