## BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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)	CASE NO. QWE-T-06-4
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)	<b>ORDER NO. 29992</b>
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In this case, the Commission is asked to approve the adoption by Cox Idaho Telcom LLC ("Cox" or "Company") of a negotiated Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation ("Qwest") and Time Warner Telecom of Idaho ("Time Warner") in its entirety. With this Order the Commission approves the adoption of the Agreement.

#### BACKGROUND

Under the provisions of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, interconnection agreements must be submitted to the Commission for approval. 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(1). The Commission may reject an agreement adopted by negotiations only if it finds that the agreement: (1) discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement; or (2) implementation of the agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity. 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A). As the Commission noted in Order No. 28427, companies voluntarily entering into interconnection agreements "may negotiate terms, prices and conditions that do <u>not</u> comply with either the FCC rules or with the provision of Section 251(b) or (c)." Order No. 28427 at 11 (emphasis in original). This comports with the FCC's statement that "a state commission shall have authority to approve an interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation even if the terms of the agreement do not comply with the requirements of [Part 51]." 47 C.F.R. § 51.3.

# THE CURRENT APPLICATION

In the Application between Qwest and Cox in Case No. QWE-T-06-4 filed February 24, 2006, the Companies seek Commission approval for Cox to adopt, in its entirety with any amendments subsequently approved, the Interconnection Agreement between Time Warner and Qwest that was approved by the Commission on August 2, 2004. Both Qwest and Cox state that

the agreement to adopt the Interconnection Agreement was jointly entered into between the parties and provides for both Companies to interconnect their facilities for the purpose of providing customers with increased choices among local telecommunications services.

## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff has reviewed the Application and does not find any terms or conditions that it considers to be discriminatory or contrary to the public interest. Staff believes that the Application is consistent with the pro-competitive policies of this Commission, the Idaho Legislature, and the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. Accordingly, Staff recommended Commission approval of the Agreement.

#### **COMMISSION DECISION**

Under the terms of the Telecommunications Act, interconnection agreements must be submitted to the Commission for approval. 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(1). The Commission's review is limited. The Commission may reject an agreement adopted by negotiation only if it finds that the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement or implementation of the agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity. *Id.* Based upon our review of the Application and the Staff's recommendation, the Commission finds that the Agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity and does not discriminate. Therefore, the Commission finds that the adoption of the Agreement should be approved. However, approval of this adoption of the Agreement does not negate the responsibility of either of the parties to this Agreement to obtain a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity if they are offering local exchange services or to comply with *Idaho Code* § 62-604 and 62-606 if they are providing other non-basic local telecommunications services as defined by *Idaho Code* § 62-603.

## ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the adoption by Cox Idaho Telcom LLC of the Interconnection Agreement between Time Warner Telecom of Idaho and Qwest Corporation is approved.

THIS IS A FINAL ORDER. Any person interested in this Order may petition for reconsideration within twenty-one (21) days of the service date of this Order with regard to any matter decided in this Order. Within seven (7) days after any person has petitioned for

reconsideration, any other person may cross-petition for reconsideration. See Idaho Code § 61-626.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this  $9^{+\kappa}$  day of March 2006.

PAUL KJELLANIJER, PRESIDENT

MARSHA H. SMITH, COMMISSIONER

DENNIS S. HANSEN, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

Jean D. Jewell

Commission Secretary

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