

**Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20554**

**In the Matter of**

**Telephone Number Portability**

**Cascade Utilities, Inc.  
Petition for Waiver of Section 52.23(c)  
of the Commission's Rules**

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**CC Docket No. 95-116**

**To: Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau**

**PETITION FOR WAIVER**

Pursuant to Sections 1.3, 1.925 and 52.23(e) of the Commission's Rules,<sup>1</sup> and the Commission's *Intermodal LNP Order*,<sup>2</sup> Cascade Utilities, Inc. (the "Company") hereby requests waiver of the November 24, 2003 implementation date requiring the Company to support wireline-to-wireless number portability ("intermodal porting"). As demonstrated herein, substantial and credible evidence exists that there are special circumstances that warrant departure from the November 24, 2003 date. Accordingly, and in compliance with the specific directives set forth in Section 52.23(e), the Company seeks an extension of time to support intermodal porting until May 10, 2004.<sup>3</sup> In support thereof, the following is shown:

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<sup>1</sup> 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.3, 1.925 and 52.23(e).

<sup>2</sup> In the Matter of Telephone Number Portability; CTIA Petition for Declaratory Ruling on Wireline-Wireless Porting Issues, CC Docket No. 95-116 at para. 7 (rel. Nov. 10, 2003) ("Intermodal LNP Order"). The Commission has stated that a carrier facing compliance issues with November 24, 2003 deadline may seek extension by filing a request for waiver. *Id.* at para. 30. Because this request for waiver is filed within sixty (60) days of the date of the November 24<sup>th</sup> deadline, a waiver of 47 C.F.R. § 52.23(e) is also requested to the extent necessary.

<sup>3</sup> By seeking this extension of time, the Company does not waive any of its legal rights with respect to the *Intermodal LNP Order*, including, without limitation, with respect to seeking relief from a court of competent jurisdiction, the State of Oregon Public Utility Commission with respect to the obligations imposed upon it by the *Intermodal LNP Order*. As provided for in the *Intermodal LNP Order*, this request is limited solely to the technical infeasibility of the Company's compliance with the November 24<sup>th</sup> deadline.

## **I. The Company and Pending Intermodal Requests**

The Company is a rural local exchange carrier that provides local exchange and exchange access services within the following counties in Oregon: Clackamas and Multnomah. At least one of these counties is located in an MSA that is among the largest 100 MSAs. Approximately 70% of this service territory encompasses areas that are sparsely populated. The entire service area covers approximately 1246 total square miles of primarily mountainous terrain. The Company serves approximately 6.2 access lines per square mile. The largest town in this service area has a population of approximately 2500.

The Company received a request from Verizon Wireless dated May 28, 2003, a request from Sprint PCS dated May 16, 2003, and a request from T-Mobile dated February 24, 2003, to support intermodal portability by November 24, 2003.<sup>4</sup> Although, in general, many wireless carriers have referenced incorrect CLLI codes, the codes of the Company's switches are: ESCDORXXDS0 and EGCKORXXRS0. The Company responded, questioning the validity of the request.<sup>5</sup> The Company received no response from the requesting CMRS carriers with respect to the questions raised regarding the request. As further discussed below, the Company, like the wireline industry in general, did not understand the requests of the CMRS carriers to be a request for number portability enabling a customer to retain, at the same location, the use of the number. Accordingly, the Company did not act further on the request prior to the November 10, 2003 release of the *Intermodal LNP Order*.

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<sup>4</sup> A copy of the requests are attached as Exhibit 1.

<sup>5</sup> A copy of the correspondence sent to the wireless carriers is attached as Exhibit 2.

