

**Qwest DSL™ (with discount) provided with UNE-P Amendment
to the Interconnection Agreement between
Qwest Corporation and
VarTec Telecom, Inc.
for the State of North Dakota**

This is an Amendment (“Amendment”) to the Interconnection Agreement, for Qwest DSL™ (with discount) provided with UNE-P, between Qwest Corporation (“Qwest”) (fka U S WEST Communications, Inc.), a Colorado corporation, and VarTec Telecom, Inc. (“CLEC”). CLEC and Qwest shall be known jointly as the (“Parties”).

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Parties entered into an Interconnection Agreement, for service in the State of North Dakota, that was approved by the North Dakota Public Service Commission (“Commission”) on March 13, 2002, as referenced in Case No. PU-2632-01-663, (“Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, the Parties wish to amend the Agreement further under 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 for Qwest DSL™ (with discount) provided with UNE-P as set forth in Attachment 1 and Exhibit A, to this Amendment, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

Effective Date

This Amendment shall be deemed effective upon approval by the Commission; however, the Parties may agree to implement the provisions of this Amendment upon execution. To accommodate this need, CLEC must generate, if necessary, an updated Customer Questionnaire. In addition to the Questionnaire, all system updates will need to be completed by Qwest. CLEC will be notified when all system changes have been made. Actual order processing may begin once these requirements have been met.

Term

The discount provided under this Amendment shall terminate on December 31, 2005.

Further Amendments

Except as modified herein, the provisions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. The provisions of this Amendment, including the provisions of this sentence, may not be amended, modified or supplemented, and waivers or consents to departures from the provisions of this Amendment may not be given without the written consent thereto by both Parties' authorized representative. No waiver by any Party of any default, misrepresentation, or breach of warranty or covenant hereunder, whether intentional or not, will be deemed to extend to any prior or subsequent default, misrepresentation, or breach of warranty or covenant hereunder or affect in any way any rights arising by virtue of any prior or subsequent such occurrence.

Change of Law

A. The provisions in this Amendment are intended to be in compliance with and based on the existing state of the law, rules, regulations and interpretations thereof, including but not limited to state rules, regulations, and laws, as of April 1, 2003 (the Existing Rules). Nothing in this Amendment shall be deemed an admission by Qwest or CLEC concerning the interpretation or effect of the Existing Rules or an admission by Qwest or CLEC that the Existing Rules should not be changed, vacated, dismissed, stayed or modified. Nothing in this Amendment shall preclude or estop Qwest or CLEC from taking any position in any forum concerning the proper interpretation or effect of the Existing Rules or concerning whether the Existing Rules should be changed, vacated, dismissed, stayed or modified. To the extent that the Existing Rules are vacated, dismissed, stayed or materially changed or modified, then this Amendment shall be amended to reflect such legally binding modification or change of the Existing Rules. Where the Parties fail to agree upon such an amendment within sixty (60) Days after notification from a Party seeking amendment due to a modification or change of the Existing Rules or if any time during such sixty (60) Day period the Parties shall have ceased to negotiate such new terms for a continuous period of fifteen (15) Days, it shall be resolved in accordance with the Dispute Resolution provision of the Agreement. It is expressly understood that this Amendment will be corrected, or if requested by CLEC, amended as set forth herein, to reflect the outcome of generic proceedings by the Commission for pricing, service standards, or other matters covered by this Amendment. Any amendment shall be deemed effective on the effective date of the legally binding change or modification of the Existing Rules for rates, and to the extent practicable for other terms and conditions, unless otherwise ordered. During the pendency of any negotiation for an amendment pursuant to this Section the Parties shall continue to perform their obligations in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Amendment, for up to sixty (60) Days. If the Parties fail to agree on an amendment during the sixty (60) Day negotiation period, the Parties agree that the first matter to be resolved during Dispute Resolution will be the implementation of an interim operating agreement between the Parties regarding the disputed issues, to be effective during the pendency of Dispute Resolution. The Parties agree that the interim operating agreement shall be determined and implemented within the first fifteen (15) Days of Dispute Resolution and the Parties will continue to perform their obligations in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Amendment, until the interim operating agreement is implemented. For purposes of this section, "legally binding" means that the legal ruling has not been stayed, no request for a stay is pending, and any deadline for requesting a stay designated by statute or regulation, has passed.

B. In addition, but without limiting Section A above, nothing in this Amendment shall be deemed an admission by Qwest or CLEC concerning the interpretation or effect of the FCC's decision and rules adopted in *In the Matter of Review of the Section 251 Unbundling Obligations of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers; Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions of*

the Telecommunications Act of 1996; Deployment of Wireline Services Offering Advanced Telecommunications Capability, CC Docket Nos. 01-338, 96-98 and 98-147, *Report and Order on Remand*, FCC 03-36, nor rules, regulations and interpretations thereof, including but not limited to state rules, regulations, and laws as they may be issued or promulgated regarding the same ("Decision(s)"). Nothing in this Amendment shall preclude or estop Qwest or CLEC from taking any position in any forum concerning the proper interpretation or effect of the Decision or concerning whether the Decision should be changed, vacated, dismissed, stayed or modified.

Entire Agreement

The Agreement as amended (including the documents referred to herein) constitutes the full and entire understanding and agreement between the Parties with regard to the subjects of the Agreement as amended and supersedes any prior understandings, agreements, or representations by or between the Parties, written or oral, to the extent they relate in any way to the subjects of the Agreement as amended.

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

VarTec Telecom, Inc.

Qwest Corporation

Signature

Signature

Name Printed/Typed

L. T. Christensen

Name Printed/Typed

Title

Director – Interconnection Agreements

Title

Date

Date

ATTACHMENT 1

CLEC may order new or retain existing Qwest DSL™ service on behalf of End User Customers when utilizing UNE-P-POTS, UNE-P-Centrex, and UNE-P-PBX (analog, non-DID trunks only) combinations, where Technically Feasible. The price for Qwest DSL™ provided with UNE-P combinations is included in Exhibit A to this Agreement. Qwest DSL™ service provided to Internet service providers and not provided directly to Qwest or CLEC's End User Customers is not available with UNE-P combinations. Retail promotions may not be combined with this offering. Non-recurring charges associated with Qwest DSL™ are not subject to discount. In the event that CLEC migrates the voice service to Unbundled Loop, Qwest DSL™ service will be disconnected.

Exhibit A

| | | Recurring | Non-Recurring |
|---|---|---|--|
| Qwest Miscellaneous Services Available With UNE-P | | | |
| | Discounted Qwest DSL™ provided with UNE-P | See Applicable Qwest retail Tariff, catalog or price list – less the applicable Wholesale ACS discount as reflected in the underlying Interconnection Agreement. | See Applicable Qwest retail Tariff, catalog or price list. |