

CHANGE MANAGEMENT PROCESS (CMP) FOR LOCAL SERVICES

- The CRPM will provide a copy of the detailed CR report to the CR originator which includes the following information:
 - Description of CR
 - Assigned CRPM
 - Assigned CR number
 - Designated Qwest SME(s) and associated director(s)

Qwest will present the Change Request at the monthly Product and Process CMP meeting. The purpose of the presentation will be to:

- Clarify the proposal with the CLECs
- Confirm the disposition (e.g., level 4) of the Change (see below). If during the CMP meeting CLECs agree to change the disposition, then the type of change being made will be added to the list for the disposition to which it is changed.
- Propose suggested input approach (e.g., a 2 hour meeting, 4 meetings over a two week period, etc.), and obtain consensus for input approach.
- Confirm deadline, if change is mandated
- Provide proposed implementation date, if applicable

At the monthly CMP meeting, the parties will discuss whether to treat the Change Request as a Level 4 change. If the parties agree, the Change Request will be reclassified as a Level 0, 1, 2 or 3 change, and the change will follow the process set forth above for Level 0, 1, 2, or 3 changes, as applicable. If the parties do not agree to reclassify the Change Request as a Level 0, 1, 2 or 3 change, the following process will apply:

- The parties will develop a process for Qwest to obtain CLEC input into the proposed change. Examples of processes for input include, but are not limited to, one-day conferences, multi-day conferences, or written comment cycles.
- After completion of the input cycle, as defined during the CMP meeting, Qwest will modify the CR, if necessary, and design the solution considering all CLEC input.
- For Level 4 changes, when the solution is designed and all documentation is available for review, a notice of the planned change is provided to the CLECs. Level 4 notifications will only include Level 4 Changes, excluding notification of changes to Tech Pubs. This notice will be provided at least 31 calendar days prior to implementation. The notice will contain reference to the original CR, proposed implementation date, and the CLEC/Qwest comment cycle. In addition, any documentation changes required to PCATs and Non-FCC Tech Pubs will be available for review in the document review site (red-line for Tech Pubs and green highlighting for PCAT) with a Comment button available to provide written comments. For Level 4 changes that do not impact PCATs or NonFCC Tech Pubs, a comments link will be provided within the notification.
- CLECs have 15 calendar days following notification of the planned change to provide written comments on the notice
- Qwest will reply to CLEC comments no later than 15 calendar days following the CLEC cut-off for comments. The Qwest reply will also include confirmation of the implementation date. In the event there are extenuating circumstances, (e.g. requested change requires significant research, information is required from national standards body or industry (e.g. Telcordia)), Qwest's response will indicate the course of action Qwest is taking and Qwest will provide additional information when available. Once the information is available Qwest

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will provide a notification and any available updated documentation (e.g. Tech Pubs, PCATs) at least 15 calendar days prior to implementation.

- Qwest will implement no sooner than 15 calendar days after providing the response to CLEC comments. For example, if there are no CLEC comments, Qwest may send out a final notification on the first day following the CLEC cut-off for comments (day 16 after the initial notification). Thus, implementation would be 31 days from the initial notification. However, if Qwest does not respond to the CLEC comments until the 15th day after the CLEC cut-off for comments, the earliest possible implementation date would be 45 calendar days from the initial notification.

CLEC comments must be provided during the comment cycle as outlined for Level 4. CLEC comments may be one of the following:

- General comments regarding the change (e.g., clarification, request for modification)
- Request for postponement of implementation, or effective date for which comments are being provided.

For general comments, Qwest will respond to comments and provide a final notice of the change. Additionally, Qwest will provide documentation of proposed changes to Qwest PCATs and NonFCC Tech Pubs available to CLECs and implement the change(s) according to the timeframes put forth above.

For a request to postponement, Qwest will follow the procedures as outlined in Section XX of this document.

If the CLECs do not accept Qwest's response, any CLEC may elect to escalate the CR or pursue dispute resolution in accordance with the agreed upon CMP Escalation or Dispute Resolution procedures.

5.5 Crossover Change Requests

During the operation of the CMP, there may be situations when Systems CRs have requirements for Product/Process discussion or solution, or when Product/Process CRs require System solutions. These crossover CR situations exist in three basic categories.

Category A. If a CR submitted to the Product/Process CMP is discovered to require a mechanized solution the following will occur:

- Qwest will open a Systems CR with a reference to the Product/Process CR number;
- Qwest will close the Product/Process CR with a reference to the new Systems CR number.
- This CR will comply with the CMP Systems CR process.

Category B. If a CR submitted to the Systems CMP is discovered to require a manual solution the following will occur:

- Qwest will open a Product/Process CR with a reference to the Systems CR number;
- Qwest will close the Systems CR with a reference to the new Product/Process CR number.
- This CR will comply with the CMP Product/Process CR process.

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Category C. If a CR submitted to the Systems CMP is discovered to require an interim manual solution, the CR will be tracked as a Systems CR for the length of the CR lifecycle including the development and implementation of both the interim manual and final mechanized solutions.

The determination to close and open CRs as described above will be made by the CMP body at a monthly CMP meeting.

If a CR becomes a crossover CR, Qwest may request an ad hoc Clarification Meeting with the CR submitter or request that a portion of the appropriate CMP Monthly Meeting be devoted to discussing the CR. If a CR is closed in one CMP arena and opened in the other, the new CR will retain the status, where feasible, and the date submitted of the old, "closed" CR. Under no circumstances will the CR be restarted.

All crossover CRs will be distinctly labeled in the CMP Monthly Meeting distribution packages and addressed as a separate item on the CMP Monthly Meeting agenda.

All Regulatory and Industry Guideline CRs will be submitted as Systems CRs and maintained in the Systems database until closure, or until they are deemed to require a manual process solution, at which point they will become Product/Process CRs.

5.6 Change Request Status Codes

The following status codes will be applied to Qwest and CLEC initiated CRs. The status of the CR will be included in the Interactive Reports. CR status codes will not necessarily be assigned in the order set forth below, and not every status code will apply to every CR.

- Submitted - The CR receives a Submitted status when Qwest's CMP Manager has formally acknowledged the CR. The CR remains in Submitted status until Qwest has conducted a Clarification meeting with the originator.
- Clarification – The CR is updated to Clarification status once the clarification meeting has been held with the originator.
- Evaluation – The CR moves into Evaluation status if the CR requires further investigation.
- Presented – The CR moves into Presented status after the originator has presented it at the monthly CMP meeting.
- Pending Prioritization – The Systems CR moves into Pending Prioritization status after it has been Presented and is waiting for Prioritization.
- Prioritized - The Prioritized status is not applicable to all Change Requests. The Prioritized status is only applicable to CRs for which the impacted interface is an OSS that requires prioritization (e.g. IMA). The CR receives a status of Prioritized once it has been presented for prioritization and the Prioritization process has been completed.
- Development – A Product/Process CR moves into a Development status when Qwest's response requires development of a new or revised process. A Systems CR moves into Development status when development begins.
- CLEC Test – A CR moves into the CLEC Test status upon agreement by the participants in the CMP meeting. CLECs have the ability to evaluate the effectiveness of Qwest's change and its implementation, provide feedback, and indicate whether further action is required. Through interaction between Qwest and the interested CLECs, a Product/Process Change

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as initially implemented may undergo modification. Depending on the magnitude of such modifications, it may be appropriate to return the CR to Development status. Problems found with newly deployed Systems changes will be handled in accordance with Production Support process as described in Section 12.0. If no further action is required for a consecutive 60 day period, the status moves to Completed, unless the parties agree otherwise.

- Completed – The CR moves to a completed status when the CLECs and Qwest agree that no further action is required to fulfill the requirements of the CR.
- Denied – The CR receives a Denied status when Qwest denies the CR.
- Deferred - The CR receives a Deferred status if the CMP CR originator does not intend to escalate or dispute the CR at the present time, but wants the ability to activate or close the CR at a later date.
- Withdrawn - The CR receives a Withdrawn status when the CR originator requests that the CR be withdrawn from the CMP process and the CR is not sponsored by another party.

5.7 Change Request Suffixes

In certain circumstances CR numbers will require special suffix designations to identify certain characteristics. Suffixes include:

- “CM” - Changes to the CMP framework
- “DR” - Dispute Resolution Process invoked on a CR
- “ES” - Escalation Process invoked on a CR
- “EX” - Change being implemented utilizing the Exception process
- “IG” - Industry Guideline CR
- “MN” – CR for a manual workaround related to an OSS Interface Change Request
- “RG” - Regulatory CR
- “SC” - Change being implemented as an SCRP request
- “X” - Crossover CR

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6.0 OSS INTERFACE RELEASE CALENDAR

Qwest will provide a rolling 12 month OSS Interface release calendar in the distribution package of the first scheduled CMP Systems Meeting of each quarter. The calendar will show release schedules, for all OSS Interfaces within the scope of CMP starting in that quarter and for a total of 12 months in the future. The schedule entries will be made when applicable for application to application interfaces:

- Name of OSS Interface
- Date for CMP CR Submission Cutoff
- Date for issuing Draft Release Notes
- Date when Initial Notice for New Interfaces and Interface Retirements will be issued; date when comparable functionality will be available.
- Date for issuing Initial or Draft Technical Specifications
- Comment cycle timeline
- Prioritization, packaging and commitment timeline
- Date for issuing Final Technical Specifications
- Testing period
- Date for issuing Final Release Notes
- Planned Implementation Date
- Release sunset dates

The release calendar will be posted on the CMP web site as a stand-alone document.

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7.0 INTRODUCTION OF A NEW OSS INTERFACE

The process for introducing a new interface will be part of the CMP. Introduction of a new OSS interface may include an application-to-application or a Graphical User Interface (GUI).

It is recognized that the planning cycle for a new interface, of any type, may be greater than the time originally allotted and that discussions between CLECs and Qwest may be held prior to the announcement of the new interface.

With a new interface, CLECs and Qwest may define the scope of functionality introduced as part of the OSS Interface.

7.1 Introduction of a New Application-to-Application Interface

At least nine (9) months in advance of the target implementation date of a new application-to-application interface, Qwest will issue a Release Announcement, post the Preliminary Interface Implementation Plan on Qwest's web site, and may host a design and development meeting.

7.1.1 Release Announcement

- Where practicable, the Release Announcement and Preliminary Interface Implementation Plan will include: Proposed functionality of the interface including whether the interface will replace an existing interface
- Proposed implementation time line (e.g., milestone dates, CLEC/Qwest comment cycle)
- Proposed meeting date to review the Preliminary Interface Implementation Plan
- Exceptions to industry guidelines/standards, if applicable
- Planned Implementation Date

7.1.2 CLEC Comments/Qwest Response Cycle and Preliminary Implementation Plan Review Meeting

CLECs have fourteen (14) calendar days from the initial release announcement to provide written comments/questions on the documentation. Qwest will respond with written answers to all CLEC issues within twenty-one (21) calendar days after the Initial Release Announcement. Qwest will review these issues and its implementation schedule at the Preliminary Implementation Plan Review Meeting approximately twenty-eight (28) calendar days after the Initial Release Announcement.

7.1.3 Initial Interface Technical Specification

Qwest will provide draft technical specifications at least one hundred twenty (120) calendar days prior to implementing the release. In addition, Qwest will confirm the schedule for the walk-through of technical specifications, CLEC comments, and Qwest response cycle.

7.1.4 Initial Notification Content

This notification will contain:

- Purpose

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- Logistical information (including a conference line) for walk-through
- Reference to draft technical specifications, or web site
- Additional pertinent material
- CLEC Comment/Qwest Response cycle
- Draft Connectivity and Firewall Rules
- Draft Test Plan

7.1.5 Walk Through of Draft Interface Technical Specifications

Qwest will sponsor a walk through, including the appropriate internal subject matter experts (SMEs), beginning one-hundred and ten (110) calendar days prior to implementation and ending one-hundred and six (106) calendar days prior to implementation. A walk through will afford CLEC SMEs the opportunity to ask questions and discuss specific requirements with Qwest's technical team. CLECs are encouraged to invite their technical experts, systems architects, and designers, to attend the walk through.

7.1.6 Conduct Walk-through

Qwest will lead the review of technical specifications. Qwest technical experts will answer the CLEC SMEs' questions. Qwest will capture action items such as requests for further clarification. Qwest will follow-up on all action items.

7.1.7 CLEC Comments on Draft Interface Technical Specifications

If the CLEC identifies issues or requires clarification, the CLEC must send written comments/concerns to the Systems CMP Manager no later than one-hundred and four (104) calendar days prior to implementation.

7.1.8 Qwest Response to Comments

Qwest will review and respond with written answers to all CLEC issues, comments/concerns and action items captured at the walk through, no later than one hundred (100) calendar days prior to implementation. The answers will be shared with all CLECs, unless the CLECs question(s) are marked proprietary. Any changes that may occur as a result of the responses will be distributed to all CLECs in the final notification letter. The notification will include the description of any change(s) made as a result of CLEC comments. The change(s) will be reflected in the final technical specifications.

7.1.9 Final Interface Technical Specifications

Generally, no less than one hundred (100) calendar days prior to the implementation of the new interface, Qwest will issue the Final Release Requirements to CLECs via web site posting and a CLEC notification.

Final Release Requirements will include:

- Final Notification Letter, including:
 - Summary of changes from Qwest response to CLEC comments on Draft Technical Specifications

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- If applicable, Indication of type of change (e.g., documentation change, business rule change, clarification change)
- Purpose
- Reference to final technical specifications, or web site
- Additional pertinent material
- Final Connectivity and Firewall Rules
- Final Test Plan (including Joint Testing Period)
- Release date

Qwest's planned implementation date will not be sooner than one hundred (100) calendar days from the date of the final release requirements. The implementation time line for the release will not begin until final specifications are provided. Production Support type changes within the thirty (30) calendar day test window can occur without advance notification but will be posted within 24 hours of the change.

7.2 Introduction of a New GUI

Qwest will issue a Release Notification forty-five (45) calendar days in advance of the Release Production Date. This will include:

- Proposed functionality of the interface including whether the new interface will replace an existing interface.
- Implementation time line (e.g., milestone dates, CLEC/Qwest comment cycle, Interface overview date)
- Implementation date
- Logistics for GUI Interface Overview

At least twenty-eight (28) calendar days in advance of the target implementation date of a new GUI interface, Qwest will issue a Release Announcement. At a minimum, the Release Announcement will include:

- Draft User Guide
- How and When Training will be administered

7.2.1 Interface Overview

The Interface Overview meeting should be held no later than twenty-seven (27) calendar days prior to the Release Production Date. At the meeting, Qwest will present an overview of the new interface.

7.2.2 CLEC Comments and Qwest Response

At least twenty-five (25) calendar days prior to the Release Production Date. CLECs must forward their written comments and concerns to Qwest. Qwest will consider CLEC comments and may address them with the release of the Final Notification.

7.2.3 Final Notification

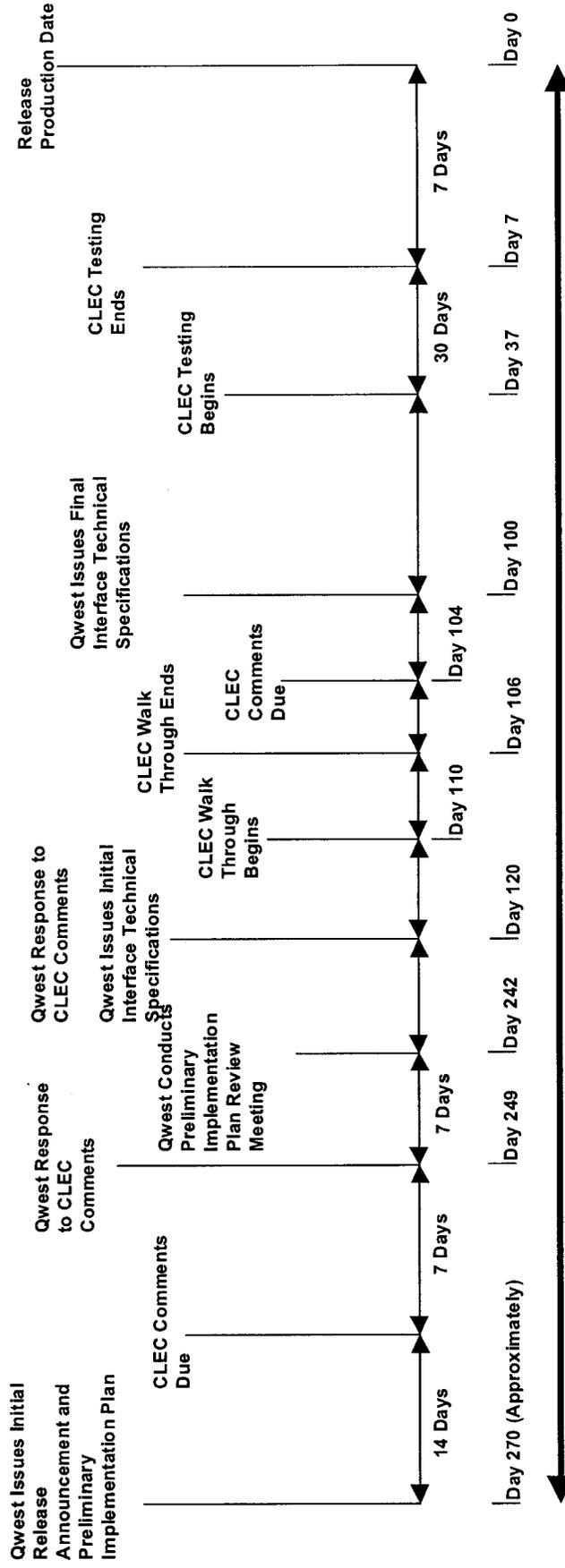
Qwest will issue a final notice no less than twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the Release Production date. The final notice will include:

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- A summary of changes from the initial notice, including type of changes (e.g., documentation change, clarification, business rule change).
- Final User Guide
- Final Training information
- Final Implementation date.