**II. Waiver is Warranted on the Basis of the Company's Compliance with Section 52.23(e) Criteria**

The Company is and has been fully aware of its obligation established by Section 251(b)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the "Act") with respect to the implementation of LNP; it is likewise aware of the Commission's Section 252 Subpart C rules regarding number portability and, specifically, implementation requirements. Prior to the receipt of the requests for number portability from the requesting CMRS carriers, the Company had received no other requests for number portability, and, accordingly, had no basis for expending limited resources on the deployment of number portability. Given the set of circumstances surrounding the Commission's implementation of intermodal number portability, the Company has acted and continues to act in good faith to comply with the Commission's requirements. In compliance with Section 52.23(e), the Company sets forth the following information:

**A. Section 52.23(e)(1): The Facts Demonstrate why the Company is Unable to Meet the Commission's Deployment Schedule**

The Company utilizes a Nortel switch. Nortel has informed the Company that it will take approximately six months from the initial order date to install and test the required upgrades for the necessary software required to comply with the requests that had been received. In addition, the Company is not technically able to comply with what appear to be the requirements of the *Intermodal LNP Order* with respect to the transport of and "rating"<sup>6</sup> of calls to a number ported to a wireless carrier.

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<sup>6</sup> Local exchange carriers do not "rate" their local exchange services.

As a result of the logistic realities, the Company has, in good faith, determined that it is not possible to implement and test the necessary switch-related changes prior to the November 24th deadline.

**B. Section 52.23(e)(2): A Detailed Explanation of the Activities that the Carrier has Undertaken to Meet the Implementation Schedule Prior to Requesting an Extension of Time**

In good faith, the Company attempted to meet the implementation schedule prior to requesting an extension of time. The Company has again requested specific information from the requesting wireless providers to ensure specific coordination with them regarding the Company's porting activities when and if a request is made to port an end user's telephone number. Prior to the issuance of the *Intermodal LNP Order*, the Company received either no answer or a non-responsive answer to its inquiries from the requesting wireless provider, or received generic documents regarding level service arrangements. The Company did provide preliminary information to requesting carriers upon request including information regarding switch locations and capabilities.

As discussed, prior to the issuance of the *Intermodal LNP Order*, the Company, like other similarly situated carriers in general, did not take additional action to implement number portability because of the understanding that the CMRS carrier requests exceeded the Commission's expectations and the statutory requirements set forth in the Act. After the issuance of the *Intermodal LNP Order*, the Company has proceeded with good faith efforts toward the implementation of number portability including the commitment of the necessary financial resources required to acquire and deploy the required switch upgrades. Additional inquiries to the requesting wireless provider have been undertaken to ensure proper coordination,

and the Company is working with its switch vendor to go forward with the necessary switch changes.

**C. Section 52.23(e)(3): An Identification of the Particular Switches for Which the Extension is Requested**

The particular switches for which the extension is requested are:

ESCDORXXDS0  
EGCKORXXRS0

**D. Section 52.23(e)(4): The Time in Which the Carrier Will Complete Deployment in the Affected Switches**

The Company will attempt to complete deployment in the affected switches by May 10, 2004, six months after the issuance of the Commission's *Intermodal LNP Order* in which the Commission provided guidance of its intermodal porting requirements. The Company notes that its implementation schedule is dependent upon its switch vendor, and coordination and testing between it and the requesting wireless provider. While the implementation of the necessary switch changes will technically enable the provision of number portability, the Company also remains concerned that technical compliance with the directives of the *Intermodal LNP Order* regarding the treatment of calls from the Company's network to a number ported to a wireless carrier is not technically feasible in the absence of the deployment of a physical connection of the wireless carrier to the Company's network.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> The relief requested herein, however, is limited to the request for a waiver of the implementation time in order to afford the company the time necessary to implement the necessary switch changes. The Company anticipates that the Commission will subsequently address the general deployment concerns regarding calls to a ported number in other proceedings, and respectfully reserves the right to seek additional relief to the extent necessary to ensure its full compliance with the Commission's applicable rules.

**E. Section 52.23(e)(5): A Proposed Schedule with Milestones for Meeting the Deployment Date**

The Company will provide the Commission with quarterly progress reports during the period within which the extension is provided. Those reports will provide the Commission with all relevant progress, the dates of the purchase and installation of the upgrades, and a summary of the steps taken and to be taken regarding the Company's ability to support intermodal porting.

