



CenturyLink™

Jason D. Topp
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August 28, 2012

RECEIVED

AUG 30 2012

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Mr. Darrell Nitschke
Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue, 12th Floor
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Re: ICC Bill and Keep Amendment No. 1 to the Interconnection Agreement
between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Verizon Wireless for
the State of North Dakota

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Enclosed for filing for approval by the North Dakota Public Service Commission pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252 and N.D. Cent. Code § 49-21-01.7 is the ICC Bill and Keep Amendment No. 1 to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Verizon Wireless for the for the State of North Dakota.

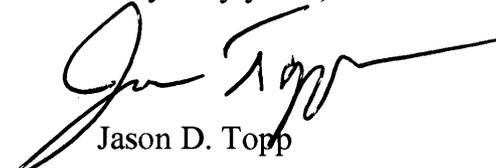
Contact information for Verizon Wireless is as follows:

Verizon Wireless
Attn: Counsel – Interconnection
1300 I Street NW, Suite 400W
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 589-3756
Elaine.critides@verizonwireless.com

Verizon Wireless
Network Interconnection
1120 Sanctuary Parkway, Suite 150
Alpharetta, GA 30009
networkinterconnection.contractrequests@VerizonWireless.com

Thank you for your help with this matter. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Very truly yours,



Jason D. Topp

JDT/bardm
Enclosure
cc: Elaine Critides (via email)

1 **PU-12-698** Filed: 8/30/2012 Pages: 5
ICC Bill and Keep Amendment No. 1 to the Interconnection Agreement

Qwest Corporation
Jason D. Topp

**ICC Bill and Keep Amendment No. 1
to the Interconnection Agreement
between**

Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC

and

Verizon Wireless

This Amendment No. 1 ("Amendment") is to the Type 2 Wireless Interconnection Agreement (ICA) between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC ("CenturyLink"), a Colorado corporation, and the Verizon Wireless entities listed on the Signature Page of this Amendment ("VZW") (collectively, the "Parties").

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Parties entered into an Interconnection Agreement in 2010 for service in the State of North Dakota that was approved by the Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission in Docket No. 01-92, *In the Matter of Developing an Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime*, issued an order that affects the Parties rights and obligations with respect to the exchange of traffic between WSP providers and LECs effective 12/29/2011 ("FCC Order" or "Order"); and

WHEREAS, VZW has requested to amend the Agreement based on the Commission FCC Order; and

WHEREAS, the Parties agree to amend the Agreement based on the FCC order with the terms and conditions contained herein.

AGREEMENT

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual terms, covenants and conditions contained in this Amendment and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

Amendment Terms

The Agreement is hereby amended by adding terms, conditions, and rates as set forth in Attachment 1 attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference and eliminates Exhibit J, if applicable.

By signature on this Amendment, VZW has elected to modify existing contract terms in order to implement the applicable provisions of the above mentioned Order.

Effective Date

This Amendment has an Effective Date of July 3, 2012.

Further Amendments

Except as modified herein, the provisions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. Except as provided in the Agreement, this Amendment may not be further amended or altered, and no waiver of any provision thereof shall be effective, except by written instrument executed by an authorized representative of both Parties.

Entire Agreement

Other than the publicly filed Agreement and its Amendments, CenturyLink and VZW have no agreement or understanding, written or oral, relating to the terms and conditions for interconnection.

The Parties intending to be legally bound have executed this Amendment as of the dates set forth below, which may be in multiple counterparts, each of which is deemed an original, but all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument.

Badlands Cellular of North Dakota Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
By: CommNet Cellular Inc., Its Managing Agent

Bismarck MSA Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
By Cellular Inc. Network Corporation, Its General Partner

Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless

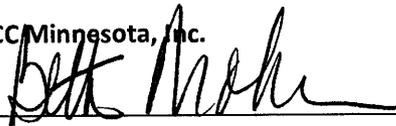
North Central RSA 2 of North Dakota L.P. d/b/a Verizon Wireless By: CommNet Cellular Inc.

North Dakota 5-Kidder Limited Partnership Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
By CommNet Cellular Inc., Its Managing Agent

North Dakota RSA No. 3 Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
By Verizon Wireless (VAW) LLC, Its General Partner

Northwest Dakota Cellular of North Dakota Limited Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
By CommNet Cellular Inc., Its Managing Agent

Verizon Wireless (VAW) LLC d/b/a Verizon Wireless

RCC Minnesota, Inc.