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Qwest-CLEC Change Management Process Introduction of A New Application-to-Application OSS Interface Timeline

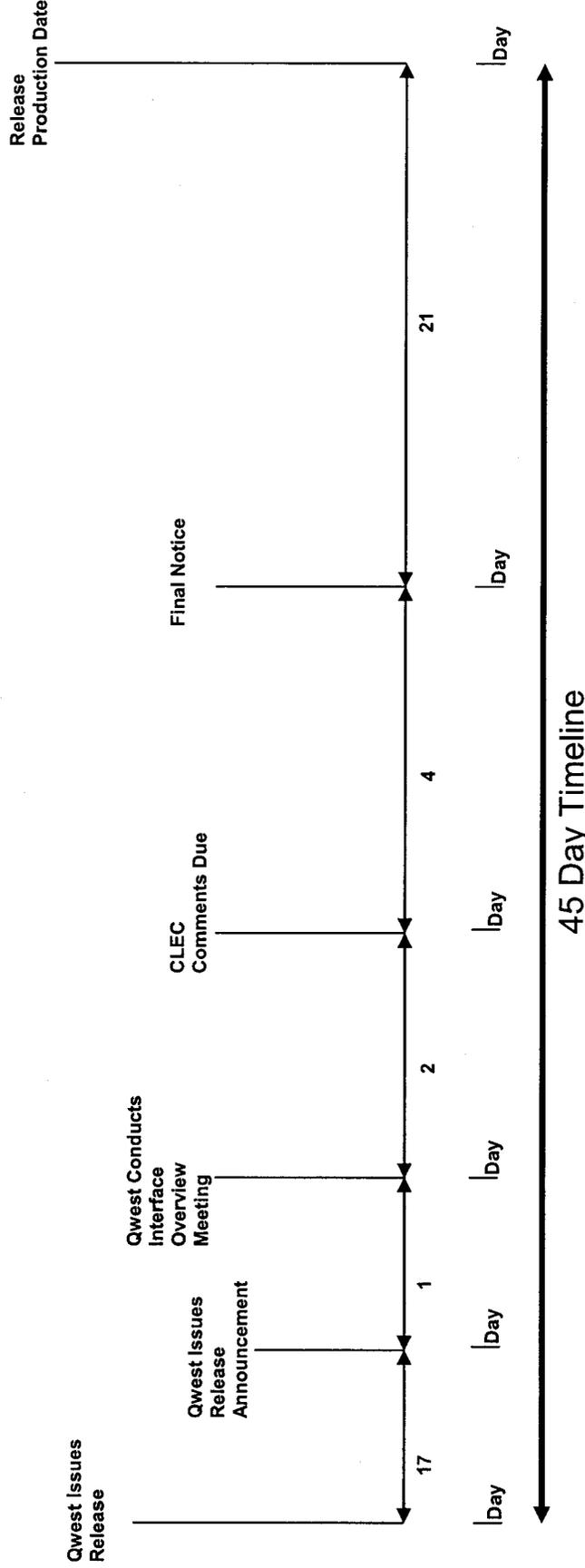


9 Month Timeline (Approximately)

The events listed above are intended to occur on business days. If the date on which any event is scheduled to occur falls on a weekend or holiday, then Qwest and the CLECs may negotiate a revised timeline.

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Qwest-CLEC Change Management Process Introduction of A New Graphical User Interface (GUI) Timeline



The events listed above are intended to occur on business days. If the date on which any event is scheduled to occur falls on a weekend or holiday, then Qwest and the CLECs may negotiate a revised timeline.

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8.0 CHANGE TO EXISTING OSS INTERFACES

At the first CMP systems monthly meeting of each quarter, Qwest will also provide a rolling twelve (12) month view of its OSS interface development schedule.

Qwest standard operating practice is to implement 3 major releases and 3 point releases (for IMA only) within a calendar year. Unless mandated as a Regulatory Change, Qwest will implement no more than four (4) releases per IMA OSS Interface requiring coding changes to the CLEC interfaces within a calendar year. The Major release changes should occur no less than three (3) months apart.

Application-to-Application OSS Interface

Qwest will support the previous major Interconnect Mediated Access (IMA) EDI release for six (6) months after the subsequent major IMA EDI release has been implemented. Past Releases of IMA EDI will only be modified as a result of production support changes. When such production support changes are made, Qwest will also modify the related documentation.. All other changes become candidates for future IMA EDI releases.

Qwest makes one Release of the Electronic Bonding-Trouble Administration (EBTA) and billing interfaces available at any given time, and will not support any previous Releases.

Graphical User Interface (GUI)

Qwest makes one Release of a GUI available at any given time and will not support any previous Releases.

IMA GUI changes for a pre-order or ordering will be implemented at the same time as an IMA EDI release.

8.1 Application-to-Application Interface

This section describes the timelines that Qwest, and any CLEC choosing to implement on the Qwest Release Production Date, will adhere to in changing existing interfaces. ²For any CLEC not choosing to implement on the Qwest Release Production Date, Qwest and the CLEC will negotiate a mutually agreed to CLEC implementation time line, including testing.

8.1.1 Draft Interface Technical Specifications

Prior to Qwest implementing a change to an existing interface, Qwest will notify CLECs of the draft Technical Specifications. Qwest will provide draft technical specifications at least seventy-three (73) calendar days prior to implementing the release unless an exception has been granted (see Section 8.0) Technical specifications are documents that provide information the CLECs need to code the interface. CLECs have eighteen (18) calendar days from the initial

² For a CLEC converting from a prior release, the CLEC implementation date can be no earlier than the weekend after the Qwest Release Production Date, if production LSR conversion is required.

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publication of draft technical specifications to provide written comments/questions on the documentation.

8.1.2 Content of Draft Interface Technical Specifications

The Notification letter will contain:

- Written summary of change(s)
- Target time frame for implementation

Draft Technical Specifications documentation, or instructions on how to access the draft Technical Specifications documentation on the Web site.

8.1.3 Walk Through of Draft Interface Technical Specifications

Qwest will sponsor a walk through, including the appropriate internal subject matter experts (SMEs), beginning sixty-eight (68) calendar days prior to implementation and ending no less than fifty-eight (58) calendar days prior to implementation. A walk through will afford CLEC SMEs the opportunity to ask questions and discuss specific requirements with Qwest's technical team. CLECs are encouraged to invite their technical experts, systems architects, and designers, to attend the walk through.

8.1.3.1 Walk through Notification Content

This notification will contain:

- Purpose
- Logistical information (including a conference line)
- Reference to draft technical specifications, or reference to a web site with draft specifications
- Additional pertinent material

8.1.3.2 Conduct the Walk-through

Qwest will lead the review of technical specifications. Qwest technical experts will answer the CLEC SMEs' questions. Qwest will capture action items such as requests for further clarification. Qwest will follow-up on all action items and notify CLECs of responses 45 calendar days prior to implementation.

8.1.4 CLEC's Comments on Draft Interface Technical Specifications

If the CLEC identifies issues or requires clarification, the CLEC must send written comments to the Systems CMP Manager no less than fifty-five (55) calendar days prior to implementation.

8.1.5 Qwest Response to Comments

Qwest will review and respond with written answers to all CLEC issues, comments/concerns no less than forty-five (45) calendar days prior to implementation. The answers will be shared with all CLECs, unless the CLECs question(s) are marked proprietary. Any changes that may occur as a result of the responses will be distributed to all CLECs in the same notification letter. The

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notification will include the description of any change(s) made as a result of CLEC comments. The change(s) will be reflected in the final technical specifications.

8.1.6 Final Interface Technical Specifications

The notification letter resulting from the CLEC's comments from the Initial Release Notification will constitute the Final Technical Specifications. After the Final Technical Specifications are published, there may be other changes made to documentation or the coding that is documented in the form of addenda. The following is a high level overview of the current disclosure, release and addendum process:

- Draft Developer Worksheets -- 45 days prior to a release the draft Developer Worksheets are made available to the CLEC's.
- Final Disclosure – 5 weeks prior to a release the Final Disclosure documents, including I charts and developer worksheets are made available to the CLECs.
- Release Day – On release day only those CLECs using the IMA GUI are required to cut over to the new release.
- 1st Addendum – 2 weeks after the release the 1st addendum is sent to the CLECs.
- Subsequent Addendum's – Subsequent addendum's are sent to the CLECs after the release as needed. There is no current process and timeline.
- EDI CLECs – 6 months after the release those CLECs using EDI are required to cut over to the new release. CLECs are not required to support all new releases.

8.1.7 Content of Final Notification Letter

The Final Release will include the following:

- Reference to Final Technical Specifications, or web site
- Qwest response to CLEC comments
- Summary of changes from the prior release, including any changes made as a result of CLEC comments on Draft Technical Specifications
- Indication of type of change (e.g., documentation change, business rule change, clarification change)
- Final Joint Test Plan including transactions which have changed
- Joint Testing Period
- Release date

Qwest's planned implementation date will be at least forty-five (45) calendar days from the date of the final release requirements, unless the exception process has been invoked. The implementation time line for the release will not begin until final specifications are provided. Production Support type of changes that occur within the thirty (30) calendar day test window can occur without advance notification but will be posted within 24 hours of the change.

8.1.8 Joint Testing Period

Qwest will provide a thirty (30) day test window for any CLEC who desires to jointly test with Qwest prior to the Release Production Date.

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8.2 Graphical User Interface (GUI)

8.2.1 Draft GUI Release Notice

Prior to implementation of a change to an existing interface, Qwest will notify CLECs of the draft release notes and the planned implementation date.

Notification will occur at least twenty-eight (28) calendar days prior to implementing the release unless an exception has been granted. This notification will include draft user guide information if necessary.

CLECs must provide comments/questions on the documentation no less than twenty-five (25) calendar days prior to implementation.

Final notice for the release will be published at least twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to production release date.

8.2.2 Content of Draft Interface Release Notice

The notification will contain:

- Written summary of change(s)
- Target time frame for implementation
- Any cross-reference to draft documentation such as the user guide or revised user guide pages.

8.2.3 CLEC Comments on Draft Interface Release Notice

Any CLEC comments must be submitted in writing to the Systems CMP Manager.

8.2.4 Qwest Response to Comments

Qwest will consider CLEC comments and may address them in the final GUI release notice within four (4) calendar days after receipt of CLEC comments.

8.2.5 Content of Final Interface release Notice

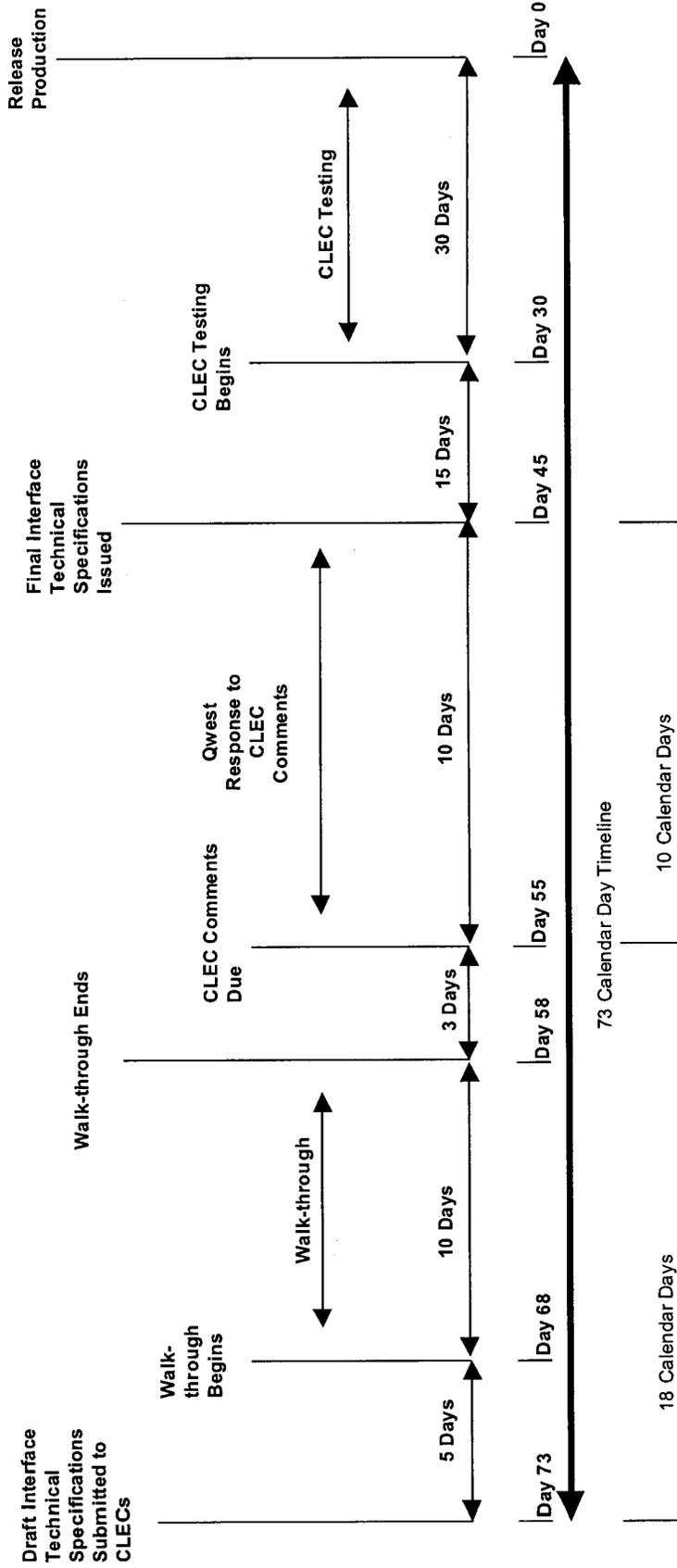
CLEC comments to the draft notice may be incorporated into the final notice, which shall include:

- Final notification letter
- Summary of changes from draft interface release notice
- Final user guide (or revised pages)
- Release date

Qwest's planned implementation date will be no later than twenty-one (21) calendar days from the date of the final release notice. Qwest will post this information on the CMP web site. Production support type changes that occur without advance notification will be posted within 24 hours of the change. The implementation time line for the release will not begin until all related documentation is provided.

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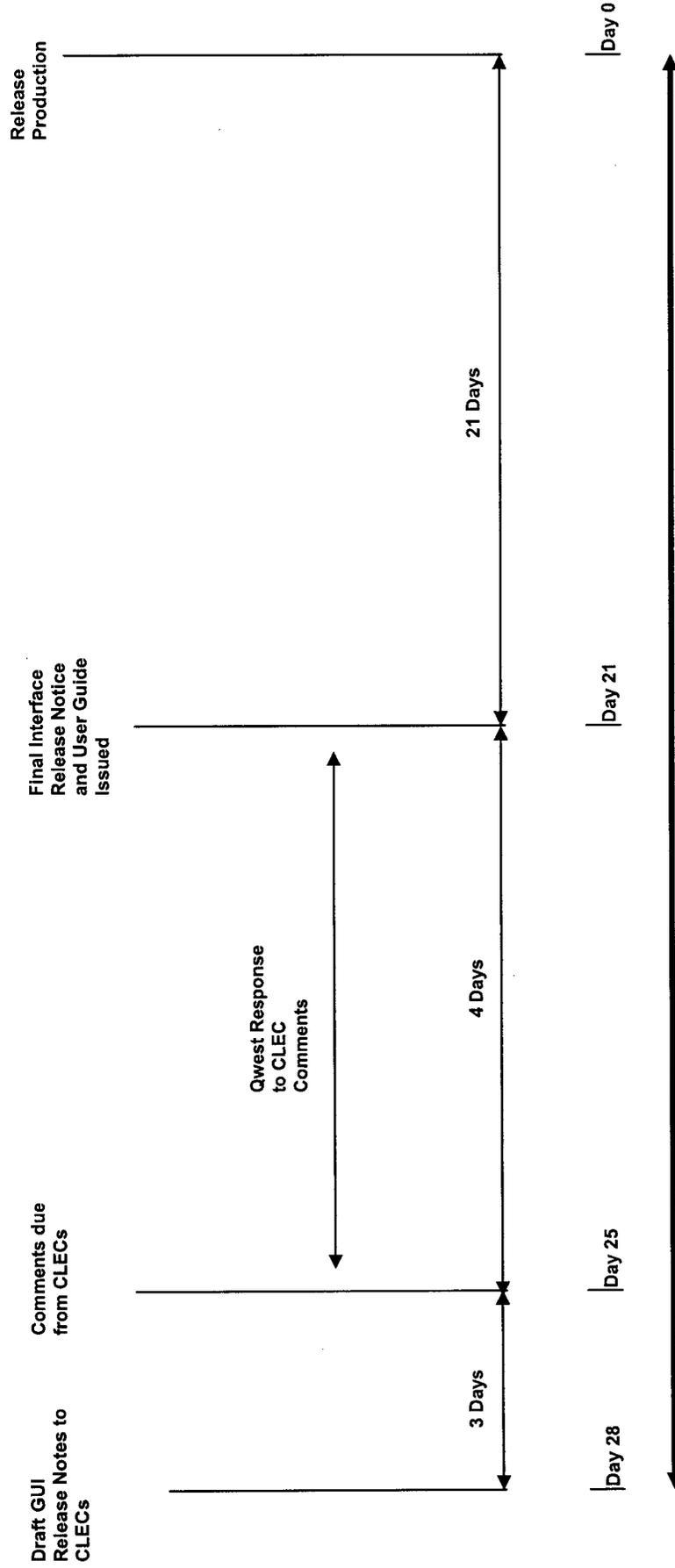
Qwest-CLEC Change Management Process Changes to An Existing Application-to-Application OSS Interface Timeline



The events listed above are intended to occur on business days. If the date on which any event is scheduled to occur falls on a weekend or holiday, then Qwest and the CLECs may negotiate a revised timeline.

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Qwest-CLEC Change Management Process Changes to An Existing Graphic User Interface (GUI)



The events listed above are intended to occur on business days. If the date on which any event is scheduled to occur falls on a weekend or holiday, then Qwest and the CLECs may negotiate a revised timeline.

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9.0 RETIREMENT OF EXISTING OSS INTERFACES

The retirement of an existing OSS Interface occurs when Qwest ceases to accept transactions using a specific OSS Interface. This may include the removal of a Graphical User Interface (GUI) or a protocol transmission of information (Application-to-Application) interface.

9.1 Application-to-Application OSS Interface

9.1.1 Initial Retirement Plans

At least nine (9) months before the retirement date of Application-to-Application interfaces, Qwest will share the retirement plans via web site posting and CLEC notification. The scheduled new interface is to be in a CLEC certified production release prior to the retirement of the older interface.

Alternatively, Qwest may choose to retire an interface if there is no CLEC usage of that interface for the most recent three (3) consecutive months. Qwest will provide thirty (30) calendar day notification of the retirement via web posting and CLEC notification.

9.1.2 Initial Retirement Notice to CLECs:

Initial Retirement Notices will include:

- The rationale for retiring the OSS Interface
- Available alternative interface options for existing functionality
- The proposed detailed retirement time line (e.g., milestone dates, CLEC-Qwest comment and response cycle)
- Targeted retirement date

9.1.3 CLEC Comments to Initial Retirement Notice

CLEC comments to the Initial Retirement Notice are due to Qwest no later than fifteen (15) calendar days following the Initial Retirement Notice.

9.1.4 Comparable Functionality

Unless otherwise agreed to by Qwest and a CLEC user, when Qwest announces the retirement of an interface for which a comparable interface does or will exist, a CLEC user will not be permitted to commence building to the retiring interface. CLEC users of the retiring interface will be grandfathered until the retirement of the interface. Qwest will ensure that an interface with comparable functionality is available no less than six months prior to retirement of an Application-to-Application interface.

9.1.5 Final Retirement Notice

The Final Retirement Notice will be provided to CLECs no later than two-hundred and twenty-eight (228) calendar days prior to the retirement of the application-to-application interface. The Final Retirement Notice will contain:

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- The rationale for retiring the OSS Interface (e.g., no usage or replacement)
- If applicable, where the replacement functionality will reside in a new interface and when the new interface has been certified by a CLEC
- Qwest's responses to CLECs' comments/concerns
- Actual retirement date

9.2 Graphical User Interface (GUI)

9.2.1 Initial Retirement Plans

At least two (2) months in advance of the target retirement date of a GUI, Qwest will share the retirement plans via web site posting and CLEC notification. The scheduled new interface is to be in a CLEC certified production release prior to the retirement of the older interface.