**III. Additional Facts Supporting the Company's Request for Waiver**

As set forth above, the Company meets all relevant criteria established in Section 52.23(e) to support the Company's waiver request. The Company respectfully submits that additional support for the requested waiver is found within the context of the Company's good faith approach to its porting obligations.

The Company, like most (if not all) providers of wireline local exchange services, did not expect that its statutory obligation to provide number portability extended to a CMRS request for number portability under the existing Part 52 rules unless the requesting CMRS carrier confirmed that the number would be used by the telecommunications user "at the same location" where the customer used the number prior to portability.<sup>8</sup> The record before the Commission prior to the *Intermodal LNP Order* bears out the existence of this general industry understanding.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 153(30).

<sup>9</sup> See, e.g., Comments of CTIA, CC Docket No. 95-116, filed May 13, 2003 at 5; Comments of United States Cellular Corporation, CC Docket No. 95-116, filed February 26, 2003 at 4; Comments of Verizon Wireless, CC Docket No. 95-116, filed June 13, 2003; Comments of Cingular Wireless, LLC, CC Docket No. 95-116, filed June 13, 2003 at 25; Comments of AT&T Wireless Services, Inc., CC Docket No. 95-116, filed on June 24, 2003 at 1. In fact, the *Intermodal LNP Order*, prior FCC actions, and public statements from FCC decision-making personnel demonstrate the Commission's awareness of this general understanding. See e.g., *Intermodal LNP Order* at para. 1; the Commission's Daily Digest announcing the issuance of the *Intermodal LNP Order* states: "FCC CLEARS WAY FOR LOCAL NUMBER PORTABILITY BETWEEN WIRELINE AND WIRELESS CARRIERS." The existence of uncertainty, confusion and the need for clarification

In hindsight, the Company also took misplaced comfort in the public statements from FCC decision-making staff that the issues regarding intermodal porting would be resolved well in advance of the November 24, 2003 deadline. In responding to questions regarding FCC action on pending issues regarding number portability, John Muleta, Chief of the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau stated, "We'll do it soon. . . . We've said that we will address it well in advance of the Nov. 24 LNP deadline."<sup>10</sup> As late as October 7, 2003, the FCC likewise made clear that its decisions to date did not address intermodal porting issues:

[W]e do not here address the issues related to wireline-wireless porting. Issues associated with wireline-wireless porting will be addressed in a separate item, and we affirm that none of the actions taken here today bind the Commission in any way in taking future action on the implementation of wireline-wireless porting.<sup>11</sup>

As the totality of the circumstances demonstrate, the Company acted in good faith in response to the number portability requests of the CMRS carriers, and had a reasonable basis to await the Commission's directives. The Company held a reasonable good faith expectation that the uncertainty and associated issues surrounding the matter of intermodal porting would be resolved in sufficient time to permit the Company to deploy intermodal number portability within a time frame consistent with the six month period established in the Commission's rules.

Because of the acknowledged uncertainty throughout the industry regarding the intermodal portability issues, and the Commission's promised direction, the Company had no expectation that a strict reading of the Commission's anticipated decision could possibly require the Company to support intermodal porting by November 24, 2003. The Company's

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was well known and understood.

<sup>10</sup> FCC Officials Press Wireless Firms to Move Ahead on LNP Deployment," TR Daily, Sept. 8, 2003 ed.

<sup>11</sup> In the Matter of Telephone Number Portability – Carrier Requests for Clarification of Wireline-Wireless Porting Issues: Memorandum Opinion and Order, CC Docket No. 95-116, FCC 03-237 at para. 21 (rel. Oct. 7, 2003).

circumstances are dissimilar to those of other carriers that have previously received requests to deploy wireline to wireline portability because the Company has never previously received a request for wireline to wireline portability. Accordingly, those companies that already deployed the hardware changes to comply with prior requests may very well be technically capable of supporting intermodal portability on November 24, 2003. For all of the reasons provided above, the Company is not technically capable of meeting this deadline.

