



ANNIVERSARY

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February 4, 2013



Mr. Darrell Nitschke, Executive Secretary  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

*Re: Approval of the Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement Negotiated by and between Northwest Communications Cooperative and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC, and its Commercial Mobile Radio Service affiliates, d/b/a AT&T Mobility, Pursuant to Sections 251(a) and 251(b)(5) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996*

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Enclosed for filing is an original and two (2) copies of the Amendment to the Wireless Interconnection Agreement negotiated by and between Northwest Communications Cooperative ("NW Communications"), and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC, and its Commercial Mobile Radio Service affiliates, d/b/a AT&T Mobility ("AT&T Mobility"). Both Parties respectfully request that the Amendment be reviewed and considered for approval at the Commission's earliest convenience.

John Staurulakis, Inc. ("JSI") is filing the enclosed agreement on behalf of NW Communications and would appreciate that you file the same and return the extra copy stamped "filed" in the enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope provided. In addition, an electronic version of the Amendment was sent via e-mail to ndpsc@nd.gov.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Ozanick, Staff Consultant  
John Staurulakis, Inc.

cc: Mike Steffan, Northwest Communications Cooperative  
Sheila Paananen, AT&T Mobility

**AMENDMENT NO. #1  
TO THE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT  
BY AND BETWEEN  
NORTHWEST COMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE AND NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS  
PCS, LLC, AND ITS COMMERCIAL MOBILE RADIO SERVICE AFFILIATES D/B/A AT&T  
MOBILITY**

This is an Amendment (“Amendment”) to the Interconnection and Reciprocal Compensation Agreement between Northwest Communications Cooperative (“NW Communications”), and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC, and its Commercial Mobile Radio Service affiliates, d/b/a AT&T Mobility (“AT&T Mobility”), jointly the “Parties.”

**RECITALS**

WHEREAS, the Parties, or their predecessors in interest, previously entered into an Interconnection and Reciprocal Compensation Agreement (“Original Agreement”), pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§251 and 252, effective November 1, 2002; and

WHEREAS, On November 18, 2011, the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) issued a Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 01-92; GN Docket No. 09-51; WC Docket Nos. 03-109, 05-337, 07-135 and 10-90; and WT Docket No. 10-208 as amended (the “USF/ICC Transformation Order”); and

WHEREAS, the Original Agreement contains a “change in law” provision which authorizes the Parties to amend the Original Agreement to comport with a change in law.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual provisions contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

**AGREEMENT**

**A. Definitions**

1. “Bill-and-Keep” arrangements are those in which carriers exchanging telecommunications traffic do not charge each other for specific transport and/or termination functions or services as defined in 47 C.F.R. §51.713.
2. “InterMTA Traffic” means telecommunications traffic exchanged between a LEC and a CMRS provider that, at the beginning of the call, originates in one Major Trading Area (“MTA”), as defined in 47 C.F.R. §24.202(a), and terminates in another MTA.
3. “Non-Access Telecommunications Traffic” (IntraMTA Traffic) means telecommunications traffic exchanged between a LEC and a CMRS provider that, at the beginning of the call, originates and terminates within the same MTA.

**B. Amendment Terms**

1. Pursuant to the FCC’s USF/ICC Transformation Order, effective for traffic exchanged on and after July 1, 2012, Bill-and-Keep shall be the compensation methodology for Non-Access Telecommunications Traffic exchanged between NW Communications and AT&T Mobility.
  - 1.1 The provisions of this Amendment, including the provisions of this sentence, may not be amended, modified or supplemented without the written consent thereto by both

Parties' authorized representatives. 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's USF/ICC Transformation Order regarding the bill-and-keep arrangements for IntraMTA traffic are reversed, remanded, stayed, or vacated ("Bill-and-Keep Decision"), then the Parties agree to comply with all requirements of the Bill-and-Keep Decision.

1.2 Unless the Bill-and-Keep Decision expressly provides otherwise, the following reciprocal compensation rates for Non-Access Telecommunications Traffic shall apply:

1.2.1 In the event of a reversal, remand, or vacatur, the per minute of use reciprocal compensation rates listed in the Original Agreement shall be applied in lieu of Bill-and-Keep, and, if the reversal, remand, or vacatur so requires, the Parties will true up the rates and apply such rates retroactively back to July 1, 2012.

1.2.2 In the case of a judicial stay, the Parties will apply the reciprocal compensation rates listed in the Original Agreement prospectively from the date the stay is issued. If such judicial stay is subsequently lifted and there is not a corresponding court-ordered reversal or vacatur, the Parties will move to Bill-and-Keep.

2. InterMTA Traffic - The Parties agree that traffic that is directly or indirectly delivered, may be rated and recorded as IntraMTA Traffic, but may have originated and terminated in different MTAs and therefore, is InterMTA Traffic subject to switched access compensation.

2.1 Recognizing that neither Party currently has a way of accurately measuring this InterMTA Traffic, the Parties agree, for the purposes of this Amendment, to maintain the existing InterMTA Factor at this time. The Parties agree to work cooperatively to conduct traffic studies within six (6) months of the effective date of this Amendment to establish a new InterMTA Factor.