Alternatively, Qwest may choose to retire an interface if there is no CLEC usage of that interface for the most recent three (3) consecutive months. Qwest will provide thirty (30) calendar day notification of the retirement via web posting and CLEC notification.

9.2.2 Initial Retirement Notice to CLECs:

Initial Retirement Notices will include:

- The rationale for retiring the OSS Interface
- Available alternative interface options for existing functionality
- The proposed detailed retirement time line (e.g., milestone dates, CLEC-Qwest comment and response cycle)
- Targeted retirement date

9.2.3 CLEC Comments to Initial Retirement Notice

CLEC comments to the Initial Retirement Notice are due to Qwest no later than fifteen (15) calendar days following the Initial Retirement Notice.

9.2.4 Comparable Functionality

Qwest will ensure comparable functionality no less than thirty-one (31) days before retirement of a GUI.

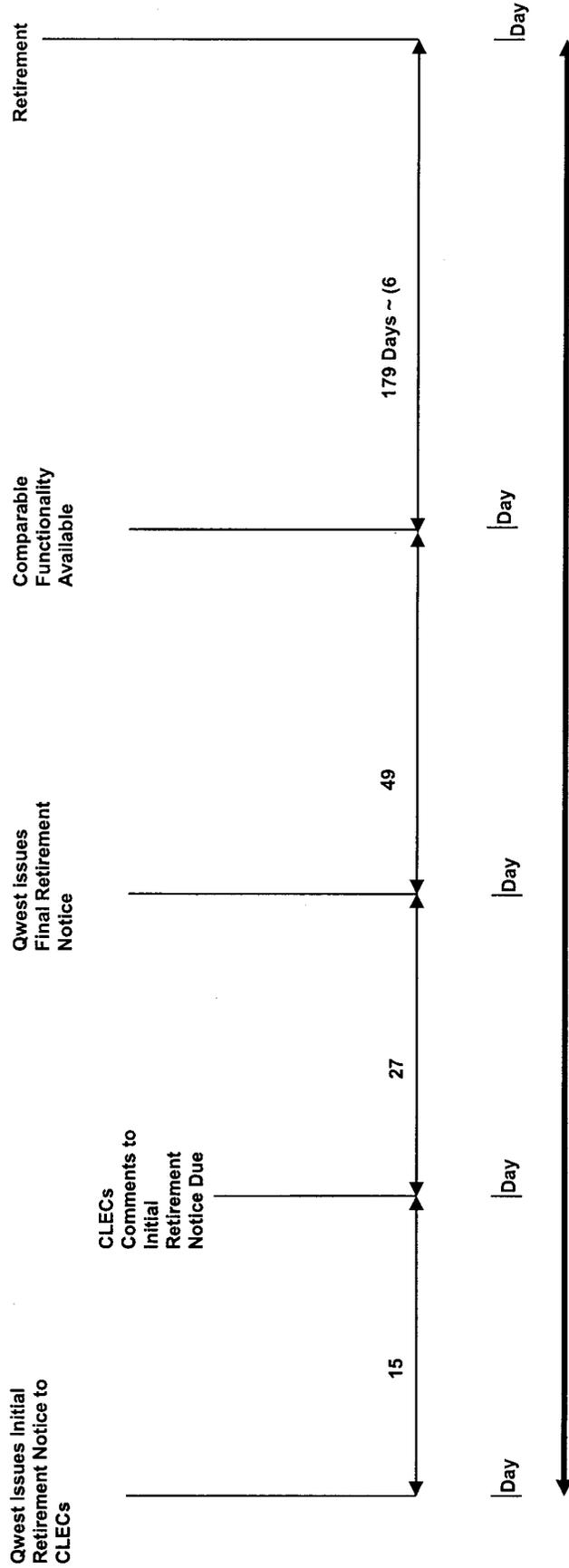
9.2.5 Final Retirement Notice

The Final Retirement Notice, for GUI retirements, will be provided to CLECs no later than twenty-one (21) calendar days before the retirement date. The Final Retirement Notice will contain:

- The rationale for retiring the OSS Interface (e.g., no usage or replacement)
- If applicable, where the replacement functionality will reside in a new interface and when the new interface has been certified by a CLEC
- Qwest's responses to CLECs' comments/concerns
- Actual retirement date

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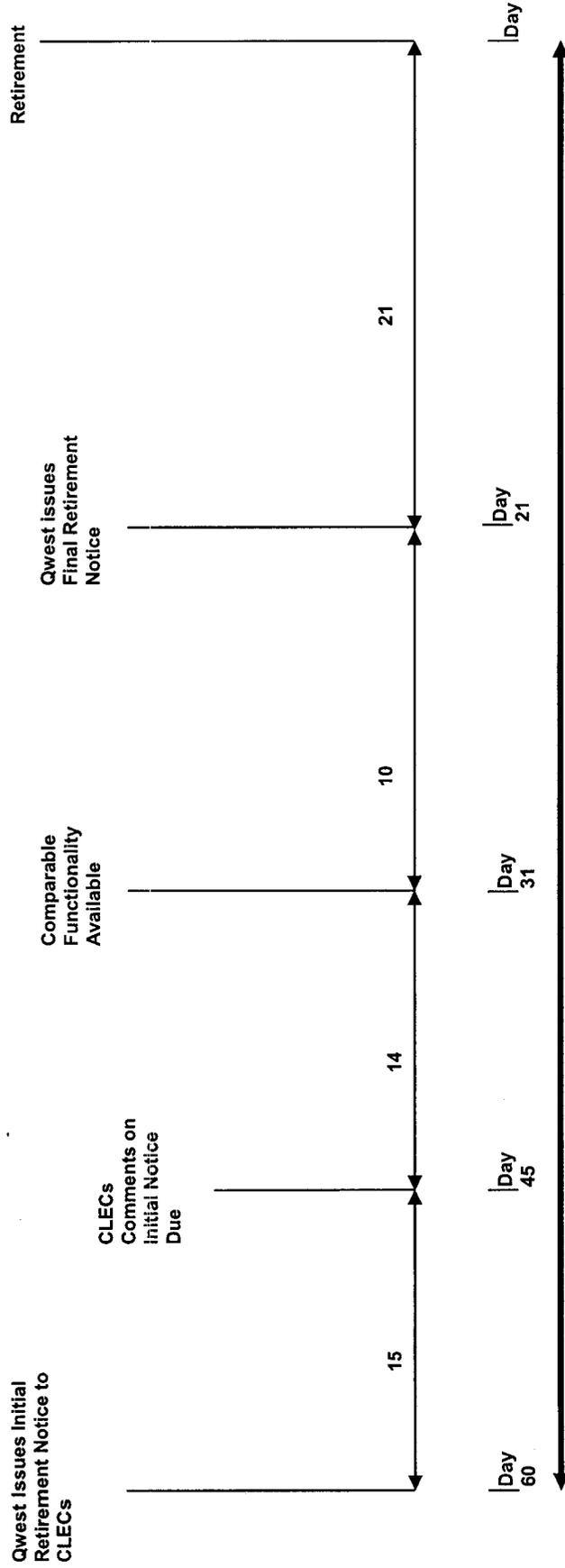
Qwest-CLEC Change Management Process Retirement of An Existing Application-to-Application OSS Interface Timeline



The events listed above are intended to occur on business days. If the date on which any event is scheduled to occur falls on a weekend or holiday, then Qwest and the CLECs may negotiate a revised timeline.

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Qwest-CLEC Change Management Process Retirement of An Existing Graphic User Interface Timeline



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10.0 PRIORITIZATION

Each OSS Interface and Test Environment release is prioritized separately. If the Systems CMP Change Requests for any interface or test environment do not exceed release capacity, no prioritization for that release is required. The prioritization process provides an opportunity for CLECs to prioritize CLEC and Qwest originated OSS Interface change requests (CRs). CLEC or Qwest originated CRs for introduction of a new interface or retirement of an existing interface are not subject to prioritization and will follow the introduction or retirement processes outlined in Sections 7.0 and 9.0, respectively.

10.1 Regulatory and Industry Guideline Change Requests

Regulatory and Industry Guideline changes, are defined in Section 4.0. , Separate procedures are required for prioritization of CRs requesting Regulatory and Industry Guideline changes to ensure that Qwest can comply with the recommended or required implementation date, if any. The process for determining whether a CR is Regulatory Change or Industry guideline is set forth in Section 5.1.

Qwest will send CLECs a notice when it posts Regulatory or Industry Guideline CRs to the Web and identify when comments are due, as described in Section 5.1. Regulatory and Industry Guideline CRs will also be identified in the CMP Systems Monthly Meeting Distribution Package.

10.1.1 Regulatory Changes

For Regulatory Changes, Qwest will implement changes no later than the time specified in the legislation, regulatory requirement, court ruling, . If no time is specified, Qwest will implement the change as soon as practicable.

Regulatory CRs will be ranked with all other CRs. If the implementation date for a Regulatory CR requires all or a part of the change to be included in the upcoming Major Release, the CR will not be subject to ranking and will be automatically included in that Major Release.

10.1.2 Industry Guideline Changes

For Industry Guideline changes, Qwest will use the national implementation timeline, if any. If no national implementation timeline is specified, Qwest will implement any related changes as soon as practicable, taking into account the benefit of the guideline change and CLEC input regarding the implementation timeline.

Industry Guideline CRs will be ranked with all other CRs. If the recommended implementation date for a Industry Guideline CR requires all or a part of the change to be included in the upcoming Major Release, the CR will not be subject to ranking and will be automatically included in that Major Release, unless Qwest and CLECs unanimously agree otherwise.

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10.1.3 Regulatory and Industry Guideline Change Implementation

When more than one Major Release is scheduled before the mandated or recommended implementation date for a Regulatory or Industry Guideline CR, Qwest will present information to CLECs regarding any technical, practical, or development cycle considerations, as part of the CR review and up to the packaging options, that may affect Qwest's ability to implement the CR in any particular Major Release. At the monthly CMP meeting where the Regulatory or Industry Guideline CR is presented, Qwest will advise CLECs of the possible scheduled releases in which Qwest could implement the CR and the CLECs and Qwest will determine how to allocate those CRs among the available Major Releases, taking into account the information provided by Qwest regarding technical, practical, and/or development considerations. If the Regulatory or Industry Guideline CR is not included in a prior release, it will be implemented in the latest release specified by Qwest.

10.2 Prioritization Process

10.2.1 Prioritization Review

At the last Monthly Systems CMP Meeting before Prioritization, Qwest will facilitate a Prioritization Review including a discussion of all CRs eligible³ for prioritization in a major release. Qwest will distribute all materials five (5) calendar days prior to the prioritization review. The materials will include:

- Agenda
- Summary document of all CRs eligible for prioritization. (see Appendix A - Sample – IMA 11.0 Rank Eligible CRs)

Both CLECs and Qwest should have appropriate subject matter experts in attendance at the Prioritization Review. The review and discussion meetings are open to all CLECs.

The Prioritization Review objectives are to:

- Introduce newly initiated CLEC and Qwest OSS Interface and test environment change requests.
- Allow CLECs and Qwest to prioritize eligible OSS Interface or test environment change requests by providing specific input as to the relative importance that CLECs, as a group, and Qwest assign to each such change request.

10.2.2 Ranking

Within three (3) business days following the CMP Meeting that includes the Prioritization Review, Qwest will distribute the Prioritization Form for ranking. Ranking should be conducted according to the following guidelines:

- Each CLEC and Qwest may submit one numbered ranking of the Release Candidate List. The ranking must be submitted by the primary Point of Contact (POC, the secondary POC, or CMP Team Representative). The ranking will be submitted to the Qwest Systems CMP Manager in accordance with the guidelines described in Section 10.2.3 below. Refer to Appendix B: Sample – IMA 11.0 Initial Prioritization Form

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- Qwest and each CLEC ranks each change request on the Release Candidate List by providing a point value from 1 through n, where n is the total quantity of CRs. The highest point value should be assigned to the CR that Qwest and CLECs wish to be implemented first. The total points will be calculated by the Qwest Systems CMP Manager and the results will be distributed to the CLECs in accordance with the Prioritization Process described in Section 10.2.3 below. Refer to Appendix C – Sample – IMA 11.0 Prioritization List.

10.2.3 Ranking Tabulation

CLECs and Qwest who choose to vote must submit their completed Prioritization Form via e-mail within three (3) business days following Qwest's distribution of the Prioritization Form. Within two (2) business days following the submission of ranking, Qwest will tabulate all rankings and e-mail the resulting Initial Prioritization List to the CLECs. The results will be announced at the next scheduled CMP Monthly Meeting. Prioritization is based on the results of the votes received by the deadline. Based on the outcome of the final ranking of the CR candidates, an Initial Prioritization List is produced. Qwest will place in order the candidates based on the ranking responses received by the deadline.

10.2.4 Ranking of Late Added CRs

For those late added CRs that are eligible for inclusion, as a candidate, in the most recently prioritized release (Section 10.2.4), the prioritization process will be as follows.

- Within three (3) business days following the CMP Meeting that resulted in the decision to include the late added CR as a candidate in the recently prioritized release, Qwest will distribute the late added CR for ranking, along with the initial prioritization.
- Each CLEC and Qwest may submit a suggested rank for the late added CR. The suggested rank will be the number, from 1-n, corresponding to the position on the Initial Prioritization List that the CLEC or Qwest believes the late added CR should be inserted.
- CLECs and Qwest who choose to vote must return their suggested rank for the late added CR via e-mail within three (3) business days following Qwest's distribution of the late added CR for ranking.

Within two business days following the return of the suggested rank, Qwest will tabulate the results by averaging the returned suggested ranks for the late added CR. Qwest will insert the late added CR into the Initial Prioritization List at the resulting point on the list and will renumber the remaining candidates on the list based on this insertion. Qwest will e-mail the newly resulting Initial Prioritization List to the CLECs. The results will be announced at the next scheduled CMP Monthly Meeting.

10.2.5 Withdrawal of Prioritized CRs

A CLEC or Qwest may elect to withdraw a CR that has been prioritized for an OSS release. This process may be invoked at any time between the prioritization process and the commitment for the release. Qwest will determine its ability to work additional candidates for the release based upon the timing of the withdrawal request. After commitment, a CLEC or Qwest could request the CR be withdrawn, however, the withdrawal of the candidate may not be feasible based upon the development status at the time of the withdrawal request. The process will be as follows:

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The originating CLEC or Qwest will submit a written request to the Qwest Systems CMP Manager indicating that they wish to withdraw the CR. This notification must be sent no later than 21 calendar days prior to the monthly Systems CMP meeting at which the request will be discussed. The written request must contain:

- the CR number
- the CR title
- an explanation of why the originator wishes to withdraw the CR

Within 2 business days after receipt of the request to withdraw the CR the Systems CMP Manager will notify, in writing, all of the CLECs that submitted a prioritization ranking. The subject line will note "INTENT TO WITHDRAW PRIORITIZED CR [number]." The notice will include

- the CR number
- the CR title,
- the ranking that it received from the prioritization,
- the explanation of why the originator wishes to withdraw the CR

If a CLEC or Qwest disagrees with the withdrawal of the CR from the release, they have the option to assume sponsorship of that CR. They may do so by notifying the Systems CMP Manager in writing of their intent to assume sponsorship of the CR within 5 business days after the Systems CMP Manager has sent the intent to withdraw e-mail. If the Systems CMP Manager receives no response within 5 business days, then the CR will be withdrawn. The new status will be reviewed in the next monthly Systems CMP meeting.

10.3 Special Change Request Process (SCRP)

In the event that a Systems CR is not ranked high enough in prioritization for inclusion in the next Release, or as otherwise provided in the CMP, the CR originator may elect to invoke the CMP Special Change Request Process (SCRP) as described in this section.

The SCRCP may be requested up to five (5) calendar days after prioritization results are posted. However, the SCRCP does not supercede the process defined in Section 5.0 (Change Request Initiation Process).

The foregoing process applies to Qwest and CLEC originated CRs. In the event a CR is submitted through this process, Qwest agrees that it will not divert IT resources available to work on the CMP systems CRs, to support the SCRCP request. Qwest will have to apply additional resources to, and track, the additional work required for the CR it seeks to implement through the SCRCP.

All time intervals within which a response is required from one Party to another under this section are maximum time intervals. Each Party agrees that it will provide all responses in writing to the other Party as soon as the Party has the information and analysis required to respond, even if the time interval stated herein for a response is not over.

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10.3.1 SCRP Request From

To invoke the SCRP, the CR originator must send an e-mail to the Qwest CMP SCRP mailbox (URL TBD). The subject line of the e-mail message must include:

- "SCRP FORM"
- CR originator's company name
- CR number and title

The text of the e-mail message must include:

- Description of the CR
- A completed SCRP Form (See Appendix XX)
- A single point of contact for the SCRP request including:
 - Primary requestor's name and company
 - Phone number
 - E-mail address
- Circumstances which have necessitated the invocation of the SCRP
- Desired implementation date
- If more than one company is making the SCRP request, the names and point of contact information for the other requesting companies.

10.3.2 Qwest Acknowledges Receipt with a Confirmation E-mail

Within two (2) business days following receipt of the SCRP e-mail, Qwest will acknowledge receipt of the complete SCRP e-mail with a confirmation e-mail and advise the SCRP Requestor of any missing information needed for Qwest to process and analyze the request. When the SCRP e-mail is complete, the confirmation e-mail will include:

- Date and time of receipt of complete SCRP e-mail
- Date and time of confirmation e-mail
- SCRP title and number
- The name, telephone number and e-mail address of the Qwest contact assigned to process the SCRP
- Amount of the non-refundable Processing Fee as specified in Section 9.3.8 below.

10.3.3 Process Fee Invoice

Within one (1) business day of sending the confirmation email Qwest will bill the SCRP Requestor a non-refundable Processing Fee as specified in Section 9.3.8 below.

10.3.4 SCRP Review Meeting

Within ten (10) business days after the confirmation e-mail, Qwest will schedule and hold a review meeting with the SCRP Requestor to review Qwest's analysis of the request.

10.3.5 Preliminary SCRP Quote and Review

During business and systems requirements analysis, Qwest will review the SCRP request to determine if it has any affinities with CRs packaged for the targeted OSS Interface release. As

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soon as feasible, but in any case within thirty (30) business days, after receipt of a completed SCRП form, Qwest will schedule and hold a meeting with the SCRП Requestor to provide and review:

- An estimated Preliminary SCRП quote. The SCRП quote will, at a minimum, include the following information:
 - A description of the work to be performed
 - Estimated Development costs with a cap on cost
 - Targeted release
 - An estimate of the terms and conditions surrounding the firm SCRП quote. (If the estimate increases before Qwest issues the Firm SCRП Quote, Qwest will communicate the cost increases to the SCRП Requestor. The SCRП Requestor must comply with payment terms as outlined in Section 9.3.7 before Qwest proceeds with the request.)
- An invoice covering the business and systems requirements analysis
 - Payment for this invoice is due no later than 30 calendar days following Qwest written issuance of the Preliminary Quote. Qwest will not proceed with further development in support of the SCRП Request until the business and systems analysis and processing invoices are paid.

