

**Alltel Questions Dated March 11, 2008
Answered by Kennebec Telephone Company
on a Conference Call on March 14, 2008**

Question 1. What is the historical relationship between Qwest, Golden West, and Kennebec with respect to this traffic (i.e., what documentation exists to support this arrangement for a Qwest-GW POI in Kennebec territory and compensation to Kennebec)? It is my understanding that Qwest sold the end office(s) to GW a long time ago and that this POI was worked out at that time.

Response: In 1995 negotiations for the purchase of certain property commenced between US West and a consortium of South Dakota Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers known as the Independent Company Acquisition Association ("ICAA"). Included among the property being sold were US West's toll facilities (fiber optics in this instance) that exclusively served the property being sold. The toll facilities offered for sale were located within the exchange boundary of Presheo and carried US West traffic to the Winner host office and associated remote-operated exchanges.

The facilities sold were to be used solely for a transiting function. The parties negotiating the sale of the facilities discussed and agreed that compensation should be paid to the facilities' owner for transiting, whether that was US West or any other carrier using it to route traffic to the Winner host office. A rate of \$.0005 per minute per transport route miles was agreed to between US West and the ICAA.

There was no specific documentation for the Qwest-Golden West POI other than the original purchase agreement between the ICAA and Golden West. The POI that exists between Vivian and Kennebec was not specified in any agreement, but simply negotiated.

2. Is there any compensation arrangement with Qwest or any discussion of such an arrangement. Does Qwest send traffic to GW via this route and, if so, what rate does Qwest pay to Kennebec to do so?

Response: Qwest does send traffic to Golden West via the 17.5 miles of transiting and Qwest pays the rate of .0005 for this service. Qwest is billed only for its traffic.

3. Does Kennebec switch this traffic at any of its switches?

Response: No.

4. If no switching, how is trunk group handled between Qwest and Golden West? Is this, in essence, an unstitched private line connect between Qwest and GW?

Response: This is a transport service, not a unswitched service. It is a switched access transport facility that has been in place since 1996 when the fiber was purchased. Qwest still uses this trunk group.

5. What other traffic is send via this route (I.e., other than Alltel).

Response: Any traffic delivered via Qwest is sent via this route.

6. Do all carriers routing traffic via this route pay Kennebec for transport?

Response: Everyone, but Alltel.

7. What is basis for rate invoiced currently?

Response: The rate was the rate originally negotiated in 1996, re-negotiated in 1998 and documented in an agreement between Alltel's predecessor, Western Wireless and a number of SDTA member companies, and the rate that was in the agreement proposed to Alltel in 2004. The terms of the transiting agreement, which was proposed to Alltel on May 25, 2004, were almost identical to those from the 1998 Western Wireless Agreement.