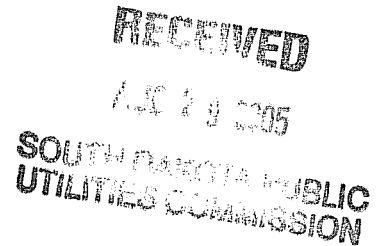




Qwest
1801 California Street, 10th Floor
Denver, Colorado 80202
Phone 303 383 6728
Facsimile 303 296 3132
Melissa.Thompson@qwest.com

Melissa Thompson
Senior Attorney

August 26, 2005



Pamela Bonrud, Executive Director
Public Utilities Commission of the State of South Dakota
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Re: Agreement between Qwest Corporation ("Qwest") and McLeodUSA
Telecommunications Services, Inc. ("McLeod")

Dear Ms. Bonrud:

I have enclosed a Request for Confidential Treatment of Information and a sealed envelope containing an agreement between Qwest and McLeod titled "QWEST ISDN PRS, AND/OR DSS ADVANCED, AND/OR UAS INDIVIDUAL CASE BASIS ("ICB") RATE PLAN AGREEMENT" (the "Agreement").

Qwest believes that the Agreement is not an "interconnection agreement" or "interconnection amendment" under section 252(a) and (e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the "Act"). The services provided by Qwest under the Agreement are finished, retail services that any type of end-user or wholesale customer may purchase under the state tariff. Also, the Agreement is done on an "individual case basis" pursuant to the state tariff. The services at issue in the Agreement are not provided under section 251(b) or (c) of the Act¹, and thus the Agreement is not an interconnection agreement or amendment under section 252.

Consequently, Qwest has not filed the Agreement for review and approval by the Commission pursuant to section 252(e). Qwest encloses the Agreement for informational purposes and is providing this information in the spirit of cooperation with state commissions relating to the section 252 filing requirement.

Because the Agreement contains information that the parties consider confidential and proprietary in nature, such as settlement amounts, Qwest has submitted a Request for Confidential Treatment of Information and provided the Agreement in a sealed envelope.

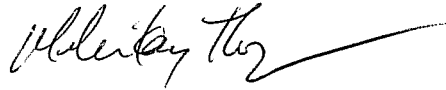
¹ See *In the Matter of Qwest Communications International Inc. Petition for Declaratory Ruling on the Scope of the Duty to File and Obtain Prior Approval of Negotiated Contractual Arrangements under Section 252(a)(1)*, WC Docket No. 02-89 (Rel. October 4, 2002), ¶¶ 8-14.

Pamela Bonrud, Executive Director
August 26, 2005
Page 2

Qwest will continue to cooperate fully with the Commission in this matter. Please contact me if you have any questions, including any concern that this settlement contract might somehow fall within the definition of an "interconnection agreement" under section 252(e).

Thank you. We have also enclosed an extra copy of this letter. Please date stamp the extra copy and return it for our files.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melissa K. Thompson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Melissa K. Thompson

Enclosures

cc: Colleen Sevold (w/o encl.)
McLeodUSA, Attn: Law Group (w/o encl.)

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

RECEIVED

AUG 29 2005

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF QWEST CORPORATION'S
SUBMITTAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN
QWEST CORPORATION AND MCLEODUSA
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC.
FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY

CT 05-_____

REQUEST FOR
CONFIDENTIAL
TREATMENT OF
INFORMATION

Qwest Corporation ("Qwest"), by and through its counsel, requests confidential treatment of information pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:41 as follows:

1. Qwest requests confidential protection and treatment of an agreement entered into by Qwest and McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc. ("McLeod") titled, "QWEST ISDN PRS, AND/OR DSS ADVANCED, AND/OR UAS INDIVIDUAL CASE BASIS ("ICB") RATE PLAN AGREEMENT (the "Agreement"). The Agreement is marked as confidential, proprietary information and is provided in a sealed envelope.
2. The Agreement must be protected for the life of this docket. When the docket is closed, the Agreement must be returned to Qwest.
3. The Qwest representative to contact regarding this confidentiality request is undersigned counsel at the address and telephone number listed below.
4. This claim for protection is based upon ARSD 20:10:01:39(4) and SDCL section 37-29-1(4).
5. The Agreement contains confidential and proprietary information. Disclosure of this document would provide actual and potential competitors with information that could give them a unique and unfair competitive advantage.

WHEREFORE, Qwest respectfully asks the Commission to grant this request for confidential protection and treatment.

RESPECTFULLY submitted this 26th day of August, 2005.

QWEST CORPORATION

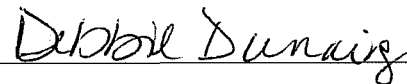
By: Melissa K. Thompson
Melissa K. Thompson
Qwest Services Corporation
1801 California, 10th Floor
Denver, CO 80202
(303) 383-6728

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing **Request for Confidential Treatment of Information** to be served by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, to the following on this 26th day of August, 2005:

McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc.
6400 C. Street SW
Cedar Rapids IA 52404
Attention Law Group

Pamela Bonrud, Executive Director
Public Utilities Commission of the State of South Dakota
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

 _____

QWEST

CONFIDENTIAL

1