The SCRП Requestor has ten (10) business days, upon receipt of the SCRП quote, to either agree to purchase under the quoted price or cancel the SCRП request.

10.3.5.1 SCRП Requestor Accepts the Preliminary Quote and Decision for Qwest to Proceed

If the SCRП Requestor accepts the SCRП Preliminary Quote, the SCRП Requestor must send an e-mail to Qwest with the following information:

The subject line of the e-mail message must include:

- "SCRП PRELIMINARY QUOTE ACCEPTED"
- CR originator's company name
- CR number and title

The text of the e-mail message must include:

- Statement of accepting SCRП Preliminary Quote, targeted OSS Interface Release date, and terms and conditions
- CR originator's name, phone number, and e-mail address

10.3.5.2 SCRП Requestor Asks to Change the SCRП Request

If the SCRП Requestor decides to modify the SCRП request after Qwest provides the preliminary SCRП Quote, the requestor must submit a written request for change to the assigned Qwest manager. If changes are acceptable to Qwest, Qwest will notify the SCRП Requestor by e-mail within five (5) business days after receipt of such request for a change with a revised preliminary SCRП Quote, if applicable. The SCRП Requestor must inform Qwest, in writing, within five (5) business days, if the modified SCRП quote is acceptable, further changes are required, or the SCRП request is cancelled.

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10.3.5.3 SCRP Requestor Cancels the SCRP Request

The last point at which a SCRP Request may be cancelled is at the CMP Meeting at which Qwest presents the CRs that Qwest has committed in the release. Otherwise, the request will be implemented with the release and the SCRP Requestor is obligated to pay the full amount of the firm quote consistent with the payment schedule described below in Section 10.3.7.

10.3.6 Firm SCRP Quote and Review

Qwest will provide the SCRP Requestor a final and Firm SCRP Quote after the completion of business requirements, systems requirements and packaging of the OSS Interface Release, and when Qwest commits CRs to the specific OSS Interface Release.

Qwest will send an e-mail to the SCRP Requestor with the following information:

The subject line of the e-mail message must include:

- "FIRM SCRP QUOTE"
- CR originator's company name
- CR number and title

The text of the e-mail message must include:

- Final SCRP quote and terms and conditions
- Committed implementation date, or OSS Interface Release
- Qwest contact name, phone number, and e-mail address

No less than ten (10) days following issuance of the Firm SCRP Quote Qwest will schedule and hold a meeting to review the quote. At this meeting Qwest will review the elements of the Firm Quote and the firm Release Date of the Targeted Release.

10.3.7 Payment Schedule

The SCRP Requestor must pay 50% of the Firm SCRP Quote no more than ten (10) calendar days following the scheduled release date and the remaining 50% of the Firm SCRP Quote within 30 calendar days after the scheduled release date.

10.3.8 Applicable SCRP Charges

This section describes the different costs for a SCRP request.

- Processing Fee – a one-time flat fee that must be paid within 30 calendar days after the Qwest-SCRP Requestor meeting to prepare the SCRP form. This fee is non-refundable and is treated separately from those charges for development and implementation as described under "Charges for the SCRP Request" below.
- Charges for Business and Systems Requirements - These charges include the costs of developing business and systems requirements.
- Charges for the Development of the SCRP Request – These charges, included in the Preliminary and Firm SCRP Quotes, including labor charges, time and capital costs incurred as a result of developing code and performing testing.

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11.0 APPLICATION-TO-APPLICATION INTERFACE TESTING

If CLEC is using an application-to-application interface, CLEC must work with Qwest to certify the business scenarios that CLEC will be using in order to ensure successful transaction processing in production. If multiple CLECs are using a service bureau provider, the service bureau provider need only be certified for the first participating CLEC; subsequent CLECs using the service bureau provider need not be certified. Qwest and CLEC shall mutually agree to the business scenarios for which CLEC requires certification. Certification will be granted for the specified release of the application-to-application interface. If CLEC is certifying multiple products or services, CLEC has the option of certifying those products or services serially or in parallel if technically feasible.

New releases of the application-to-application interface may require re-certification of some or all business scenarios. A determination as to the need for re-certification will be made by the Qwest coordinator in conjunction with the release manager of each release. Notice of the need for re-certification will be provided to CLEC as the new release is implemented. The suite of re-certification test scenarios will be provided to CLEC with the initial and final Technical Specifications. If CLEC is certifying multiple products or services, CLEC has the option of certifying those products or services serially or in parallel, if technically feasible. If multiple CLECs are using a service bureau provider, the service bureau provider need only be re-certified for the first participating CLEC; subsequent CLECs using the service bureau provider need not be re-certified.

Qwest provides a separate Customer Test Environment (CTE) for the testing of transaction based application-to-application interfaces for pre-order, order, and maintenance/repair. The CTE will be developed for each major release and updated for each point release that has changes that were disclosed but not implemented as part of the major release. Qwest will provide test files for batch/file interfaces (e.g. billing). The CTE for Pre-order and Order currently includes:

- Stand Alone Test Environment (SATE)
- Interoperability Testing
- Controlled Production Testing

The CTE for Maintenance and Repair currently includes:

- CMIP Interface Test Environment (MEDIACC)

Qwest provides initial implementation testing, and migration testing (from one release to the next) for all types of OSS Interface change requests. Controlled Production Testing is also provided for Pre-Order and Order. Such testing provides the opportunity to test the code associated with those OSS Interface exchange requests. The CTE will also provide the opportunity for regression testing of OSS Interface functionality.

11.1 Testing Process

Qwest will send an industry notification, including testing schedules (see Section 8.0 – Changes to Existing OSS Interfaces), to CLECs so they may determine their intent to participate in the test. CLECs wishing to test with Qwest must participate in at least one joint planning session and determine:

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- Connectivity (required)
- Firewall and Protocol Testing (required)
- Controlled Production (required)
- Production Turn-up (required)
- Test Schedule (required)

A joint CLEC-Qwest test plan may also include some or all of the following based on type of testing requested:

- Requirements Review
- Test Data Development
- Progression Testing Phase

Qwest will communicate any agreed upon changes to the test schedule. CLECs are responsible for establishing and maintaining connectivity to the CTE.

Provided a CLEC uses the same software components and similar connectivity configuration as it uses in production, the CLEC should, in general, experience response times similar to production. However, this environment is not intended for volume testing. The CTE contains the appropriate applications for pre-ordering and Local Service Request (LSR) ordering up to but not including the service order processor. Qwest intends to include the service order processor as part of the SATE component of the CTE by the end of May, 2002. Production code problems identified in the test environment will be resolved by using the Production Support process as outlined in Section 12.0.

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12.0 PRODUCTION SUPPORT

12.1 Notification of Planned Outages

Planned Outages are reserved times for scheduled maintenance to Operations Support Systems (OSS). Qwest sends associated Notifications to all CLECs. Planned Outage Notifications must include:

- Identification of the subject OSS.
- Description of the scheduled OSS maintenance activity.
- Impact to the CLECs (e.g. geographic area, products affected, system implications, and business implications).
- Scheduled date and scheduled start and stop times.
- Work around, if applicable.
- Qwest contact for more information on the scheduled OSS maintenance activity.

Planned Outage Notifications will be sent to CLECs and appropriate Qwest personnel within 2 days after the scheduling of the OSS maintenance activity.

12.2 Newly Deployed OSS Interface Release

Following the release production date of an OSS Interface change, Qwest will use production procedures for maintenance of software as outlined below. Problems encountered by the CLEC should be reported to the IT Wholesale Systems Help Desk (IT Help Desk). Qwest will monitor, track, and address troubles reported by CLECs or identified by Qwest. Problems reported will be known as IT Trouble Tickets. A week after the deployment of an IMA Release into production, Qwest will host a conference call with the CLECs to review any identified problems and answer any questions pertaining to the newly deployed software. Qwest will follow CMP process for documenting the meeting (includes issues/action items and status/solution). Issues will be addressed with specific CLECs and results/status will be reviewed at the next Monthly OSS CMP Meeting.

12.3 Request for a Production Support Change

The IT Help Desk supports Competitive Local Exchange Carriers who have questions regarding connectivity, outputs, and system outages. The IT Help Desk serves as the first point of contact for reporting trouble. If the IT Help Desk is unable to assist the CLEC, it will refer information to the proper subject matter expert, also known as Tier 2 or Tier 3 support, who may call the CLEC directly. Often, however, an IT Help Desk representative will contact the CLEC to provide information or to confirm resolution of the trouble ticket.

Qwest will assign each CLEC-generated and Qwest-generated IT Trouble ticket a Severity Level 1 to 4, as defined in Section 12.5. Severity 1 and Severity 2 IT trouble tickets will be implemented immediately by means of an emergency release of process, software or documentation (known as a patch). If Qwest and CLEC deem implementation is not timely, and a work around exists or can be developed, Qwest will implement the work around in the interim. Severity 3 and Severity 4 IT trouble tickets may be implemented when appropriate taking into

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consideration upcoming patches, major releases and point releases and any synergies that exist with work being done in the upcoming patches, major releases and point releases.

The first time a trouble is reported by Qwest or CLEC, the Qwest IT Help Desk will assign a IT Trouble Ticket tracking number, which will be communicated to the CLEC at the time the CLEC reports the trouble. The affected CLEC(s) and Qwest will attempt to reach consensus on resolution of the problem and closing the IT Trouble Ticket. If no consensus is reached, any party may use the Technical Escalation Process. When the IT Trouble Ticket has been closed, Qwest will notify CLECs with one of the following disposition codes:

- No Trouble Found – to be used when Qwest investigation indicates that no trouble exists in Qwest systems.
- Trouble to be Resolved in Patch – to be used when the IT Trouble Ticket will be resolved in a patch. Qwest will provide a date for implementation of the patch. This is typically applied to Severity 1 and Severity 2 troubles, although Severity 3 and Severity 4 troubles may be resolved in a patch where synergies exist.
- CLEC Should Submit CMP CR – to be used when Qwest's investigation indicates that the System is working pursuant to the Technical Specifications (unless the Technical Specifications are incorrect), and that the IT Trouble Ticket is requesting a systems change that should be submitted as a CMP CR.
- Date TBD – to be used when the IT Trouble Ticket is not scheduled to be resolved in a patch or change, but Qwest may resolve in a patch, release, or otherwise, if possible where synergies exist. This disposition is applied to Severity 3 and Severity 4 troubles.

Qwest will track "Date TBD" trouble tickets and report status and resolution of these trouble tickets and associated systems work on its CMP website. The status of these trouble tickets will be regularly discussed in CMP meetings.

For "Date TBD" trouble tickets, either Qwest or a CLEC may initiate the Change Request to correct the problem. (See Section 5.0 for CR Initiation.) If the initiating party knows that the CR relates to a trouble ticket, it will identify the trouble ticket number on the CR.

Instances where Qwest or CLECs misinterpret Technical Specifications and/or business rules must be addressed on a case-by-case basis. All parties will take all reasonable steps to ensure that any disagreements regarding the interpretation of a new or modified OSS Interface are identified and resolved during the change management review of the change request.

12.4 Reporting Trouble to IT

Qwest will open a trouble ticket at the time the trouble is first reported by CLEC or detected by Qwest. The IT Help Desk representative will communicate the ticket number to the CLEC at the time the CLEC reports the trouble.

If a ticket has been opened, and subsequent to the ticket creation, CLECs call in on the same problem, and the IT Help Desk recognizes that it is the same problem, a new ticket is not created. The IT Help Desk documents each subsequent call in the primary ticket.

If one or more CLECs call in on the same problem, but it is not recognized as the same problem, one or more tickets may be created. When the problem is recognized as the same,

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one of the tickets becomes the primary ticket, and the other tickets are linked to the primary ticket. When the problem is closed, the primary and all related tickets will be closed.

12.5 Severity Levels

Severity level is a means of assessing and documenting the impact of the loss of functionality to CLEC(s) and impact to the CLEC's business. The severity level gives restoration or repair priority to problems causing the greatest impact to CLEC(s) or its business.

Guidelines for determining severity levels are listed below. Severity level may be determined by one or more of the listed bullet items under each Severity Level (the list is not exhaustive). Examples of some trouble ticket situations follow. Please keep in mind these are guidelines, and each situation is unique. The IT Help Desk representative, based on discussion with the CLEC, will make the determination of the severity level and will communicate the severity level to the CLEC at the time the CLEC reports the trouble. If the CLEC disagrees with the severity level assigned by the IT Help Desk personnel, the CLEC may escalate using the Technical Escalation Process.

Severity 1: Critical Impact

- Critical.
- High visibility.
- A large number of orders or CLECs are affected.
- A single CLEC cannot submit its business transactions.
- Affects online commitment.
- Production or cycle stopped – priority batch commitment missed.
- Major impact on revenue.
- Major component not available for use.
- Many and/or major files lost.
- Major loss of functionality.
- Problem can not be bypassed.
- No viable or productive work around available.

Examples:

- Major network backbone outage without redundancy.
- Environmental problems causing multiple system failures.
- Large number of service or other work order commitments missed.
- A Software Defect in an edit which prevents any orders from being submitted.

Severity 2: Serious Impact

- Serious.
- Moderate visibility.
- Moderate to large number of CLECs, or orders affected.
- Potentially affects online commitment.
- Serious slow response times.
- Serious loss of functionality.
- Potentially affects production – potential miss of priority batch commitment.

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- Moderate impact on revenue.
- Limited use of product or component.
- Component continues to fail. Intermittently down for short periods, but repetitive.
- Few or small files lost.
- Problems may have a possible bypass; the bypass must be acceptable to CLECs.
- Major access down, but a partial backup exists.

Examples:

- A single company, large number of orders impacted
- Frequent intermittent logoffs.
- Service and/or other work order commitments delayed or missed.

Severity 3: Moderate Impact

- Low to medium visibility.
- Low CLEC, or low order impact.
- Low impact on revenue.
- Limited use of product or component.
- Single CLEC device affected.
- Minimal loss of functionality.
- Problem may be bypassed; redundancy in place. Bypass must be acceptable to CLECs.
- Automated workaround in place and known. Workaround must be acceptable to CLECs.

Example:

- Hardware errors, no impact yet.

Severity 4: Minimal Impact

- Low or no visibility.
- No direct impact on CLEC.
- Few functions impaired.
- Problem can be bypassed. Bypass must be acceptable to CLECs.
- System resource low; no impact yet.
- Preventative maintenance request.

Examples:

- Misleading, unclear system messages causing confusion for users.
- Device or software regularly has to be reset, but continues to work.

12.6 Status Notification for IT Trouble Tickets

There are two types of status notifications for IT Trouble Tickets:

- Ticket Notifications: for tickets that relate to only one reporting CLEC
- Event Notifications: for tickets that relate to more than one CLEC
- Event Notifications are sent by Qwest to all CLECs who subscribe to the IT Help Desk. Event Notifications will include ticket status (e.g. open, no change, resolved) and as much of the following information as is known to Qwest at the time the notice is sent:
- Description of the problem

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- Impact to the CLECs (e.g. geographic area, products affected, business implications)
- Estimated resolution date and time if known
- Resolution if known
- Severity level
- Trouble ticket number(s), date and time
- Work around if defined
- Qwest contact for more information on the problem
- System affected
- Escalation information as available

Both types of notifications will be sent to the CLECs and appropriate Qwest personnel within the time frame set forth in the table below and will include all related system trouble ticket number(s).

12.7 Notification Intervals

Notification Intervals are based on the severity level of the ticket. "Notification Interval for any Change in Status" means that a notification will be sent out within the time specified from the time a change in status occurs. "Notification Interval for No Change in Status" means that a notification will be sent out on a recurring basis within the time specified from the last notification when no change in status has occurred, until resolution. "Notification Interval upon Resolution" means that a notification will be sent out within the time specified from the resolution of the problem.

Notification will be provided during the IT Help Desk normal hours of operation. Qwest will continue to work severity 1 problems outside of Help Desk hours of operation which are Monday-Friday 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (MT) and Saturday 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (MT), and will communicate with the CLEC(s) as needed. A severity 2 problem may be worked outside the IT Help Desk normal hours of operation on a case-by-case basis.

The chart below indicates the response intervals a CLEC can expect to receive after reporting a trouble ticket to the IT Help Desk.

Severity Level of Ticket	Notification interval for initial ticket	Notification Interval for any Change in Status	Notification Interval for No Change in Status	Notification Interval upon Resolution
Severity Level 1	Immediate acceptance	Within 1 hour	1 hour	Within 1 hour
Severity Level 2	Immediate acceptance	Within 1 hour	1 hour	Within 1 hour
Severity Level 3	Immediate acceptance	Within 4 hours	48 hours	Within 4 hours
Severity Level 4	Immediate acceptance	Within 8 hours	48 hours	Within 8 hours

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13.0 TRAINING

Qwest will incorporate all substantive changes to existing Graphical User Interfaces (GUI), including the introduction of new GUI, into CLEC training programs. Qwest will execute CLEC training for pre-order, ordering, billing, and maintenance and repair GUI.

13.1 Introduction of a New GUI

Qwest will include a CLEC training schedule with the Introduction of a New GUI Release Notification issued no less than forty-five (45) calendar days prior to the Release Production date. Qwest will make available CLEC training beginning no less than twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the Release Production Date. Web based training will remain available for the life of the release.

13.2 Changes to an Existing GUI

Qwest will include a CLEC training schedule with the Draft Release Notes issued no less than twenty-eight (28) calendar days prior to the Release Production date. Qwest will make available CLEC training beginning no less than twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the Release Production date. Web based training will remain available for the life of the release.

CEMR training will not be available before the release but will be conducted for 90 days in the live environment after the Release Production date.

13.3 Product and Process Introductions and Changes Qwest may offer CLEC training for product and process introductions and changes based on the complexity of the introduction or change. This training is offered in many forms, but is most commonly offered in the following delivery methods: web-based, instructor-led, job aids, or conference calls.

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14.0 ESCALATION PROCESS

14.1 Guidelines

- The escalation process will include items that are defined as within the CMP scope.
- The decision to escalate is left to the discretion of the CLEC, based on the severity of the missed or unaccepted response/resolution.
- Escalations may also involve issues related to CMP itself, including the administration of the CMP.
- The expectation is that escalation should occur only after change management procedures have occurred per the CMP.

14.2 Cycle

Item must be formally escalated as an e-mail sent to the Qwest CMP escalation e-mail address, http://www.qwest.com/wholesale/cmp/escalations_dispute.html.

