**Jason D. Topp**
**Senior Corporate Counsel - Regulatory**
**(651) 312-5364**

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NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

April 4, 2014

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 to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Sprint Spectrum L.P., as agent and General Partner for WirelessCo, L.P., jointly d/b/a Sprint PCS

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 to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Sprint Spectrum L.P., as agent and General Partner for WirelessCo, L.P., jointly d/b/a Sprint PCS for the State of North Dakota.

Contact information for Sprint Spectrum L.P., as agent and General Partner for WirelessCo, L.P., jointly d/b/a Sprint PCS, is as follows:

Ralph Smith
Sprint Nextel
6240 Sprint Parkway
KSOP HC0106 - 1B258
Overland Park, KS 66251
(913) 827-0597
Ralph.R.Smith@sprint.com

Bret Lawson
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Qwest Corporation
Jason Topp

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

Very truly yours,

Jason D. Topp

Jason D. Topp

JDT/bardm

Enclosure

cc: Ralph Smith (via email)
Bret Lawson (via email)

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**ICC Bill and Keep Amendment**
**to the Interconnection Agreement between**
**Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC**
**and**
**Sprint Spectrum L.P., as agent and General Partner for WirelessCo, L.P., jointly d/b/a Sprint PCS**
**for the State of North Dakota**

This Amendment ("Amendment") is to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC ("CenturyLink"), a Colorado corporation, and Sprint Spectrum L.P., as agent and General Partner for WirelessCo, L.P., jointly d/b/a Sprint PCS ("CMRS"), a Delaware limited partnership (collectively, the "Parties").

## RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Parties entered into an Interconnection Agreement, for service in the State of North Dakota, that was approved by the Commission in 2002; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission in Docket No. 01-92, *In the Matter of Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime*, has issued orders that changed the current state of applicable law with respect to, among other things, requirements surrounding the exchange of traffic between CMRS providers and LECs ("FCC Orders" or "Orders"); and

WHEREAS, CMRS has requested to amend the Agreement based on the FCC Orders; and

WHEREAS, the Parties agree to amend the Agreement based on the FCC Orders 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 this Amendment and Attachment 1, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

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

### Effective Date

This Amendment shall become effective on the date of Commission approval; however, the Parties agree to implement the provisions of this Amendment effective July 1, 2012, pursuant to the FCC Order.

**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 CMRS 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.

**Sprint Spectrum L.P., as agent and General Partner for WirelessCo, L.P., jointly d/b/a Sprint PCS**

DocuSigned by:
Mike Bray
1D1ED3D9BC0A43E...

Signature

Mike Bray
Name Printed/Typed

VP – Roaming and Access Planning
Title

4/1/2014
Date

**Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC**

05E9FC68BD57454...
L T Christensen
DocuSigned By: L T Christensen

Signature

L. T. Christensen
Name Printed/Typed

Director – Wholesale Contracts
Title

4/2/2014
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 CMRS' end user.

1.3. Pursuant to ¶1006 of the Order, the Parties agree that this Amendment only applies to calls that are initiated by or terminated to Sprint in its capacity as a CMRS provider. The re-origination of a call originated by a non-CMRS provider over a wireless link in the middle of the call path does not convert a wireline-originated call into a CMRS-originated call for purposes of reciprocal compensation.

1.4. All other terms not otherwise defined in this Amendment are as defined in the Agreement.

2. Intercarrier Compensation.

2.1. Bill and Keep shall continue to apply to the exchange of Non-Access Telecommunications Traffic, when such traffic is originated by the end users of one party and terminates to the end users of the other Party. The Bill and Keep arrangement continues to exclude Transit Traffic, which shall continue to be charged at the same rates in effect prior to this Amendment, with the understanding that such rates for Transit Traffic have been expressed in terms of billing elements (e.g., Tandem Switching, Tandem Switched Transport, Tandem Transmission) that aren't applied to terminating Non-Access Telecommunications Traffic and are therefore not affected by the Orders.

2.2. Tandem Management.

2.2.1. When Transit Traffic originated by a rural rate-of-return LEC is routed from such LECs meet point with the CenturyLink network through a CenturyLink tandem to the Sprint Point of Interconnection on the CenturyLink network, and the rate-of-return LEC is not legally obligated to compensate CenturyLink for the Transit Service provided in transporting the traffic to Sprint as a result of paragraph 999 of the FCC Order, then Sprint upon notice from CenturyLink (which notice will be given within a reasonable time after CenturyLink receives notice from such Rural LEC) will either:

2.2.1.1. Establish direct interconnection with such Rural LEC; or

2.2.1.2. Pay the Transit Charges billed by CenturyLink to Sprint for such traffic, subject to the payment and billing dispute provisions of the Agreement.

2.2.2. When CenturyLink bills Sprint Transit Charges regarding a rate-of-return ILEC's originated Transit Traffic under Section 2.2.1 above, CenturyLink shall provide sufficient detail to identify the particular rate-of-return ILEC that originated the traffic, and the total volume of such traffic for the period of time being billed. CenturyLink shall cooperate in providing any information requested by Sprint, including but not limited to call detail records, necessary to verify Transit Traffic bills rendered by CenturyLink for Rural LEC originating traffic.

3. Reservation of Rights. This amendment shall remain effective as long as the Agreement remains effective between the Parties. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if as a result of any decision, order or determination of any judicial or regulatory authority with jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof, the FCC Orders regarding the bill-and-keep arrangements for Non-Access Telecommunications Traffic within the scope of 47 C.F.R. § 51.701(b)(2) are reversed, modified or remanded, then the Parties agree to comply with all requirements of the applicable decision, order or determination. If the order vacates or declares void the portion of the FCC's November 18, 2011 order requiring bill-and-keep, then the parties agree that this amendment shall be void and of no effect prospectively. In addition, the parties will work cooperatively to implement any rulings of the court and the FCC with regard to retroactive effect of any such decision, order or determination.