#### **IV. Conclusion**

As demonstrated by its actions, the Company has not shirked its obligation to respond to a *bona fide* request to implement number portability. The Company acted prudently prior to the Commission's provision of direction in the *Intermodal LNP Order*. The Company did not ignore any request for number portability and it provided all information sought by any requesting carrier. Subsequent to the provision of direction by the Commission provided in the *Intermodal LNP Order*, the Company has undertaken efforts to deploy number portability.<sup>12</sup>

As demonstrated above, and in the context of the totality of the circumstances leading up to the issuance of the Commission's *Intermodal LNP Order*, the Company has demonstrated that it meets the Section 52.23(e) criteria to support its request for waiver and extension of the November 24, 2003 number portability implementation date. The Company respectfully submits that a grant of this request under these specific facts and circumstances is consistent with the Commission's recognition that its consideration of requests for waivers of the November 24th

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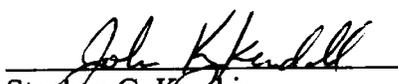
<sup>12</sup> Factually, no requesting carrier has indicated to the Company an actual specific intent to port a number on November 24, 2003. The Company will contact the requesting carriers regarding this waiver request, and offer to work toward a mutual coordination of deployment.

deadline be accomplished in “such manner as will best conduce to the proper dispatch of business and to the ends of justice.”<sup>13</sup>

For the reasons stated herein, the Company requests that the Commission grant it until May 10, 2004 with respect to its obligations to support intermodal porting as provided for in the Commission’s *Intermodal LNP Order*.

Respectfully submitted,

**Cascade Utilities, Inc.**

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November 21, 2003

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<sup>13</sup> 47 U.S.C. §154(j).

# **EXHIBIT 1**



**BONA FIDE REQUEST FORM (BFR)**

T-Mobile USA, Inc. ("T-Mobile") requests deployment of long-term Local Number Portability as defined in the FCC mandates (CC Docket 95-116). Specifically, T-Mobile requests that ALL codes be opened for portability within the Metropolitan Statistical Areas designated below.

**Actions required of the Recipient:**

1. Within 10 days of receipt, provide confirmation to T-Mobile that this form has been received.
2. For all currently released code, and those to be released at any future time, within the areas requested below, open all for porting in the LERG.
3. For all currently released code, and those to be released at any future time, within the areas requested below, open all for porting in the NPAC (Number Portability Administration Center).
4. Ensure that all switches handling codes with the designated MSAs are Local Number Portability Capable.

**TO:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FROM:** T-Mobile USA, Inc. \_\_\_\_\_  
**Contact Name:** Shannon Reilly \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** 12920 SE 38<sup>th</sup> St. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bellevue, WA 98006 \_\_\_\_\_  
**Email:** shannon.reilly@T-Mobile.com \_\_\_\_\_  
**Fax:** 425-378-4840 \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone:** 425-378-5178 \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Request:** February 24, 2003 \_\_\_\_\_  
**Confirmation Due:** March 7, 2003 \_\_\_\_\_  
**Effective Date:** November 24, 2003 \_\_\_\_\_

Designated Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) to be Opened for Porting November 24, 2003:				
MSA Number	MSA Name	State	Date LNP Capable	CLLI Code of Switch Serving MSA
1	New York--Northern New Jersey--Long Island	NY,NJ,CT, PA		
2	Los Angeles--Riverside--Orange County	CA		
3	Chicago--Gary--Kenosha	IL,IN,WI,WV		
4	Washington--Baltimore	DC,MD,VA,WV		
5	San Francisco--Oakland--San Jose	CA		
6	Philadelphia--Wilmington--Atlantic City	PA,NJ,DE,MD		
7	Boston--Worcester--Lawrence	MA,NH,ME,CT		
8	Detroit--Ann Arbor--Flint	MI		
9	Dallas--Fort Worth	TX		
10	Houston--Galveston--Brazoria	TX		
11	Atlanta	GA		
12	Miami--Fort Lauderdale	FL		
13	Seattle--Tacoma--Bremerton	WA		
14	Phoenix--Mesa	AZ		
15	Minneapolis--St. Paul	MN,WI		
16	Cleveland--Akron	OH		