- Subject line of the escalation e-mail must include:
 - CLEC Company name
 - "ESCALATION"
 - Change Request (CR) number and status, if applicable
- Content of e-mail must enclose appropriate supporting documentation, if applicable, and to the extent that the supporting documentation does not include the following information, the following must be provided:
 - Description of item being escalated
 - History of item
 - Reason for Escalation
 - Business need and impact
 - Desired CLEC resolution
 - CLEC contact information including Name, Title, Phone Number, and e-mail address
 - CLEC may request that impacted activities be stopped, continued or an interim solution be established.
- Qwest will acknowledge receipt of the complete escalation e-mail with an acknowledgement of the e-mail no later than the close of business of the following business day. If the escalation email does not contain the following specified information Qwest will notify the CLEC by the close of business on the following business day, identifying and requesting information that was not originally included. When the escalation email is complete, the acknowledgement email will include:
 - Date and time of escalation receipt
 - Date and time of acknowledgement email
 - Name, phone number and email address of the Qwest Director, or above, assigned to the escalation.
- Qwest will post escalated issue and any associated responses on the CMP web site within 1 business day of receipt of the complete escalation or response.
- Qwest will give notification that an escalation has been requested via the Industry Mail Out process
- Any other CLEC wishing to participate in the escalation must submit an e-mail notification to the escalation URL within one (1) business day of the mail out. The subject line of the e-mail must include the title of the escalated issue followed by "ESCALATION PARTICIPATION"
- Qwest will respond with a binding position e-mail including supporting rationale as soon as practicable, but no later than:

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- For escalated CRs, seven (7) calendar days after sending the acknowledgment e-mail,.
- For all other escalations, fourteen (14) calendar days after sending the acknowledgment e-mail.
- The escalating CLEC will respond to Qwest within seven (7) calendar days with a binding position e-mail.
- When the escalation is closed, the resolution will be subject to the CMP.

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15.0 DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS

CLECs and Qwest will work together in good faith to resolve any issue brought before the CMP. In the event that an impasse issue develops, a party may pursue the dispute resolution processes set forth below: Item must be formally noticed as an e-mail sent to the Qwest CMP Dispute Resolution e-mail address, http://www.qwest.com/wholesale/cmp/escalations_dispute.html. Subject line of the e-mail must include:

- CLEC Company name
- "Dispute Resolution"
- Change Request (CR) number and status, if applicable
- Content of e-mail must enclose appropriate supporting documentation, if applicable, and to the extent that the supporting documentation does not include the following information, the following must be provided:
 - Description of item
 - History of item
 - Reason for Escalation
 - Business need and impact
 - Desired CLEC resolution
 - CLEC contact information including Name, Title, Phone Number, and e-mail address
 - Qwest will acknowledge receipt of the complete Dispute Resolution e-mail within one (1) business day
- Qwest or any CLEC may suggest that the issue be resolved through an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) process, such as arbitration or mediation using the American Arbitration Association (AAA) or other rules. If the parties agree to use an ADR process and agree upon the process and rules to be used, including whether the results of the ADR process are binding, the dispute will be resolved through the agreed-upon ADR process.
- Without the necessity for a prior ADR Process, Qwest or any CLEC may submit the issue, following the commission's established procedures, with the appropriate regulatory agency requesting resolution of the dispute. This provision is not intended to change the scope of any regulatory agency's authority with regard to Qwest or the CLECs.

This process does not limit any party's right to seek remedies in a regulatory or legal arena at any time.

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APPENDIX A: SAMPLE - IMA 11.0 RANK ELIGIBLE CRS

#	CR Number	Interface	Submit Date	Company	Status	Title	Shirt Size	Est LOE Min	Est LOE Max	CR Presenter	Ranking Note
Category A: Not Rank Eligible											
1	14886	IMA Common	9/28/01	Qwest	Pending Withdrawal	Pre-order Transaction: Due Date availability & standard intervals	Extra Large	5501	8000	Winston, Connie	Category A: Not Rank Eligible
2	23943	IMA Common	9/28/01	Qwest	Pending Withdrawal	Shared Distribution Loop- Long Term	Large	3001	5500	Winston, Connie	Category A: Not Rank Eligible
3	25505	IMA Common	9/28/01	Qwest	Pending Withdrawal	Line Splitting for UNE-P accounts	Large	3001	5500	Winston, Connie	Category A: Not Rank Eligible
4	25591	IMA Common	9/26/01	Qwest	Pending Withdrawal	Flowthrough validate LPIC LSR Entries	Medium	751	3000	Winston, Connie	Category A: Not Rank Eligible
5	25800	IMA Common	9/28/01	Qwest	Pending Withdrawal	Add New Auto Push Statuses	Medium	751	3000	Winston, Connie	Category A: Not Rank Eligible
6	27751	IMA Common	9/28/01	Qwest	Pending Withdrawal	Intrabuilding Cable.	Large	3001	5500	Winston, Connie	Category A: Not Rank Eligible
7	27756	IMA Common	9/26/01	Qwest	Pending Withdrawal	Cancellation Remarks	Small	201	750	Winston, Connie	Category A: Not Rank Eligible
Category B: Above the Line											
1	SCR013002-6	IMA Common	1/30/02	Qwest	Clarification	PID Impact - PO-2B: Unbundled Loop and Local Number Portability Edits	Large	3001	5500	Martain, Jill	Category B: Above the Line
2	SCR013002-7	IMA Common	1/30/02	Qwest	Clarification	PID Impact - PO-2B: Resale POTS Edits	Large	3001	5500	Martain, Jill	Category B: Above the Line
Category C: Rank Eligible											
1	24652	IMA Common	9/28/01	Qwest	Presented	Unbundled DID/PBX Trunk Port Facility move from LS to PS	Medium	751	3000	Winston, Connie	Category C: Rank Eligible
2	25091	IMA Common	9/26/01	Qwest	Presented	DSL Flowthrough - Re-Branding	Large	3001	5500	Winston, Connie	Category C: Rank Eligible
3	26636	IMA Common	9/28/01	Qwest	Presented	Shared Loop Enhancements	Medium	751	3000	Winston, Connie	Category C: Rank Eligible
4	30212	IMA Common	9/28/01	Qwest	Presented	Add New UNE-P PAL to IMA	Large	3001	5500	Winston, Connie	Category C: Rank Eligible
5	30215	IMA Common	10/23/01	Qwest	Presented	Wholesale Local Exchange Freeze	Large	3001	5500	Winston, Connie	Category C: Rank Eligible
6	31766	IMA Common	9/28/01	Qwest	Presented	Reject Duplicate LSRs	Medium	751	3000	Martain, Jill	Category C: Rank Eligible
7	5043011	IMA GUI	8/31/00	Eschelon	Presented	Add an online glossary of the field title abbreviations to help menu of IMA GUI	Medium	751	3000	Eschelon	Category C: Rank Eligible

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APPENDIX B: SAMPLE - IMA 11.0 INITIAL PRIORITIZATION FORM

Assigned Point Value (see instructions)	CR Number	Title	Company	Interface	Products Impacted	Shirt-Size	Est LOE Min	Est LOE Max
1	24652	Unbundled DID/PBX Trunk Port Facility move from LS to PS	Qwest	IMA Common	Unbundled PID/PBX Trunk Port	Medium	751	3000
2	25091	DSL Flowthrough - Re-Branding	Qwest	IMA Common	DSL	Large	3001	5500
3	26636	Shared Loop Enhancements	Qwest	IMA Common	Shared Loop	Medium	751	3000
4	30212	Add New UNE-P PAL to IMA	Qwest	IMA Common	UNE-P PAL	Large	3001	5500
5	30215	Wholesale Local Exchange Freeze Based on CSRs	Qwest	IMA Common	All	Large	3001	5500
6	31766	Reject Duplicate LSRs	Qwest	IMA Common	All Products	Medium	751	3000
7	5043011	Add an online glossary of the field title abbreviations to help menu of IMA GUI	Eschelon	IMA GUI	All Products	Medium	751	3000
8	5043076	Create a separate field for line numbers in EDI responses	Eschelon	IMA EDI		Large	3001	5500
9	5206704	Add OCn capable loop LSR to IMA	ELI	IMA Common	DS1, DS3 & OCn Loop Orders	Large	3001	5500
10	5405937	CLECs require availability to view completed LSR information in IMA GUI	Verizon	IMA GUI	Resale	Large	3001	5500
11	5498578	Ability to send dual CFA information on an LSR for HDSL orders	WorldCom	IMA Common	HDSL	Small	201	750
12	SCR010902-1	Limited IMA GUI Access for Pre-Order Transactions Only	McLeodUSA	IMA GUI	All	Medium	751	3000
13	SCR012202-1	Incorrect Consolidation of DR5 USOC in IMA	Qwest	IMA Common	ISDN PRI	Medium	751	3000
14	SCR013002-3	IMA Pre-Order - Use CCNA to retrieve a Design Layout Report (DLR)	Qwest	IMA Common		Medium	751	3000
15	SCR013002-4	Revision of TOS field in IMA	Qwest	IMA GUI	UNE-P, Resale	Medium	751	3000
16	SCR013002-5	PIC Freeze Documentation	Qwest	IMA Common	Resale, UNE	Medium	751	3000

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APPENDIX C: SAMPLE - IMA 11.0 INITIAL PRIORITIZATION LIST

RANK	TOTAL POINT VALUE	CR Number	Title	Company	Interface	Products Impacted	Shirt Size	Est LOE Min	Est LOE Max	Original List #
1	251	SCR013102-15	LSOG 6 - Upgrade Field Numbering and Naming to Existing Qwest Forms & EDI Maps (FOUNDATION CANDIDATE) (NOTE: Per February CMP Meeting Discussion, this CR should be ranked higher than all other LSOG 6 Change Requests)	Qwest	IMA Common	All Products	Extra Large	5501	8000	32
2	231	SCR013002-8	Flowthrough on Sup 2 Category Due Date	Qwest	IMA Common	All Products except Designed Products	Large	3001	5500	17
3	227	SCR101901-1	Allow customers to move and change local service providers at the same time. (NOTE: Per February CMP Meeting Discussion, this CR should be ranked higher than #26)	Eschelon	IMA Common	Centrex Resale, UNE-P	Extra Large	5500	8000	35
4	214	31766	Reject Duplicate LSRs	Qwest	IMA Common	All Products	Medium	751	3000	6
5	211	SCR013002-3	IMA Pre-Order - Use CCNA to retrieve a Design Layout Report (DLR)	Qwest	IMA Common		Medium	751	3000	14

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APPENDIX D

CHANGE REQUEST FORM

CR # _____ **Status:** _____
Originated By: _____ **Date Submitted:** _____
Company: _____ **Internal Ref#** _____
Originator: _____ / _____
Name, Title, and email/phone#

Proprietary for submission to Account Manager Only? Please click appropriate box.
 Yes No

Optional -Available Dates/Time for Clarification Meeting
1.
2.
3.
4.

Area of Change Request: Please click appropriate box and fill out the section below.
 Product/Process System

Title of Change:

Description of Change:

Expected Deliverables:

OPTIONAL - THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED FOR PRODUCT & PROCESS CHANGES

Products Impacted: Please Click all appropriate boxes and also list specific products within product group, if applicable.

- | | | | |
|---|-------|--|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ancillary | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> LNP | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LIDB | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Line | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8XX | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Resale | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 911 | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Switched Service | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Calling Name | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> UDIT | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SS7 | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Unbundled Loop | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AIN | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> UNE | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DA | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Switching | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Operation Services | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Transport (Include | _____ |
| | | EUDIT) | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> INP / LNP | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Loop | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Centrex | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> UNE-P | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collocation | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> EEL (UNE-C) | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physical | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Wireless | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adjacent | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> LIS / Interconnect | _____ |

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- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ICDF Collocation _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Enterprise Data Source
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> EICT
<input type="checkbox"/> Tandem Trans. / TST
<input type="checkbox"/> DTT / Dedicated Transport
<input type="checkbox"/> Tandem Switching
<input type="checkbox"/> Local Switching |
|--|--|

OPTIONAL - THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED IF REQUESTING A PROCESS CHANGE

Area Impacted: Please click appropriate box.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Ordering | <input type="checkbox"/> Provisioning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ordering | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Billing | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance / Repair | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

OPTIONAL - THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED IF REQUESTING A SYSTEM CHANGE

OSS Interfaces Impacted: Please click all appropriate boxes.

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CEMR | <input type="checkbox"/> IMA EDI | <input type="checkbox"/> MEDIACC | <input type="checkbox"/> TELIS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXACT | <input type="checkbox"/> IMA GUI | <input type="checkbox"/> Product Database | <input type="checkbox"/> Wholesale Billing Interface |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Directory Listing | <input type="checkbox"/> HEET | <input type="checkbox"/> SATE | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | | |

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APPENDIX D

Change Request Form Instructions

The Change Request (CR) Form is the written documentation for submitting a CR for a Product, Process or OSS interface (Systems) change. The CR should be reviewed and submitted by the individual, which was selected to act as a single point of contact for the management of CRs to Qwest. Electronic version of the CR Form can be downloaded from the Qwest Wholesale WEB Page at <http://www.qwest.com/wholesale/cmp/changerequest.html>.

Product/Process and System CRs may be submitted to Qwest via e-mail at: cmpr@qwest.com

To input data to the form, use the Tab Key to navigate between each field. The following fields on the CR Form must be completed as a minimum, unless noted otherwise:

Submitted By

- Enter the date the CR is being submitted to the Qwest CMP Manager.
- Enter Company's name and Submitter's name, title, and email/Phone#.
- Optional – identify potential available dates Submitter is available for a Clarification Meeting.
- Optional – enter a Company Internal Reference No. to be identified.

Proprietary Submission

- If the CR is proprietary (i.e., confidential) and is meant to be directed only to your account manager and not flow through the CMP, then select "Yes". If the CR is not proprietary and is meant to flow through the CMP, then select "No". If this field is left blank, the default will be "No".

Area of Change Request

- Select the type of CR that is being submitted (Product, Process, or Systems).

Title of Change

- Enter a title for this CR. This should concisely describe the CR in a single sentence.

Description of Change

- Describe the Functional needs of the change being requested. To the extent practical, please provide examples to support the functional need. Also include the business benefit of this request.

Expected Deliverables

- Enter the desired outcome required of Qwest (e.g. revised process, clarification, improved communication, etc.).

Products Impacted – Optional

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- To the extent known, check the applicable products that are impacted by the CR.

Area Impacted – Optional

- To the extent known, check the applicable process areas that are impacted by the CR.

OSS Interfaces Impacted – Optional

- To the extent known, check the applicable systems that are impacted by the CR.

Qwest's CMP Manager will complete the remainder of the Form.

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DEFINITION OF TERMS

Term	Definition
CLEC	A telecommunications provider that has authority to provide local exchange telecommunications service on or after February 8, 1996, unless such provider has been declared an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier under the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.
Software Defects	A problem with system software that is not working according to the Technical Specifications and is causing detrimental impacts to the users.
Design, Development, Notification, Testing, Implementation and Disposition	<p>Design: To plan out in a systematic way. Design at Qwest includes the Business Requirements Document and the Systems Requirements Document. These two documents are created to define the requirements of a Change Request (CR) in greater detail such that programmers can write system software to implement the CR.</p> <p>Development: The process of writing code to create changes to a computer system or sub system software that have been documented in the Business Requirements and Systems Requirements.</p> <p>Notification: The act or an instance of providing information. Various specific notifications are documented throughout the CMP. Notifications apply to both Systems and Product & Process changes</p> <p>Testing: The process of verifying that the capabilities of a new software Release were developed in accordance with the Technical Specifications and performs as expected. Testing would apply to both Qwest internal testing and joint Qwest/CLEC testing.</p> <p>Implementation: The execution of the steps and processes necessary in order to make a new release of a computer system available in a particular environment. These environments are usually testing environments or production environments.</p> <p>Disposition: A final settlement as to the treatment of a particular Change Request.</p>
Good Faith	"Good faith" means honesty in fact and the observance of reasonable commercial standards of fair dealing.

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Term	Definition
OSS Interface	Existing or new gateways (including application-to-application interfaces and Graphical User Interfaces), connectivity and system functions that support or affect the pre-order, order, provisioning, maintenance and repair, and billing capabilities for local services provided by CLECs to their end users.
OSS Application to Application Interface Testing Controlled Production Testing	Controlled Production process is designed to validate CLEC ability to transmit transactions that meet industry standards and complies with Qwest business rules. Controlled Production consists of submitting requests to the Qwest production environment for provisioning as production orders with limited volumes. Qwest and CLEC use Controlled Production results to determine operational readiness for full production turn-up.
Initial Implementation Testing	This type of application-to-application testing allows a CLEC to validate its technical development of an OSS Interface before turn-up in production of new transactions or significantly changed capabilities.
Interoperability Testing Environment	A production copy of IMA. It interfaces directly with Qwest's production systems for pre-order and order processing. As a result, all interoperability pre-order queries and order transactions are subjected to the same edits as production orders. A CLEC uses account data valid in Qwest production systems for creating scenarios on Qwest-provided templates, obtains approval on these scenario templates, and then submits a minimum set of test scenarios for all transactions it wishes to perform in production. Interoperability testing provides CLECs with the opportunity to validate technical development efforts and to quantify processing results.
Level of Effort	Estimated range of hours required to implement a Change Request
Migration Testing	Process to test in the Customer Testing Environment a subsequent application-to-application Release from a previous Release. This type of testing allows a CLEC to move from one release to a subsequent release of a specific OSS Interface.
Regression Testing	Process to test, in the Customer Test Environment, OSS Interfaces, business process or other related interactions. Regression Testing is primarily for use with 'no intent' toward

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Term	Definition
	meeting any Qwest entry or exit criteria within an implementation process. Regression Testing includes testing transactions previously tested, or certified.
Release <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Release • Point Release • Patch Release 	A Release is an implementation of changes resulting from a CR or production support issue for a particular OSS Interface There are three types of releases for IMA.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Release may be CLEC impacting (to systems code and CLEC operating procedures) via EDI changes, GUI changes, technical changes, or all. Major Releases are the primary vehicle for implementing systems Change Requests of all types (Regulatory, Industry Guideline, CLEC-originated and Qwest-originated). • Point Release may not be CLEC code impacting, but may affect CLEC operating procedures. The point release is used to fix bugs introduced in previous releases, technical changes, make changes to the GUI, and/or deliver enhancements to IMA disclosed in a major release that could not be delivered in the timeframe of the major release. • Patch Release is a specially scheduled system change for the purpose of installing the software required to resolve an issue associated with a trouble ticket.
Release Production Date	The Release Production Date is the date that a software Release is first available to the CLECs for issuance of production transactions.
Sub-systems	A collection of tightly coupled software modules that is responsible for performing one or more specific functions in an OSS interface.
Stand-alone Testing Environment (SATE)	A Stand-Alone Testing Environment is a test environment that can be used by CLECs for Initial Implementation Testing, Migration Testing and Regression Testing. SATE takes CLEC pre-order and order transaction requests, passes the requests to the stand-alone database, and returns responses to the CLEC user. SATE uses pre-defined test account data and requests that are subject to the same BPL IMA/EDI edits as those used in production. The SATE is intended to mirror the production environment (including simulation of all legacy systems). SATE is part of the Customer Test Environment.
Technical Specifications	Detailed documentation that contains all of the information that a CLEC will need in order to build a particular release of an OSS application-to-application interface. Technical Specifications

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Term	Definition
	<p>include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A chapter for each transaction or product which includes a business (OBF forms to use) description, a business model (electronic transactions needed to complete a business function), trading partner access information, mapping examples, data dictionary <p>Technical Specification Appendices for IMA include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developer Worksheets • IMA Additional Edits (edits from backend OSS systems) • Developer Worksheets Change Summary (field by field, release by release changes) • EDI Mapping and Code Conversion Changes (release by release changes) • Facility Based Directory Listings • Generic Order Flow Business Model <p>The above list may vary for non-IMA application to application interfaces</p>
Version	A version is the same as an OSS Interface Release (Major or Point Release)

EXHIBIT H

RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE

Exhibit I – Individual Case Basis

1. This Agreement contains references to both ICB rates and ICB intervals. The purpose of this exhibit is to identify how CLEC's ICB requests – whether they be for rates or intervals – are processed through and by Qwest.
2. ICB Rate Intervals
 - 2.1 For those products and services identified in the SGAT that contain a provision for ICB rates, Qwest will provide CLEC with a written quote of the ICB rate within twenty (20) business days unless a specific interval for providing the quote is either contained in the SGAT or this Exhibit.
 - 2.2 The purpose of this subsection is to identify those circumstances when the generic twenty (20) business day interval in the aforementioned subsection to this Exhibit does not apply. In these specified circumstances, Qwest shall provide CLEC with an ICB quote within the stated specific intervals:
 - 2.2.1 Quotes for all Bona Fide Requests (BFR) shall be provided in accord with Section 17.
 - 2.2.2 Quotes for all Special Request Processes (SRP) shall be provided in accord with Exhibit F.
 - a.2.2.3 Quotes for all collocation requests, regardless of the type of collocation, shall be provided in accord with the Section 8 interval.
 - a.2.2.4 Quotes for all Field Connection Point requests shall be provided in accord with Section 9.3.
 - a.2.2.5 Quotes for all Advanced Intelligent Network (AIN) requests shall be provided in accord with Section 9.
 - 2.3 Upon request, Qwest shall provide CLEC with Qwest's supporting cost data and/or cost studies for the Unbundled Network Element or service that CLEC wishes to order within seven (7) business days, except where Qwest cannot obtain a release from its vendors within seven (7) business days, in which case Qwest will make the data available as soon as Qwest receives the vendor release. Consistent with the terms and conditions of any applicable vendor contract or agreement, Qwest shall diligently pursue obtaining the release of cost information as soon as reasonably possible. To the extent consistent with the terms and obligations of any applicable vendor contract or agreement, Qwest shall request the release of vendor cost information when Qwest communicates with the vendor(s) when Qwest seeks a quote for the costs of the ICB project. Such cost data shall be treated as confidential information if requested by Qwest under the non-disclosure sections of this Agreement.