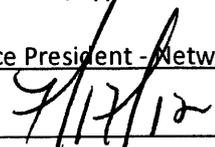
Signature

Beth Drohan

Name Printed/Typed

Area Vice President - Network

Title



Date

Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC

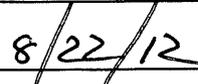

Signature

L. T. Christensen

Name Printed/Typed

Director - Wholesale Contracts

Title



Date

Attachment 1

Notwithstanding anything set forth in the Agreement to the contrary, the following terms and provisions shall govern the exchange of Non-Access Telecommunications Traffic, as defined in the Order, between the Parties.

1. General

- 1.1. Bill and Keep shall mean the originating Party has no obligation to pay terminating charges to the terminating Party.
- 1.2. Non-Access Telecommunications Traffic shall have the meaning set forth in 47 CFR §51.701(b) that is originated or terminated as wireless traffic by VZW's end user.
- 1.3. All other terms not otherwise defined in this Amendment are as defined in the ICA.

2. Intercarrier Compensation.

- 2.1. Bill and Keep shall apply to the exchange of Non-Access Telecommunications Traffic, solely when such traffic terminates to the End User Customers of one of the Parties. This compensation arrangement shall supersede any previous usage-based terminating charges for End Office Call Termination, Tandem Switched Transport, Tandem Transmission charges and/or FCC – ISP Rate Caps listed in Exhibit A of the ICA.
- 2.2. Notwithstanding anything in this Amendment or in the Agreement to the contrary, Bill and Keep shall not apply to the right of CenturyLink to be compensated for Transit Traffic that transits a CenturyLink Tandem. Such Transit Traffic shall be at the same rates that existed prior to this Amendment, and any adjustment to reciprocal compensation rate element(s) that are assessed by a Party for terminating Non-Access Telecommunications Traffic pursuant to the Order shall not apply for purposes of calculating the rate(s) to be charged by CenturyLink for providing a Transit Service.

3. VZW agrees that it will only route traffic from its own wireless End User Customers to CenturyLink for termination to CenturyLink End User Customers or as Transit Traffic destined for a third party. In the event VZW routes any traffic from third parties to CenturyLink in violation of this paragraph, CenturyLink shall be entitled to seek injunctive relief and to recover damages, including without limitation, compensation for such traffic at the rate that is then applicable to intrastate access traffic.

4. Tandem Management.

- 4.1. When Transit Traffic originated by a third party is routed through a CenturyLink Tandem to VZW, and the third party is not legally obligated to compensate CenturyLink for the Transit Service provided in transporting the traffic to VZW as a result of paragraph 999 of the FCC Order, then VZW will either:
 - 4.1.1. Establish direct interconnection with such third party; or

- 4.1.2. Pay CenturyLink the Transit charges for such traffic at the Transit rates identified in the underlying Agreement.
- 4.2. Transit Service is provided by CenturyLink, as a local and Access Tandem Switch provider to VZW to enable the completion of calls originated by or terminated to end users of another Telecommunications Carrier which is connected to CenturyLink's Switches.
- 4.3. The originating company is responsible for payment of appropriate rates to the transit company and to the terminating company. The Parties agree that they have an obligation, and will use all reasonable efforts, to enter into traffic exchange agreements with third party Telecommunications Carriers prior to delivering traffic to be transited to third party Telecommunications Carriers. In the event one Party originates traffic that transits the second Party's network to reach a third party Telecommunications Carrier with whom the originating Party does not have a traffic exchange agreement, then the originating Party will indemnify, defend and hold harmless the second Party against any and all charges levied by such third party Telecommunications Carrier, including any termination charges related to such traffic and any reasonable attorneys fees and expenses.
5. Reservation of Rights. Notwithstanding anything in this Amendment or in the Agreement to the contrary, and notwithstanding the execution of this Amendment by the Parties, both Parties reserve the absolute right to charge and collect any compensation that it would otherwise have been entitled to in the absence of the FCC Order or this Amendment, and this Amendment shall immediately become void *ab initio*, if the application of the Bill and Keep compensation framework within the FCC Order is in any way stayed or modified or subsequently determined by the FCC or a court of competent jurisdiction to be discriminatory, unfair, or otherwise improper, unlawful, unenforceable, without adequate legal support or inapplicable.