17	San Diego	CA		
18	St. Louis	MO		
19	Denver--Boulder--Greeley	CO		
20	San Juan--Caguas--Arecibo	PR		
21	Tampa--St. Petersburg--Clearwater	FL		
22	Pittsburgh	PA,NJ,DE,MD		
23	Portland--Salem	OR,WA		
24	Cincinnati--Hamilton	OH,KY,IN		
25	Sacramento--Yolo	CA		
26	Kansas City	MO,KS		
27	Milwaukee--Racine	WI		
28	Orlando	FL		
29	Indianapolis	IN		
30	San Antonio	TX		
31	Norfolk--Virginia Beach--Newport News	VA,NC		
32	Las Vegas	NV,AZ		
33	Columbus	OH		
34	Charlotte--Gastonia--Rock Hill	NC,SC		
35	New Orleans	LA		
36	Salt Lake City--Ogden	UT		
37	Greensboro--Winston-Salem--High Point	NC,SC		
38	Austin--San Marcos	TX		
39	Nashville	TN		
40	Providence--Fall River--Warwick	RI,MA		
41	Raleigh--Durham--Chapel Hill	NC		
42	Hartford	CT		
43	Buffalo--Niagara Falls	NY		
44	Memphis	TN,AR,MS		
45	West Palm Beach--Boca Raton	FL		
46	Jacksonville	FL		
47	Rochester	NY		
48	Grand Rapids--Muskegon--Holland	MI		
49	Oklahoma City	OK		
50	Louisville	KY,IN		
51	Richmond--Petersburg	VA,NC		
52	Greenville--Spartanburg--Anderson	SC		
53	Dayton--Springfield	OH		
54	Fresno	CA		
55	Birmingham	AL		
56	Honolulu	HI		
57	Albany--Schenectady--Troy	NY		
58	Tucson	AZ		
59	Tulsa	OK		
60	Syracuse	NY		
61	Omaha	NE,IA		
62	Albuquerque	NM		
63	Knoxville	TN		

64	El Paso	TX		
65	Bakersfield	CA		
66	Allentown--Bethlehem--Easton	PA		
67	Harrisburg--Lebanon--Carlisle	PA		
68	Scranton--Wilkes-Barre--Hazleton	PA		
69	Toledo	OH		
70	Baton Rouge	LA		
71	Youngstown--Warren	OH		
72	Springfield	MA,NH,ME,CT		
73	Sarasota--Bradenton	FL		
74	Little Rock--North Little Rock	AR		
75	McAllen--Edinburg--Mission	TX		
76	Stockton--Lodi	CA		
77	Charleston--North Charleston	SC		
78	Wichita	KS		
79	Mobile	AL		
80	Columbia	SC		
81	Colorado Springs	CO		
82	Fort Wayne	IN		
83	Daytona Beach	FL		
84	Lakeland--Winter Haven	FL		
85	Johnson City--Kingsport--Bristol	TN		
86	Lexington	KY,IN		
87	Augusta--Aiken	GA,SC		
88	Melbourne--Titusville--Palm Bay	FL		
89	Lancaster	PA		
90	Chattanooga	TN,GA		
91	Des Moines	IA		
92	Kalamazoo--Battle Creek	MI		
93	Lansing--East Lansing	MI		
94	Modesto	CA		
95	Fort Myers--Cape Coral	FL		
96	Jackson	MS		
97	Boise City	ID		
98	Madison	WI		
99	Spokane	WA		
100	Pensacola	FL		