Exhibit I – Individual Case Basis

3. ICB Provisioning Intervals
 - a.3.1 For those products and services provided pursuant to this SGAT that contain a provision for ICB interval but do not contain a specific provision for when the ICB interval shall be provided, the ICB interval shall be provided within twenty (20) business days of receipt of the order, request or application.
 - 3.2 For ICB intervals for those products and services that require negotiated project time lines for installation, such as 2/4 wire analog loop for more than twenty-five (25) loops, the Qwest representative, authorized to commit to intervals, shall meet with CLEC's representative within seven (7) business days of receipt of the request from CLEC to negotiate intervals.

Exhibit J
Election of Reciprocal Compensation Option

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PERFORMANCE ASSURANCE PLAN

1.0 Introduction

1.1 As set forth in this Agreement, Qwest and CLEC voluntarily agree to the terms of the following Performance Assurance Plan ("PAP"), prepared in conjunction with Qwest's application for approval under Section 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the "Act") to offer in-region long distance service.

2.0 Plan Structure

2.1 The PAP is a two-tiered, self-executing remedy plan. CLEC shall be provided with Tier 1 payments if, as applicable, Qwest does not provide parity between the service it provides to CLEC and that which it provides to its own retail customers, or Qwest fails to meet applicable benchmarks.

2.1.1 As specified in section 7.0, if Qwest fails to meet parity and benchmark standards on an aggregate CLEC basis, Qwest shall make Tier 2 payments to a Fund established by the state regulatory commission or, if required by existing law, to the state general fund.

2.2 As specified in sections 6.0 and 7.0 and Attachments 1 and 2, payment is generally on a per occurrence basis, (i.e., a set dollar payment times the number of non-conforming service events). For the performance measurements which do not lend themselves to per occurrence payment, payment is on a per measurement basis, (i.e., a set dollar payment). The level of payment also depends upon the number of consecutive months of non-conforming performance, (i.e., an escalating payment the longer the duration of non-conforming performance).

2.3 Qwest shall be in conformance with the parity standard when service Qwest provides to CLEC is equivalent to that which it provides to its retail customers. The PAP relies upon statistical scoring to determine whether any difference between CLEC and Qwest performance results is significant, that is, not attributable to simple random variation. Statistical parity shall exist when performance results for CLEC and for Qwest retail analogue result in a z-value that is no greater than the critical z-values listed in the Critical Z-Statistical Table in section 5.0

2.4 For performance measurements that have no Qwest retail analogue, agreed upon benchmarks shall be used. Benchmarks shall be evaluated using a "stare and compare" method. For example, if the benchmark for a particular performance measurement is 95% or better, Qwest performance results must be at least 95% to meet the benchmark. Percentage benchmarks will be adjusted to round the allowable number of misses up or down to the closest integer, except when a benchmark standard and low CLEC volume are such that a 100% performance result would be required to meet the standard and has not been attained. In such a situation, the determination of whether Qwest meets or fails the benchmark standard

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will be made using performance results for the month in question, plus a sufficient number of consecutive prior months so that a 100% performance result would not be required to meet the standard. For purposes of section 6.2, a meet or fail determined by this procedure shall count as a single month. In cases where there is insufficient prior data to determine if the standard has been met or missed using this “look-back” procedure, Qwest shall be allowed to round the product of the benchmark and the sample size up to one, such that one miss would be permitted.

3.0 Performance Measurements

3.1 The performance measurements included in the PAP are set forth in Attachment 1. Each performance measurement identified is defined in the Performance Indicator Definitions (“PIDs”) developed in the ROC Operational Support System (“OSS”) collaborative, and which are included in the SGAT at Exhibit B. The measurements have been designated as Tier 1, Tier 2, or both Tier 1 and Tier 2 and given a High, Medium, or Low designation.

4.0 Statistical Measurement

4.1 Qwest uses a statistical test, namely the modified “z-test,” for evaluating the difference between two means (i.e., Qwest and CLEC service or repair intervals) or two percentages (e.g., Qwest and CLEC proportions), to determine whether a parity condition exists between the results for Qwest and the CLEC(s). The modified z-tests shall be applicable if the number of data points are greater than 30 for a given measurement. For testing measurements for which the number of data points are 30 or less, Qwest will use a permutation test to determine the statistical significance of the difference between Qwest and CLEC.

4.2 Qwest shall be in conformance when the monthly performance results for parity measurements (whether in the form of means, percents, or proportions and at the equivalent level of disaggregation) are such that the calculated z-test statistics are not greater than the critical z-values as listed in Table 1, section 5.0.

4.3 Qwest shall be in conformance with benchmark measurements when the monthly performance result equals or exceeds the benchmark, if a higher value means better performance, and when the monthly performance result equals or is less than the benchmark if a lower value means better performance.

The formula for determining parity using the modified z-test is:

$$z = \text{DIFF} / \sigma_{\text{DIFF}}$$

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Where:

$$DIFF = M_{Qwest} - M_{CLEC}$$

M_{QWEST} = Qwest average or proportion

M_{CLEC} = CLEC average or proportion

$$\sigma_{DIFF} = \text{square root } [\sigma^2_{Qwest} (1/n_{CLEC} + 1/n_{Qwest})]$$

σ^2_{Qwest} = calculated variance for Qwest

n_{Qwest} = number of observations or samples used in Qwest measurement

n_{CLEC} = number of observations or samples used in CLEC measurement

The modified z-tests will be applied to reported parity measurements that contain more than 30 data points.

In calculating the difference between Qwest and CLEC performance, the above formula applies when a larger Qwest value indicates a better level of performance. In cases where a smaller Qwest value indicates a higher level of performance, the order is reversed, i.e., $M_{CLEC} - M_{QWEST}$.

4.3.1 For parity measurements where the number of data points is 30 or less, Qwest will apply a permutation test to test for statistical significance. Permutation analysis will be applied to calculate the z-statistic using the following logic:

Calculate the modified z-statistic for the actual arrangement of the data

Pool and mix the CLEC and Qwest data sets

Perform the following 1000 times:

Randomly subdivide the pooled data sets into two pools, one the same size as the original CLEC data set (n_{CLEC}) and one reflecting the remaining data points, and one reflecting the remaining data points, (which is equal to the size of the original Qwest data set or n_{QWEST}).

Compute and store the modified z-test score (Z_S) for this sample.

Count the number of times the z-statistic for a permutation of the data is greater than the actual modified z- statistic

Compute the fraction of permutations for which the statistic for the rearranged data is greater than the statistic for the actual samples

If the fraction is greater than α , the significance level of the test, the hypothesis of no difference is not rejected, and the test is passed. The α shall be .05 when the critical z value is 1.645 and .15 when the critical z value is 1.04.

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5.0 Critical Z-Value

5.1 The following table shall be used to determine the critical z-value that is referred to in section 6.0. It is based on the monthly business volume of the CLEC for the particular performance measurements for which statistic testing is being performed.

TABLE 1: CRITICAL Z-VALUE

CLEC volume (Sample size)	LIS Trunks, UDITs, Resale, UBL-DS1 and DS-3	All Other
1-10	1.04*	1.645
11-150	1.645	1.645
151-300	2.0	2.0
301-600	2.7	2.7
601-3000	3.7	3.7
3001 and above	4.3	4.3

* The 1.04 applies for individual month testing for performance measurements involving LIS trunks and DS-1 and DS-3 that are UDITs, Resale, or Unbundled Loops. The performance measurements are OP-3d/e, OP-4d/e, OP-5a, OP-6-4/5, MR-5a/b, MR-7d/e, and MR-8. For purposes of determining consecutive month misses, 1.645 shall be used. Where performance measurements disaggregate to zone 1 and zone 2, the zones shall be combined for purposes of statistical testing.

6.0 Tier 1 Payments to CLEC

6.1 Tier 1 payments to CLEC shall be made solely for the performance measurements designated as Tier 1 on Attachment 1. The payment amount for non-conforming service varies depending upon the designation of performance measurements as High, Medium, and Low and the duration of the non-conforming service condition as described below. Non-conforming service is defined in section 4.0.

6.1.1 Determination of Non-Conforming Measurements: The number of performance measurements that are determined to be non-conforming and, therefore, eligible for Tier 1 payments, are limited according to the critical z-value shown in Table 1, section 5.0. The critical z-values are the statistical standard that determines for each CLEC performance measurement whether Qwest has met parity. The critical z-value is selected from Table 1 according to the monthly CLEC volume for the performance measurement. For instance, if the CLEC sample size for that month is 100, the critical z-value is 1.645 for the statistical testing of that parity performance measurement.

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6.2 Determination of the Amount of Payment: Tier 1 payments to CLEC, except as provided for in sections 6.3 and 10.0, are calculated and paid monthly based on the number of performance measurements exceeding the critical z-value. Payments will be made on either a per occurrence or per measurement basis, depending upon the performance measurement, using the dollar amounts specified in Table 2 below. The dollar amounts vary depending upon whether the performance measurement is designated High, Medium, or Low and escalate depending upon the number of consecutive months for which Qwest has not met the standard for the particular measurement.

6.2.1 The escalation of payments for consecutive months of non-conforming service will be matched month for month with de-escalation of payments for every month of conforming service. For example, if Qwest has four consecutive monthly “misses” it will make payments that escalate from month 1 to month 4 as shown in Table 2. If, in the next month, service meets the standard, Qwest makes no payment. A payment “indicator” de-escalates down from month 4 to month 3. If Qwest misses the following month, it will make payment at the month 3 level of Table 2 because that is where the payment “indicator” presently sits. If Qwest misses again the following month, it will make payments that escalate back to the month 4 level. The payment level will de-escalate back to the original month 1 level only upon conforming service sufficient to move the payment “indicator” back to the month 1 level.

6.2.2 For those performance measurements listed on Attachment 2 as “Performance Measurements Subject to Per Measurement Caps,” payment to a CLEC in a single month shall not exceed the amount listed in Table 2 below for the “Per Measurement” category. For those performance measurements listed on Attachment 2 as “Performance Measurements Subject to Per Measurement Payments,” payment to a CLEC will be the amount set forth in Table 2 below under the section labeled “per measurement.”

TABLE 2: TIER-1 PAYMENTS TO CLEC

Per Occurrence						
Measurement Group	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6 and each following month
High	\$150	\$250	\$500	\$600	\$700	\$800
Medium	\$ 75	\$150	\$300	\$400	\$500	\$600
Low	\$ 25	\$ 50	\$100	\$200	\$300	\$400

Per Measurement Cap						
Measurement Group	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6 and each following

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						month
High	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$75,000	\$100,000	\$125,000	\$150,000
Medium	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$30,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 60,000
Low	\$ 5,000	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 30,000

6.3 For collocation, CP-2 and CP-4 performance measurements shall be relied upon for delineation of collocation business rules. For purposes of calculating Tier 1 payments, collocation jobs and collocation feasibility studies that are later than the due date will have a per day payment applied according to Table 3. The per day payment will be applied to any collocation job in which the feasibility study is provided or the collocation installation is completed later than the scheduled date. The calculation of the payment amount will be performed by applying the per day payment amounts as specified in Table 3. Thus, for days 1 through 10, the payment is \$150 per day. For days 11 through 20, the payment is \$300 per day and so on.

TABLE 3: TIER-1 COLLOCATION PAYMENTS TO CLECS

Days Late	Completion Date	Feasibility Study
1 to 10 days	\$150/day	\$45/day
11 to 20 days	\$300/day	\$90/day
21 to 30 days	\$450/day	\$135/day
31 to 40 days	\$600/day	\$180/day
More than 40 days	\$1,000/day	\$300/day

6.4 A minimum payment calculation shall be performed at the end of each year for each CLEC with annual order volumes of no more than 1,200. The payment shall be calculated by multiplying \$2,000 by the number of months in which at least one payment was made to the CLEC. To the extent that the actual CLEC payment for the year is less than the product of the preceding calculation, Qwest shall make an additional payment equal to the difference.

7.0 Tier 2 Payments to the State

7.1 Payments to the State shall be limited to the performance measurements designated in section 7.4 for Tier 2 per measurement payments and in Attachment 1 for per occurrence payments and which have at least 10 data points each month for the period payments are being calculated. Similar to the Tier 1 structure, Tier 2 measurements are categorized as High, Medium, and Low and the amount of payments for non-conformance varies according to this categorization.

7.2 **Determination of Non-Conforming Measurements:** The determination of non-conformance will be based upon the aggregate of all CLEC data for each Tier 2 performance measurement. Non-conforming service is defined in section 4.2 (for parity measurements)

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and 4.3 (for benchmark measurements), except that a 1.645 critical z-value shall be used for all parity measurements but MR-2 and OP-2. The critical z-value is the statistical standard that determines for each performance measurement whether Qwest has met parity.

7.3 Determination of the Amount of Payment: Except as provided in section 7.4, Tier 2 payments are calculated and paid monthly based on the number of performance measurements failing performance standards for a third month in any twelve month period for Tier 2 measurements with Tier 1 counterparts and for a second month in any twelve month period for Tier 2 measurements that do not have Tier 1 counterparts. Payment will be made on either a per occurrence or per measurement basis, whichever is applicable to the performance measurement, using the dollar amounts specified in Table 4 or Table 5 below. Except as provided in section 7.4, the dollar amounts vary depending upon whether the performance measurement is designated High, Medium, or Low.

7.3.1 For those Tier 2 measurements listed on Attachment 2 as “Performance Measurements Subject to Per Measurement Caps,” payment to the State in a single month shall not exceed the amount listed in Table 4 for the “Per Measurement” category.

TABLE 4: TIER-2 PAYMENTS TO STATE FUNDS

Per Occurrence

Measurement Group	
High	\$500
Medium	\$300
Low	\$200

Per Measurement/Cap

Measurement Group	
High	\$75,000
Medium	\$30,000
Low	\$20,000

7.4 Performance Measurements Subject to Per Measurement Payment: The following Tier 2 performance measurements shall have their performance results measured on a region-wide (14 state) basis. Failure to meet the performance standard, therefore, will result in a per measurement payment in each of the Qwest in-region 14 states adopting this PAP. The performance measurements are:

- GA-1: Gateway Availability - IMA-GUI
- GA-2: Gateway Availability - IMA-EDI
- GA-3: Gateway Availability – EB-TA
- GA-4: System Availability – EXACT
- GA-6: Gateway Availability – GUI-Repair
- PO-1: Pre-Order/Order Response Times
- OP-2: Call Answered within Twenty Seconds – Interconnect Provisioning Center
- MR-2: Calls Answered within Twenty Seconds – Interconnect Repair Center

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GA-1 has two sub-measurements: GA-1A and GA-1D. PO-1 shall have two sub-measurements: PO-1A and PO-1B. PO-1A and PO-1B shall have their transaction types aggregated together.

For these measurements, Qwest will make a Tier 2 payment based upon monthly performance results according to Table 5: Tier 2 Per Measurement Payments to State Funds.

TABLE 5: TIER-2 PER MEASUREMENT PAYMENTS TO STATE FUNDS

Measurement	Performance	State Payment	14 State Payment
GA-1,2,3,4,6	1% or lower	\$1,000	\$14,000
	>1% to 3%	\$10,000	\$140,000
	>3% to 5%	\$20,000	\$280,000
	>5%	\$30,000	\$420,000
PO-1	2 sec. Or less	\$1,000	\$14,000
	>2 sec. to 5 sec.	\$5,000	\$70,000
	>5 sec. to 10 sec.	\$10,000	\$140,000
	>10 sec.	\$15,000	\$210,000
OP-2/MR-2	1% or lower	\$1,000	\$14,000
	>1% to 3%	\$5,000	\$70,000
	>3% to 5%	\$10,000	\$140,000
	>5%	\$15,000	\$210,000

7.5 Payment of Tier 2 Funds: Payments to a state fund shall be used for any purpose determined by the Commission that is allowed to it by state law. Until such time as the North Dakota Legislature determines the uses by the Commission of Tier 2 funds, Tier 2 payments shall be made to the ND Performance Assurance Fund as set forth in QPAP Section 11.3 and its subsections. Upon the effective date of legislation, the receipt and administration of Tier 2 funds shall be as directed by the North Dakota Legislature.

8.0 Step by Step Calculation of Monthly Tier 1 Payments to CLEC

8.1 Application of the Critical Z-Values: Qwest shall identify the Tier 1 parity performance measurements that measure the service provided to CLEC by Qwest for the month in question and the critical z-value from Table 1 in section 5.0 that shall be used for purposes of statistical testing for each particular performance measurement. The statistical testing procedures described in section 4.0 shall be applied. For the purpose of determining the critical z-values, each disaggregated category of a performance measurement is treated as a separate sub-measurement. The critical z-value to be applied is determined by the CLEC volume at each level of disaggregation or sub-measurement.

