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June 23, 2008

VIA ECFS

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Petitions of Qwest Corporation for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. § 160(c) in the Denver, Minneapolis-St. Paul,
Phoenix, and Seattle Metropolitan Statistical Areas, WC
Docket No. 07-97**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

A recent news report states that Qwest Corporation has made an *ex parte* submission to the Commission in this docket in which it accuses TDS Metrocom LLC ("TDS") of misstating certain facts in the *ex parte* presentation submitted to you by Patrick J. Donovan of this firm on May 13, 2008. We have not received a copy of any such Qwest submission, and as of today's date no such document appears on the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System. Nonetheless, to avoid any doubt that may have been raised by the news report, we are submitting this letter to clarify the record.

According to the news report, "Qwest said that TDS Metrocom LLC misquoted McLeod by saying McLeod has sought state regulatory approval to cease providing local voice service to all residential and small business customers, rather than to 'certain' residential and small business customers." TDS's quotation of McLeod's state regulatory filing was accurate, and any allegation of misquoting is baseless.

Attached to this letter as Exhibit 1 is a copy of McLeodUSA's Petition to Cease Providing Local Exchange Voice Services in Nebraska Wire Centers, Docket No. C-3922, filed with the Nebraska Public Service Commission on April 11, 2008. TDS accurately quoted the concluding paragraph (p.3) of the Petition, which requested "Commission approval of McLeodUSA's plan to cease providing local voice services in Nebraska to all residential and small business customers in response to the grant of forbearance by the FCC." Although McLeodUSA did use the terminology "certain ... customers" elsewhere in its filing, the filing as a whole makes clear that the company was seeking to terminate service to all of its residential customers in the Nebraska portion of the Omaha MSA, and to all of its small business customers served by means of Qwest unbundled network elements. The filing states that McLeodUSA will continue to serve existing larger customers who are not served over Qwest UNEs, but has withdrawn its

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Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
June 23, 2008
Page 2

sales force from the Omaha market. The Nebraska PSC granted the Petition on May 28, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

/electronically signed/

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Metrocom, LLC*

cc: Chairman Martin
Commissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Copps
Commissioner McDowell
Commissioner Tate
Amy Bender
Scott Deutchman
Scott Bergmann
John Hunter
Chris Moore
Dana Shaffer

EXHIBIT 1

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Petition of McLeodUSA
Telecommunications Services, Inc. to
Cease Providing Local Exchange Voice
Services in Nebraska Wire Centers

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McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc., d/b/a PAETEC (“McLeodUSA”) hereby petitions the Nebraska Public Service Commission (the “Commission”) for approval to cease providing local exchange switched voice services in Nebraska to certain residential and small business customers for whom McLeodUSA requires access to last mile loop network facilities. In support of its petition, McLeodUSA states:

1. Qwest Corporation (“Qwest”) petitioned the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) pursuant to Section 10 of the 1934 Act, 47 U.S.C. § 160, seeking forbearance from the application of four broad categories of regulation in its service areas in the Omaha MSA, which included communities in Nebraska and Iowa. The FCC’s December 2, 2005, decision “granted substantial relief” for several of Qwest’s requests.¹ Among other relief, the FCC relieved Qwest from the obligation to provide unbundled loops and dedicated transport at cost-based rates pursuant to Section 251(c)(3) in nine wire centers within the Omaha MSA.²

2. Since the elimination of the unbundling obligations of Qwest under Section 251(c)(3) that became effective in 2006, McLeodUSA has been unable to obtain an arrangement

¹ *Petition of Qwest Corporation for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §160(c) in the Omaha Metropolitan Statistical Area*, Memorandum Opinion and Order, WC Docket No. 04-223, 20 FCC Rcd 19415 (2005) (“*Omaha Forbearance Order*”), ¶ 1.

² *Id.*, ¶ 2.

with Qwest to purchase special access services, commercial services or Section 271 network elements on terms that would allow McLeodUSA to continue to provide local voice services to certain of its Nebraska residential and small business customers on terms that make good business sense for McLeodUSA. McLeodUSA requires access to reasonably priced wholesale last mile loop facilities to furnish local voice service to these customers, and it has been unable to secure arrangements for comparable last mile loop services from any provider other than Qwest to serve this residential and small business customer base, primarily because no such provider of wireline network facilities is available to serve the vast majority of McLeodUSA end user locations.

3. On September 12, 2007, McLeodUSA filed an Application with the Commission to cease providing residential services from certain Qwest wire centers identified in Exhibit A to the Application (C-3860), due to Qwest's high QPP rate.

4. On October 30, 2007, the Commission granted McLeodUSA Application to withdraw service in C-3860.

5. It simply does not make economic sense under the arrangements offered by Qwest to date for McLeodUSA to continue offering local exchange voice services to its remaining residential customers and many of its small business customers in the Omaha MSA for whom McLeodUSA requires access to reasonably priced wholesale last mile access loops to provide such services, nor is it economically viable for McLeodUSA to convert these customers to a resale platform.

6. Although McLeodUSA has withdrawn its direct sales force from the Omaha MSA as a result of the forbearance ruling, it plans for at least the near term are to continue serving its larger existing customers as it continues its assessment as to the long term viability of its remaining business in the Omaha MSA, which continued assessment is linked to the pending

Petition for Modification of the Omaha forbearance order filed at the FCC by McLeodUSA in July 2007. McLeodUSA cannot guarantee that will not be forced in the future to withdraw from providing local services within the Omaha MSA altogether as a result of the forbearance ruling, assuming it remains unchanged by the FCC.

7. McLeodUSA will initiate its market turndown by terminating its remaining residential services on or about June 10, 2008. To that end, McLeodUSA will provide all current residential customers with an approved notice that their residential service must be switched to another provider within the next 60 days. McLeodUSA plans to also provide a general notice of its plans to cease providing local voice services to its small business customers within the next thirty days. McLeodUSA also plans to provide more specific termination notices to business customers that will provide a minimum sixty day notice to find a new provider of local voice services affected by particular service turndown activities.

WHEREFORE, McLeodUSA requests Commission approval of McLeodUSA's plan to cease providing local voice services in Nebraska to all residential and small business customers in response to the grant of forbearance by the FCC.

Dated this 11th day of April, 2008.

McLeod USA Telecommunications Services, Inc.

BY _____

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