

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

In the Matter of)
Petition of ACS of Anchorage, Inc. Pursuant to)
Section 10 of the Communications Act of 1935, as) WC Docket No. 05-281
Amended, for Forbearance from Sections 251(c)(3))
and 252(d)(1) in the Anchorage LEC Study Area)
)

To: The Wireline Competition Bureau

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

General Communication, Inc. (“GCI”) hereby requests an extension of time in which to file Comments on ACS of Anchorage’s Petition for Forbearance from Sections 251(c)(3) and 252(d)(1) in the Anchorage, Alaska Local Exchange Carrier Study Area (“ACS Petition”). As ACS’s chief residential and business competitor in Anchorage and the only purchaser of UNEs in Anchorage, GCI is profoundly interested in the outcome of the ACS Petition and intends to file comments in this proceeding. GCI requests an extension of time until January 9, 2006 in order to enable GCI to assess the Commission’s recent decision on Qwest’s request for forbearance in the Omaha MSA, and accordingly address that decision in its comments and supporting materials.¹ Furthermore, such an extension will avoid setting a due date during the holidays should the Qwest Omaha Order be released prior to December 9.

On September 16, 2005, the Commission announced its decision to grant Qwest forbearance relief from certain unbundling requirements in the Omaha MSA.² As of today, however, the text of its Memorandum Opinion and Order has not been released.

¹ In the event the Qwest Omaha forbearance decision is not released by December 12, 2005, GCI requests an extension of 30 days from the date of release of that Order.

² *FCC Grants Qwest Forbearance Relief in Omaha MSA*, News Release (rel. Sept. 16, 2005).

Inasmuch as ACS has requested forbearance from the same unbundling requirements of the Act, GCI anticipates that it will need to address the Qwest Omaha Order, and to analyze ACS' petition in light of that Order. Comments on the ACS Petition, however, are currently due on December 13, 2005, which would permit very little time to review and analyze the Qwest Omaha Order and to incorporate that decision as necessary into GCI's analysis. GCI would be substantially prejudiced were it required to provide comment on such an abbreviated schedule in a case of this magnitude.

GCI anticipates offering substantial legal argument and evidence in response to the ACS Petition. Granting the requested relief will enable GCI to provide the Commission with comments and supporting materials that are directly responsive to those factors the Commission deemed most relevant in resolving Qwest's request for forbearance, will provide for a more complete record, and will avoid the need for rebriefing after the Qwest decision is released. Further, eliminating the need for additional briefing after the Qwest Omaha Order is released will conserve scarce Commission resources.

On the assumption that the Qwest Omaha Order will be released on or before December 12, 2005, GCI requests an extension to January 9, 2006. Given the detailed factual record GCI expects to present in response to ACS, the requested thirty days (which will include the Christmas and New Year's holidays) is necessary to enable GCI to properly incorporate the Commission's Qwest decision into its comments and supporting materials, as well as to avoid setting a due date during the year-end holidays.

For the foregoing reasons, GCI requests that the Wireline Competition Bureau grant its request for an extension of time until January 9, 2006 to respond to the ACS Petition.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Nakahata', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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