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8.2 Performance Measurements for which Tier 1 Payment is Per Occurrence:

8.2.1 Performance Measurements that are Averages or Means:

8.2.1.1 Step 1: For each performance measurement, the average or the mean that would yield the critical z-value shall be calculated. The same denominator as the one used in calculating the z-statistic for the measurement shall be used. (For benchmark measurements, the benchmark value shall be used.)

8.2.1.2 Step 2: The percentage differences between the actual averages and the calculated averages shall be calculated. The calculation is $\% \text{ diff} = (\text{CLEC result} - \text{Calculated Value}) / \text{Calculated Value}$. The percent difference shall be capped at a maximum of 100%. In all calculations of percent differences in sections 8.0 and 9.0, the calculated percent differences is capped at 100%.

8.2.1.2 Step 3: For each performance measurement, the total number of data points shall be multiplied by the percentage calculated in the previous step and the per occurrence dollar amounts from the Tier 1 Payment Table shall determine the payment to the CLEC for each non-conforming performance measurement.

8.2.2 Performance Measurements that are Percentages:

8.2.2.1 Step 1: For each performance measurement, the percentage that would yield the critical z-value shall be calculated. The same denominator as the one used in calculating the z- statistic for the measurement shall be used. (For benchmark measurements, the benchmark value shall be used.)

8.2.2.2 Step 2: The difference between the actual percentages for the CLEC and the calculated percentages shall be determined.

8.2.2.3 Step 3: For each performance measurement, the total number of data points shall be multiplied by the difference in percentage calculated in the previous step, and the per occurrence dollar amount taken from the Tier 1 Payment Table, to determine the payment to the CLEC for each non-conforming performance measurement.

8.2.3 Performance Measurements that are Ratios or Proportions:

8.2.3.1 Step 1: For each performance measurement the ratio that would yield the critical z-value shall be calculated. The same denominator as the one used in calculating the z-statistic for the measurement shall be used. (For benchmark measurements, the benchmark value shall be used.)

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8.2.3.2 Step 2: The absolute difference between the actual rate for the CLEC and the calculated rate shall be determined.

8.2.3.3 Step 3: For each performance measurement, the total number of data points shall be multiplied by the difference calculated in the previous step, and the per occurrence dollar amount taken from the Tier 1 Payment Table, to determine the payment to the CLEC for each non-conforming performance measurement.

8.3 Performance Measurements for which Tier 1 Payment is Per Measure:

8.3.1 For each performance measurement where Qwest fails to meet the standard, the payment to the CLEC shall be the dollar amount shown on the "per measure" portion of Table 2: Tier 1 Payments to CLEC.

9.0 Step by Step Calculation of Monthly Tier 2 Payments to State Funds

9.1.1 Application of the Critical Z-Value: Qwest shall identify the Tier 2 parity performance measurements that measure the service provided by Qwest to all CLECs for the month in question. The statistical testing procedures described in section 4.0 shall be applied, except that a 1.645 critical z-value shall be used for all parity measurements but MR-2 and OP-2.

9.1.2 Tier 2 payments for performance measurements listed on Attachment 1 shall be made in the current month when 1) for Tier 2 measurements that have Tier 1 counterparts it is determined that Qwest missed the performance standard for a third month in any twelve-month period or 2) for Tier 2 measurements that do not have Tier 1 counterparts it is determined that Qwest missed the performance standard for a second month during any twelve-month period.

9.2 Performance Measurements for which Tier 2 Payment is Per Occurrence:

9.2.1 Performance Measurements that are Averages or Means:

9.2.1.1 Step 1: The monthly average or the mean for each performance measurement that would yield the critical z-value for each month shall be calculated. The same denominator as the one used in calculating the z-statistic for the measurement shall be used. (For benchmark measurements, the benchmark value shall be used.)

9.2.2.2 Step 2: The percentage difference between the actual averages and the calculated averages for each month shall be calculated. The calculation for parity measurements is % diff = (actual average – calculated average)/calculated average. The percent difference shall

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be capped at a maximum of 100%. In all calculations of percent differences in section 8.0 and section 9.0, the calculated percent difference is capped at 100%.

9.2.2.3 Step 3: For each performance measurement, the total number of data points each month shall be multiplied by the percentage calculated in the previous step. The average for three months (rounded to the nearest integer) shall be calculated and multiplied by the result of the per occurrence dollar amount taken from the Tier 2 Payment Table to determine the payment to the State for each non-conforming performance measurement.

9.3 Performance Measurements that are Percentages:

9.3.1 Step 1: For each performance measurement, the monthly percentage that would yield the critical z-value for each month shall be calculated. The same denominator as the one used in calculating the z-statistic for the measurement shall be used. (For benchmark measurements, the benchmark value shall be used.)

9.3.1.2 Step 2: The difference between the actual percentages and the calculated percentages for each of the three non-conforming months shall be calculated. The calculation for parity measurement is $\text{diff} = (\text{CLEC result} - \text{calculated percentage})$. This formula shall be applicable where a high value is indicative of poor performance. The formula shall be reversed where high performance is indicative of good performance.

9.3.1.3 Step 3: For each performance measurement, the total number of data points for each month shall be multiplied by the difference in percentage calculated in the previous step. The average for three months shall be calculated (rounded to the nearest integer) and multiplied by the result of the per occurrence dollar amounts taken from the Tier 2 Payment Table to determine the payment to the State.

9.4 Performance Measurements that are Ratios or Proportions:

9.4.1 Step 1: For each performance measurement, the ratio that would yield the critical z-value for each month shall be calculated. The same denominator as the one used in calculating the z-statistic for the measurement shall be used. (For benchmark measurements, the benchmark value shall be used.)

9.4.1.1 Step 2: The difference between the actual rate for the CLEC and the calculated rate for each month of the non-conforming three-month period shall be calculated. The calculation is: $\text{diff} = (\text{CLEC rate} - \text{calculated rate})$. This formula shall apply where a high value is indicative of poor performance. The formula shall be reversed where high performance is indicative of good performance.

9.4.1.2 Step 3: For each performance measurement, the total number of data points shall be multiplied by the difference calculated in the previous step for each month. The average for

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three months shall be calculated (rounded to the nearest integer) and multiplied by the result of the per occurrence dollar amounts taken from the Tier 2 Payment Table to determine the payment to the State.

9.5 Performance Measurements for which Tier 2 Payment is Per Measure:

9.5.1 For each performance measurement where Qwest fails to meet the standard, the payment to the State Fund shall be the dollar amount shown on the “per measure” portion of the Tier 2 Payment Table.

10.0 Low Volume, Developing Markets

10.1 For certain qualifying performance standards, if the aggregate monthly volumes of CLECs participating in the PAP are more than 10, but less than 100, Qwest will make Tier 1 payments to CLECs for failure to meet the parity or benchmark standard for the qualifying performance sub-measurements. The qualifying sub-measurements are the UNE-P (POTS), megabit resale, and ADSL qualified loop product disaggregation of OP-3, OP-4, OP-5a, MR-3, MR-5, MR-7, and MR-8. If the aggregate monthly CLEC volume is greater than 100, the provisions of this section shall not apply to the qualifying performance sub-measurement.

10.2 The determination of whether Qwest has met the parity or benchmark standards will be made using aggregate volumes of CLECs participating in the PAP. In the event Qwest does not meet the applicable performance standards, a total payment to affected CLECs will be determined in accordance with the high, medium, low designation for each performance measurement (see Attachment 1) and as described in section 8.0, except that CLEC aggregate volumes will be used. In the event the calculated total payment amount to CLECs is less than \$5,000, a minimum payment of \$5,000 shall be made. The resulting total payment amount to CLECs will be apportioned to the affected CLECs based upon each CLEC’s relative share of the number of total service misses.

10.3 At the six (6)-month reviews, Qwest will consider adding to the above list of qualifying performance sub-measurements, new products disaggregation representing new modes of CLEC entry into developing markets.

11.0 Payment

11.1 Payments to CLEC, the State, or the Special Fund shall be made one month following the due date of the performance measurement report for the month for which payment is being made. Qwest will pay interest on any late payment and underpayment at the prime rate as reported in the Wall Street Journal. On any overpayment, Qwest is allowed to offset future payments by the amount of the overpayment plus interest at the prime rate.

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11.2 Payment to CLEC shall be made via bill credits. Bill credits shall be identified on a summary format substantially similar to that distributed as a prototype to the CLECs and the Commissions. To the extent that a monthly payment owed to CLEC under this PAP exceeds the amount owed to Qwest by CLEC on a monthly bill, Qwest will issue a check or wire transfer to CLEC in the amount of the overage. Payment to the State shall be made via check or wire transfer.

11.3 A ND Performance Assurance Fund shall be created for the purpose of receiving Tier 2 payments.

11.3.1 Qwest shall establish the ND Performance Assurance Fund as an interest bearing escrow account upon FCC section 271 approval of the PAP. Qwest shall deposit all Tier 2 payments into the ND Performance Assurance Fund. The cost of the escrow account will be paid for from account funds.

11.3.2 All charges against the funds shall be presented to the Commission.

11.3.3 Qwest shall advance, upon request, sufficient funds to any consolidated multistate Special Fund established by participating states, set up for the purpose of a regional audit as specified in sections 15.1-15.4, not to exceed \$200,000 (or \$500,000 in the event 6 or more states participate in the regional audit) in order to meet initial claims against that fund to the extent that contributions from Tier 2 payments directed to the fund by the participating states are insufficient. Qwest shall be allowed to recover any such advances plus interest from the fund at the rate that such an escrow account would have earned from future Tier 2 payments.

12.0 Cap on Tier 1 and Tier 2 Payments

12.1 There shall be an annual cap on the total payments made by Qwest beginning with the effective date of the PAP for the State of North Dakota. The annual cap, beginning with the effective date of the PAP for the State of North Dakota, shall be 36% of the 1999 ARMIS Net Return (which is \$13,000,000). Subsequent annual caps determined pursuant to section 12.2 and its subsections are expressed as a percent and are applied to Qwest's most recently reported ARMIS Net Return to determine the dollar amount of the annual cap. CLEC agrees that this amount constitutes a maximum annual cap that shall apply to the aggregate total of any Tier-1 liquidated damages (including any such damages paid pursuant to this Agreement or voluntary payments made by Qwest pursuant to any North Dakota interconnection agreement with a performance remedy plan) and Tier-2 Assessments or voluntary payments made by Qwest pursuant to any North Dakota interconnection agreement with a performance remedy plan.

12.2 The 36% annual cap may increase to 44% of ARMIS Net Return as follows:

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12.2.1 An increase in the “existing annual cap” of 4 percentage points at any one time (i.e. first to 40 percent then to 44 percent) shall occur in cases where the cap would have been exceeded for any consecutive period of 24 months by that same 4 percent or more. Qwest may file a petition with the NDPSC seeking relief for payments exceeding the existing annual cap. Qwest will not be required to make payments in excess of the existing annual cap pending the outcome of the proceeding before the Commission. Qwest shall have the burden of establishing that it could not have remained below the existing annual cap through use of reasonable and prudent effort. If the Commission determines that Qwest should make payments in excess of the existing annual cap, Qwest shall make any and all payments that were suspended with interest.

12.2.2 A decrease in the existing annual cap of a maximum of 4 percentage points at any one time shall occur upon order by the Commission that it is appropriate to do so after performance for any consecutive period of 24 months which produces calculations of total payment responsibility that is 8 or more percentage points (i.e., 26 percent or less) below the cap amount for that period, provided that:

- a. the Commission shall determine that the preponderance of the Qwest evidence shows the performance results underlying those payment calculations results from an adequate Qwest commitment to meeting its responsibilities to provide adequate wholesale service and to keeping open its local markets, and
- b. the Commission shall have made that determination after providing all interested parties an opportunity to be heard.

12.2.3 The provisions of 12.2.1 and 12.2.2 shall be applicable to the next 24 month period commencing at the completion of the first, provided that the maximum annual cap shall be 44 percent; the minimum annual cap shall be 36 percent.

12.3 If the annual cap is reached, each CLEC shall, as of the end of the year, be entitled to receive the same percentage of its total calculated Tier 1 payments. In order to preserve the operation of the annual cap, the percentage equalization shall take place as follows:

12.3.1 The amount by which any month’s total year-to-date Tier 1 and Tier 2 payments exceeds the sum of the year-to-date monthly caps (a month’s cap is defined as 1/12th of the annual cap in effect during that month) shall be calculated and apportioned between Tier 1 and Tier 2 according to the percentage that each bore of total payments for the year-to-date. The Tier 1 apportionment resulting of this calculation shall be known as the “Tracking Account.”

12.3.2 The Tier 1 apportionment shall be debited against the monthly payment due to each CLEC, by applying to the year-to-date payments received by each the percentage necessary to generate the required total Tier 1 amount.

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12.3.3 The Tracking Amount shall be apportioned among all CLECs so as to provide each with payments equal in percentage of its total year to date Tier 1 payment calculations.

12.3.4 This calculation shall take place in the first month that the year-to-date total Tier 1 and Tier 2 payments are expected to exceed the cumulative monthly cap and for each month of that year thereafter. Qwest shall recover any debited amounts by reducing payments due to any CLEC for that month and any succeeding months, as necessary.

13.0 Limitations

13.1 The PAP shall not become available in the State unless and until Qwest receives effective section 271 authority from the FCC for that State.

13.2 Qwest will not be liable for Tier 1 payments to CLEC in an FCC approved state until the Commission has approved an interconnection agreement between CLEC and Qwest which adopts the provisions of this PAP.

13.3 Qwest shall not be obligated to make Tier 1 or Tier 2 payments for any measurement if and to the extent that non-conformance for that measurement was the result of any of the following: 1) with respect to performance measurements with a benchmark standard, a Force Majeure event as defined in section 5.7 of the SGAT. Qwest will provide notice of the occurrence of a Force Majeure event within 72 hours of the time Qwest learns of the event or within a reasonable time frame that Qwest should have learned of it; 2) an act or omission by a CLEC that is contrary to any of its obligations under its interconnection agreement with Qwest or under federal or state law; an act or omission by CLEC that is in bad faith. Examples of bad faith conduct include, but are not limited to: unreasonably holding service orders and/or applications, "dumping" orders or applications in unreasonably large batches, "dumping" orders or applications at or near the close of a business day, on a Friday evening or prior to a holiday, and failing to provide timely forecasts to Qwest for services or facilities when such forecasts are explicitly required by the SGAT; 3) problems associated with third-party systems or equipment, which could not have been avoided by Qwest in the exercise of reasonable diligence, *provided, however*, that this third party exclusion will not be raised in the State more than three times within a calendar year. If a Force Majeure event or other excusing event recognized in this section merely suspends Qwest's ability to timely perform an activity subject to a performance measurement that is an interval measure, the applicable time frame in which Qwest's compliance with the parity or benchmark criterion is measured will be extended on an hour-for-hour or day-for-day basis, as applicable, equal to the duration of the excusing event.

13.3.1 Qwest will not be excused from Tier 1 or Tier 2 payments for any reason except as described in Section 13.0. Qwest will have the burden of demonstrating that its non-

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conformance with the performance measurement was excused on one of the grounds described in this PAP. A party may petition the Commission to require Qwest to deposit disputed payments into an escrow account when the requesting party can show cause, such as grounds provided in the Uniform Commercial Code for cases of commercial uncertainty.

13.3.2 Notwithstanding any other provision of this PAP, it shall not excuse performance that Qwest could reasonably have been expected to deliver assuming that it had designed, implemented, staffed, provisioned, and otherwise provided for resources reasonably required to meet foreseeable volumes and patterns of demands upon its resources by CLECs.

13.4 Qwest's agreement to implement these enforcement terms, and specifically its agreement to pay any "liquidated damages" or "assessments" hereunder, will not be considered as an admission against interest or an admission of liability in any legal, regulatory, or other proceeding relating in whole or in part to the same performance.

13.4.1 CLEC may not use: 1) the existence of this enforcement plan; or 2) Qwest's payment of Tier -1 "liquidated damages" or Tier 2 "assessments" as evidence that Qwest has discriminated in the provision of any facilities or services under Sections 251 or 252, or has violated any state or federal law or regulation. Qwest's conduct underlying its performance measures, however are not made inadmissible by its terms.

13.4.2 By accepting this performance remedy plan, CLEC agrees that Qwest's performance with respect to this remedy plan may not be used as an admission of liability or culpability for a violation of any state or federal law or regulation. (Nothing herein is intended to preclude Qwest from introducing evidence of any Tier 1 "liquidated damages" under these provisions for the purpose of offsetting the payment against any other damages or payments a CLEC might recover.) The terms of this paragraph do not apply to any proceeding before the Commission or the FCC to determine whether Qwest has met or continues to meet the requirements of section 271 of the Act.

13.5 By incorporating these liquidated damages terms into the PAP, Qwest and CLEC accepting this PAP agree that proof of damages from any non-conforming performance measurement would be difficult to ascertain and, therefore, liquidated damages are a reasonable approximation of any contractual damages that may result from a non-conforming performance measurement. Qwest and CLEC further agree that Tier 1 payments made pursuant to this PAP are not intended to be a penalty. The application of the assessments and damages provided for herein is not intended to foreclose other noncontractual legal and non-contractual regulatory claims and remedies that may be available to a CLEC.

13.6 This PAP contains a comprehensive set of performance measurements, statistical methodologies, and payment mechanisms that are designed to function together, and only together, as an integrated whole. To elect the PAP, CLEC must adopt the PAP in its entirety in its interconnection agreement with Qwest in lieu of other alternative standards or relief for

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the same wholesale services governed by the QPAP. Where alternative standards or remedies for Qwest wholesale services governed by the QPAP are available under rules, orders, or contracts, including interconnection agreements, CLEC will be limited to either PAP standards and remedies or the standards and remedies available under rules, orders, or contracts and CLECs choice of remedies shall be specified in its interconnection agreement.

13.7 Any liquidated damages payment by Qwest under these provisions is not hereby made inadmissible in any proceeding related to the same conduct where Qwest seeks to offset the payments against any other damages a CLEC may recover; whether or not the nature of the damages sought by the CLEC is such that an offset is appropriate will be determined in the relevant proceeding.

13.8 Qwest shall not be liable for both Tier 2 payments under the PAP and assessments, sanctions, or other payments for the same underlying activity or omission pursuant to any Commission order or service quality rules.

13.9 Whenever a Qwest Tier 1 payment to an individual CLEC exceeds \$3 million in a month, Qwest may commence a proceeding to demonstrate why it should not be required to pay any amount in excess of the \$3 million. Upon timely commencement of the proceeding, Qwest must pay the balance of payments owed in excess of \$3 million into escrow, to be held by a third-party pending the outcome of the proceeding. To invoke these escrow provisions, Qwest must file, not later than the due date of the Tier 1 payments, its application. Qwest will have the burden of proof to demonstrate why, under the circumstances, it would be unjust to require it to make the payments in excess of \$3 million. If Qwest reports non-conforming performance to CLEC for three consecutive months on 20% or more of the measurements reported to CLEC and has incurred no more than \$1 million in liability to CLEC, then CLEC may commence a similar proceeding. In any such proceeding CLEC will have the burden of proof to demonstrate why, under the circumstances, justice requires Qwest to make payments in excess of the amount calculated pursuant to the terms of the PAP. The disputes identified in this section shall be resolved in a manner specified in the Dispute Resolution section of the SGAT with the CLEC.