2.2 Further, the Parties agree that this Amendment is intended primarily for the exchange of IntraMTA Traffic. Because of the mobile nature of AT&T Mobility's customers, the Parties acknowledge that a *de minimus* amount of InterMTA Traffic can be delivered directly over the interconnection trunks or indirectly *via* the third party tandem; however, excessive or unreasonable amounts of other identifiable InterMTA Traffic shall not be delivered in this manner and shall not be common practice.

2.3 The Parties agree to review the InterMTA Factor on a periodic basis and, if warranted by the actual usage, revise the factor appropriately. Both Parties shall cooperate in exchanging necessary records and information required to conduct such reviews. Once the new InterMTA Factor is established, each Party shall only have the right to conduct a review of the InterMTA Factor no more than one time in a consecutive 12-month period.

3. FCC Rule 47 C.F.R. §51.709(c) provides that for Non-Access Telecommunications Traffic exchanged between NW Communications and AT&T Mobility, NW Communications will be responsible for transport to AT&T Mobility's interconnection point when it is located within NW Communications' service area. When AT&T Mobility's interconnection point is located outside NW Communications' service area, NW Communications' transport and provisioning obligation stops at its meet point and AT&T Mobility is responsible for the remaining transport to its interconnection point (the "Rural Transport Rule").

3.1 NW Communications shall notify AT&T Mobility within ten (10) days of any change in its status as a rural rate-of-return LEC. In the event of any such change, LEC will, upon AT&T Mobility's request, commence negotiations on a further amendment to the Interconnection Agreement within thirty (30) days of such request.

4. Call Signaling. The Calling Party Number ("CPN") associated with the End-User Customer originating the call must be provided as required by FCC rules (47 C.F.R. §64.1601). The CPN shall not be altered. The CPN will be provided by each Party in conjunction with all traffic it exchanges to the extent required by industry standards and FCC rules. The CPN follows the North American Numbering Plan Administration ("NANPA") standards and can be identified in numbering databases and the LERG as an active number. The CPN is assigned to an active End-User.
5. The Parties will connect their networks using SS7 as defined in applicable industry standards including ISDN User Part ("ISUP") for trunk signaling and Transaction Capabilities Application Part ("TCAP") for Common Channel Signaling ("CCS")-based features to facilitate interoperability of CLASS features and functions between their respective networks. Signaling information shall be shared between the Parties at no charge to either Party.
6. In order to process, track and monitor the traffic that is being exchanged, the Parties agree to cooperate with one another on the exchange of all appropriate CCS messages, for call set-up, including without limitation ISUP and TCAP messages.
7. Updated Contacts –

<b>Northwest Communications Cooperative</b>	<b>AT&amp;T Mobility</b>
<p><u>For Official Notices:</u></p> <p>Mike Steffan, CPA, General Manager / CEO  Northwest Communications Cooperative  111 Railroad Ave.  P.O. Box 38  Ray, ND 58849-0038  Phone: 701-568-3331  Fax: 701-568-7777</p> <p><u>For Billing:</u></p> <p>Mike Steffan, CPA, General Manager / CEO  Northwest Communications Cooperative  111 Railroad Ave.  P.O. Box 38  Ray, ND 58849-0038  Phone: 701-568-3331  Fax: 701-568-7777</p>	<p><u>For Official Notices:</u></p> <p>AT&amp;T Mobility LLC  1277 Lenox Park Blvd.  Suite 4A42  Atlanta, GA 30319  Attn: Senior Contract Manager  Phone: 404-499-6086  Fax: 404-986-8452</p> <p>With a copy to:</p> <p>AT&amp;T Services, Inc.  Legal Department  675 West Peachtree Street  Atlanta, GA 30308  Attn: Interconnection Agreement Counsel</p> <p><u>For Billing:</u></p> <p>AT&amp;T Mobility  C/O TEOCO  12150 Monument Drive, Suite 700  Fairfax, VA 22033  (in "RE" space put "Xtrak")</p>

8. This Amendment shall be effective July 1, 2012.
9. This Amendment shall remain effective as long as the Agreement remains effective between the Parties, subject to future changes of law.
10. The provisions of this Amendment, including the provisions of this sentence, may not be amended, modified or supplemented without the written consent thereto by both Parties' authorized representatives.
11. Except as expressly set forth herein, the terms and conditions of the Original Agreement shall remain in full force and effect without change.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, 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.

<b>New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC, and its Commercial Mobile Radio Service affiliates, d/b/a AT&amp;T Mobility</b>	
By:	<i>Sheila Paananen</i>
Name:	Sheila Paananen
Title:	Lead Carrier Relations Manager
Date:	<i>1/29/13</i>

<b>Northwest Communications Cooperative</b>	
By:	<i>Mike Steffan, CPA</i>
Name:	Mike Steffan, CPA
Title:	General Manager / CEO
Date:	<i>1-31-2013</i>