13.10 Qwest will not attempt to recover in intrastate rates payments made under the QPAP.

14.0 Reporting

14.1 Upon receiving effective section 271 authority from the FCC for a state, Qwest will provide CLEC that has an approved interconnection agreement with Qwest, a monthly report of Qwest's performance for the measurements identified in the PAP by the last day of the month following the month for which performance results are being reported. However, Qwest shall have a grace period of five business days, so that Qwest shall not be deemed out of compliance with its reporting obligations before the expiration of the five business day

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grace period. Qwest will collect, analyze, and report performance data for the measurements listed on Attachment 1 in accordance with the most recent version of the PIDs. Upon CLEC's request, data files of the CLEC's raw data, or any subset thereof, will be transmitted, without charge, to CLEC in a mutually acceptable format, protocol, and transmission medium.

14.2 Qwest will also provide the Commission a monthly report of aggregate CLEC performance results pursuant to the PAP by the last day of the month following the month for which performance results are being reported. However, Qwest shall have a grace period of five business days, so that Qwest shall not be deemed out of compliance with its reporting obligations before the expiration of the five business day grace period. Individual CLEC reports of participating CLECs will also be available to the Commission upon request. By accepting this PAP, CLEC consents to Qwest providing CLEC's report and raw data to the State Commission. Pursuant to the terms of an order of the Commission, Qwest may provide CLEC-specific data that relates to the PAP, provided that Qwest shall first initiate any procedures necessary to protect the confidentiality and to prevent the public release of the information pending any applicable Commission procedures and further provided that Qwest provides such notice as the Commission directs to the CLEC involved, in order to allow it to prosecute such procedures to their completion. Data files of participating CLEC raw data, or any subset thereof, will be transmitted, without charge, to the Commission in a mutually acceptable format, protocol, and transmission form.

14.3 In the event Qwest does not provide CLEC and the Commission with a monthly report by the last day of the month following the month for which performance results are being reported, Qwest will pay to the State a total of \$500 for each business day for which performance reports are 6 to 10 business days past the due date; \$1,000 for each business day for which performance reports are 11 to 15 business days past the due date; and \$2,000 for each business day for which performance results are more than 15 business days past the due date. If reports are on time but are missing performance results, Qwest will pay to the State a total of one-fifth of the late report amount for each missing performance measurement, subject to a cap of the full late report amount. These amounts represent the total payments for omitting performance measurements or missing any report deadlines, rather than a payment per report. Prior to the date of a payment for late reports, Qwest may file a request for a waiver of the payment, which states the reasons for the waiver. The Commission may grant the waiver, deny the waiver, or provide any other relief that may be appropriate.

14.4 To the extent that Qwest recalculates payments made under this PAP, such recalculation shall be limited to the preceding three years (measured from the later of the provision of a monthly credit statement or payment due date). Qwest shall retain sufficient records to demonstrate fully the basis for its calculations for long enough to meet this potential recalculation obligation. CLEC verification or recalculation efforts should be made reasonably contemporaneously with Qwest measurements. In any event, Qwest shall maintain the records in a readily useable format for one year. For the remaining two years,

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the records may be retained in archived format. Any payment adjustments shall be subject to the interest rate provisions of section 11.1.

15.0 Integrated Audit Program/Investigations of Performance Results

15.1 Audits of the PAP shall be conducted in a two-year cycle under the auspices of the Commission in accordance with a detailed audit plan developed by an independent auditor retained for a two-year period. The Commission shall select the independent auditor with input from Qwest and CLECs.

15.1.1 [This section intentionally left blank.]

15.1.2 The initial audit plan shall be conducted over two years, with audit periods subsequent to the initial audit to be determined by the Commission. The Commission will determine the scope of and procedure for the audit plan, which, at a minimum, will identify the specific performance measurements to be audited, the specific tests to be conducted, and the entity to conduct them. The initial audit plan will give priority to auditing the higher risk areas identified in the OSS report. The two-year cycle will examine risks likely to exist across that period and the past history of testing, in order to determine what combination of high and more moderate areas of risk should be examined during the two-year cycle. The first year of a two-year cycle will concentrate on areas most likely to require follow-up in the second year.

15.1.3 The Commission will attempt to coordinate its audit plan with other audit plans that may be conducted by other state commissions so as to avoid duplication. The audit shall be conducted so as not to impede Qwest's ability to comply with the other provisions of the PAP and should be of a nature and scope that it can be conducted with the reasonable course of Qwest's business operations.

15.1.4 Any dispute arising out of the audit plan, the conduct of the audit, or audit results shall be resolved by the Commission

15.2 Qwest shall carefully document any and all changes that Qwest makes to the Performance Measurement and Reporting System. This change log shall be displayed on a public website dedicated to the QPAP. The Performance Measurement and Reporting System is defined to include at least: elements of Qwest's Regulatory Reporting System that constitute the data collection programs (i.e., the software code used by Qwest to determine which data fields are used and how they are used), the underlying data extracted by the data collection programs and data reference tables (e.g., USOC tables, wire center tables, etc., used in the calculation of measurements), the data staging programs (programming code used to organize and consolidate the data), the calculation programming (the code used to implement the formula defined for a measurement), and the report generation programs (including the report format and report file creation). This change log shall contain, at a minimum, a

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detailed description of the change (in plain English); the effects of the change, the reason for the change, the dates of notification and of implementation, and whether the change received Commission approval. Qwest shall also record if the change is fundamental or non-fundamental (see Sections 15.2.1 and 15.2.2).

15.2.1 Qwest shall be allowed to change the Performance Measurement and Reporting System as defined in Section 15.2 in ways that are non-fundamental (i.e. system changes for which the relevant performance data can be replicated under the old approach) without preapproval, but shall promptly record these changes on the change log. Omitted or inaccurate changes to the change log shall result in Qwest being required to pay a \$250 fine, plus interest at the prime rate as reported in the Wall Street Journal accrued from the time the change took effect. The payment shall go to the Tier 2 ND Performance Assurance Fund and does not count against the annual cap described in QPAP Section 12.

15.2.2 Before making any changes to the Performance Measurement and Reporting System in a manner whereby the relevant data cannot be reconstructed under the prior approach (i.e., a fundamental change to its measurement system), Qwest shall record the proposed change to the change log and notify the Commission staff and the Auditor retained for the purpose of auditing performance measurements under this QPAP to request an evaluation of the proposed change. The Commission staff or the Auditor will evaluate the impact of the proposed change and report, in writing, the results of that evaluation to the Commission and Qwest. Qwest shall immediately post this report on the public QPAP website. Upon receiving the report of the impact evaluation from the Commission staff or the Auditor, the Commission shall have 15 days to take action to prevent Qwest from making such a change and to decide on a process for resolving the issue. During the first seven-day period following the filing and recording of the Commission staff or Auditor's report, interested parties may file comments on the proposed change and the report. If the Commission takes no action on the issue during the 15-day period, Qwest shall be free to make the proposed change.

15.2.3 If Qwest makes a fundamental change pursuant to Section 15.2.2 without obtaining approval, it shall be liable for \$10,000 payable to the ND Performance Assurance Fund. If Qwest cannot reproduce reliable performance data, the Commission shall determine what payments are due based upon the data collected by the affected CLECs plus interest at the prime rate as reported in the Wall Street Journal accrued from the time the change took effect.

15.3 In the event of a disagreement between Qwest and CLEC as to any issue regarding the accuracy or integrity of data collected, generated, and reported pursuant to the PAP, Qwest and the CLEC shall first consult with one another and attempt in good faith to resolve the issue. If an issue is not resolved within 45 days after a request for consultation, CLEC and Qwest may, upon a demonstration of good cause, (e.g., evidence of material errors or discrepancies) request an independent audit to be conducted, at the initiating party's expense. The independent auditor will assess the need for an audit based upon whether there exists a material deficiency in the data or whether there exists an issue not otherwise addressed by the

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audit plan for the current cycle. The Commission will resolve any dispute by any party questioning the independent auditor's decision to conduct or not conduct a CLEC request audit and the audit findings, should such an audit be conducted. An audit may not proceed until dispute resolution is completed. Audit findings will include: (a) general applicability of findings and conclusions (i.e., relevance to CLECs or jurisdictions other than the ones causing test initiation), (b) magnitude of any payment adjustments required and, (c) whether cost responsibility should be shifted based upon the materiality and clarity of any Qwest non-conformance with measurement requirements (no pre-determined variance is appropriate, but should be based on the auditor's professional judgment). CLEC may not request an audit of data more than three years from the later of the provision of a monthly credit statement or payment due date.

15.4 Expenses for the audit of the PAP and any other related expenses, except that which may be assigned under section 15.3, shall be paid first from the Tier 2 funds. If Tier 2 funds are not sufficient to cover audit costs, the Commission will develop an additional funding method which may include contributions from CLEC's Tier 1 payment.

15.5 Qwest will investigate any second consecutive Tier 2 miss to determine the cause of the miss and to identify the action needed in order to meet the standard set forth in the performance measurements. To the extent an investigation determines that a CLEC was responsible in whole or in part for the Tier 2 misses, Qwest shall receive credit against future Tier 2 payments in an amount equal to the Tier 2 payments that should not have been made. The relevant portion of subsequent Tier 2 payments will not be owed until any responsible CLEC problems are corrected. For the purposes of this sub-section, Tier 1 performance measurements that have not been designated as Tier 2 will be aggregated and the aggregate results will be investigated pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.

16.0 Reviews

16.1 Every six (6) months, beginning six months after the effective date of the first Section 271 approval by the FCC of one of the states that participated in the multi-state QPAP review proceeding, Qwest, CLECs, and the Commission shall review the performance measurements in the QPAP to determine whether measurements should be added, deleted, or modified; whether the applicable benchmark standards should be modified or replaced by parity standards; and whether to move a classification of a measurement to High, Medium, or Low or Tier 1 to Tier 2. The criterion for reclassification of a measurement shall be whether the actual volume of data points was less or greater than anticipated. Criteria for review of performance measurements, other than for possible reclassification, shall be whether there exists an omission or failure to capture intended performance, and whether there is duplication of another measurement. Any disputes regarding adding, deleting, or modifying performance measurements shall be resolved by the Commission. The NDPSC retains the right to add topics and criteria to the six-month review, retains the ability to order changes if

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the QPAP is not in the public interest, and retains the ability to hear any disputes regarding the six-month review. The Commission may conduct joint reviews with other states. Any changes at the six-month review pursuant to this section shall apply to and modify this agreement between Qwest and CLEC.

16.1.1 To limit the potential for increased liability due to changes in the PAP, Qwest shall be allowed to limit its liability for changes made pursuant to the six-month review. Accordingly, Qwest shall calculate, separately, payments owed under the PAP that do not include changes made at the six month review (baseline PAP), as well as payments owed under a PAP revised to reflect changes made at the six month review (revised PAP). If payments calculated under the revised PAP are more than 110% of payments calculated under the baseline PAP, Qwest shall limit payments for the changed measurements to the affected LECs and to the Special Fund to a 10% increase (10% collar) above the total baseline PAP payment liability. At any six-month review, if the total payment liability for the revised PAP is below 110% of the total payment liability for the baseline PAP for the preceding six-month period, the revised PAP shall become the baseline PAP for the next six-month period, otherwise, the same baseline PAP shall remain in effect for the next six month period.

16.2 Two years after the effective date of the first Section 271 approval by the FCC of one of the states that participated in the multi-state QPAP review proceeding, the Commission may conduct a review by an independent third party to examine the continuing effectiveness of the PAP as a means of inducing compliant performance. This review shall not be used to open the PAP generally to amendment, but would serve to assist the Commission in determining existing conditions and reporting to the FCC on the continuing adequacy of the PAP to serve its intended functions. The Commission may conduct a joint review with other states.

16.3 Notwithstanding section 16.1, if any agreements on adding, modifying or deleting performance measurements as permitted by section 16.1 are reached between Qwest and CLECs participating in an industry Regional Oversight Committee (ROC) PID administration forum, those agreements shall be incorporated into the QPAP and modify the agreement between CLEC and Qwest at any time those agreements are submitted to and approved by the Commission, whether before or after a six-month review. Any changes made pursuant to this section shall be subject to and included in the calculation and application of the 10% payment collar identified in section 16.1.

16.4 Qwest will make the PAP available for CLEC interconnection agreements until such time as Qwest eliminates its Section 272 affiliate. At that time, the Commission and Qwest shall review the appropriateness of the PAP and whether its continuation is necessary. However, in the event Qwest exits the interLATA market, that State PAP shall be rescinded immediately.

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17.0 Voluntary Performance Assurance Plan

This PAP represents Qwest's voluntary offer to provide performance assurance. Nothing in the PAP or in any conclusion of non-conformance of Qwest's service performance with the standards defined in the PAP shall be construed to be, of itself, non-conformance with the Act.

18.0 Dispute Resolution

For the purpose of resolving disputes over the meaning of the provisions of the PAP and how they should be applied, the dispute resolution provisions of the SGAT, section 5.18, shall apply whether the CLEC uses the SGAT in its entirety or elects to make the PAP part of its interconnection agreements (i.e., the unique dispute resolution provisions of interconnection agreements should not apply).

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Attachment 1: Tier 1 and Tier 2 Performance Measurements Subject to Per Occurrence Payment

Performance Measurement		Tier 1 Payments			Tier 2 Payments		
		Low	Med	High	Low	Med	High
GATEWAY							
Timely Outage Resolution	GA-7						X
PRE-ORDER/ORDERS							
LSR Rejection Notice Interval	PO-3 ^a	X					
Firm Order Confirmations On Time	PO-5	X				X	
Work Completion Notification Timeliness	PO-6 ^b	X					
Billing Completion Notification Timeliness	PO-7 ^b	X					
Jeopardy Notice Interval	PO-8	X					
Timely Jeopardy Notices	PO-9	X					
Release Notifications	PO-16						X
(Expanded) – Manual Service Order Accuracy	PO-20 ^c		X				
ORDERING AND PROVISIONING							
Installation Commitments Met	OP-3			X		X	
Installation Intervals	OP-4 ^d			X		X	
New Service Quality	OP-5a			X		X	
Delayed Days	OP-6			X		X	
Number Portability Timeliness	OP-8			X		X	
Coordinated Cuts On Time – Unbundled Loops	OP-13a			X		X	
LNP Disconnect Timeliness	OP-17			X		X	
MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR							
Out of Service Cleared within 24 hours	MR-3			X			
All Troubles Cleared within 4 hours	MR-5			X			
Mean time to Restore	MR-6a,b,c,d,e			X			
Repair Repeat Report Rate	MR-7			X		X	
Trouble Rate	MR-8			X		X	
LNP Trouble Reports Cleared within 24 Hours	MR-11			X		X	
LNP Trouble Reports—Mean Time to Restore	MR-12			X		X	
BILLING							
Time to Provide Recorded Usage Records	BI-1	X					X
Billing Accuracy-Adjustments for Errors	BI-3	X					
Billing Completeness	BI-4	X				X	
NETWORK PERFORMANCE							
Trunk Blocking	NI-1			X			X
NXX Code Activation	NP-1			X			X

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a. PO-3 is limited to PO-3a-1, PO-3b-1, and PO-3c.

b. PO-6 is included with PO-7 as two “families:” PO-6a/PO-7a and PO-6b/PO-7b. Measurements within each family share a single payment opportunity with only the measurements with the highest payment being paid.

c. Low Volume Exception: In lieu of Section 2.4 for PO-20, where CLEC order volumes for a given month are less than 17 in Phase 1, less than 13 in Phase 2, and less than 10 in Phase 3 and subsequent phases, a benchmark standard of “no more than one order with PO-20 errors” is applied. Under this provision, no payment applies if there is only one order with errors.

Stabilization Period: For each phase beginning with Phase 1, there will be no more than a 3-month measurement stabilization period for all fields introduced in that phase. Performance results that include all such fields are not subject to payments during the measurement stabilization period.

d. OP-4 is included with OP-6 as five “families:” OP-4a/OP-6-1, OP-4b/OP-6-2, OP-4c/OP-6-3, OP-4d/OP-6-4, and OP-4e/OP-6-5. Measurements within each family share a single payment opportunity with only the measurement with the highest payment being paid.

e. Low volume treatment for OP-5: will apply to both (1) the CLEC volume of orders is less than or equal to 20 times denominator of OP-5 and (2) the number of orders with trouble in OP-5 is no more than one. When these two conditions are met, a standard of no more than one order with new service trouble applies.

f. For purposes of the PAP, OP-6a and OP-6b will be combined and treated as one. The combined OP-6 breaks down to OP-6-1 (within MSA), OP-6-2 (outside MSA), OP-6-3 (no dispatch), OP-6-4 (zone 1), and OP-6-5 (zone 2).

g. Applicable only to xDSL-I capable loops.

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Attachment 2: Performance Measurements Subject to Per Measurement Caps

Billing

Time to Provide Recorded Usage Records – BI-1 (Tier 1/Tier 2)

Billing Accuracy – Adjustments for Errors – BI-3 (Tier 1)

Billing Completeness – BI-4 (Tier 1/Tier 2)

EXHIBIT L

ADVICE ADOPTION LETTER

Director of Interconnection Compliance
C/O Heidi Higer
Qwest
1801 California, Room 2410
Denver, CO 80202

Re: Qwest Corporation ("Qwest") New Product: _____

Dear Sir or Madam:

By its signature below, _____ ("CLEC") hereby agrees to be bound by the rates, terms and conditions that Qwest has offered and provided on its Web Site for the New Qwest Product identified above as an amendment to its Interconnection Agreement with Qwest for the state(s) of _____.

CLEC certifies that the rates, terms, and conditions contained on Attachment A (attached hereto) are the rates, terms and conditions contained on Qwest's web site that have been provided for the New Product identified above.

CLEC

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

EXHIBIT M

INTERIM ADVICE ADOPTION LETTER

Director of Interconnection Compliance
C/O Heidi Higer
Qwest
1801 California, Room 2410
Denver, CO 80202

Re: Qwest Corporation ("Qwest") New Product: _____

Dear Sir or Madam:

By its signature below, _____ ("CLEC") hereby agrees to be bound by the rates, terms and conditions that Qwest has offered and provided on its Web Site for the New Qwest Product identified above as an interim amendment to its Interconnection Agreement with Qwest for the state(s) of _____.

CLEC certifies that the rates, terms, and conditions contained on Attachment A (attached hereto) are the rates, terms and conditions contained on Qwest's web site that have been provided for the New Product identified above.

Qwest acknowledges that CLEC believes that the rates, terms and conditions for the Qwest New Product should be altered and that CLEC enters into this Interim Advice Adoption Letter with the express intention to renegotiate the rates, terms and conditions associated with the Qwest New Product pursuant to the terms of Section 1.7.1.2 of the SGAT. CLEC enters into this Interim Advice Adoption Letter without prejudice to or waiver of any of its rights to challenge the terms and conditions of this Interim Advice Adoption Letter under the Interconnection Agreement, the Act, FCC or state Commission rules.

CLEC

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____