

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Joint) Application No. C-2486
Application of Qwest Corporation)
of Denver, Colorado, and Ionex)
Communications North, Inc. of) AMENDMENT APPROVED
Dallas, Texas, seeking approval)
of Amendment No. 3 to their inter-) connection agreement.) Entered: April 3, 2001

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N A N D F I N D I N G S

On February 20, 2001, a joint application was filed by Qwest Corporation (Qwest) of Denver, Colorado, and Ionex Communications North, Inc. (Ionex) of Dallas, Texas, seeking approval of Amendment No. 3 to their interconnection agreement. Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, on February 21, 2001. No protests were filed; therefore, this application is processed pursuant to the Commission's Rule of Modified Procedure.

On August 5, 1997, the original voluntarily-negotiated interconnection agreement between Qwest (then known as US West) and Ionex (then known as FirsTel) was approved by this Commission, pursuant to Application No. C-1586. Subsequently, on May 2, 2000, Qwest and Ionex adopted an interconnection agreement pursuant to § 252(i) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 (see Application No. C-2281). On May 31, 2000, Qwest and Ionex received approval by the Commission of Amendment No. 1 to their voluntarily-negotiated agreement (see Application No. C-2267). Amendment No. 2, filed concurrently with this application, is the subject of Application No. C-2485. In the application at bar, Rhythms and Qwest seek to amend their agreement of May 2, 2000. An executed copy of the amendment is contained within the application.

The amendment does not discriminate against any telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the agreement. Furthermore, the implementation of the amendment is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity.

Section 252(e) of the Act requires this Commission to review negotiated interconnection agreements to ensure they comply with Sections 251 and 252(d) of the Act, as well as all applicable state laws. Using those standards, the amendment should be approved.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Amendment No. 3 to the interconnection agreement between Qwest Corporation and Ionex Communications North, Inc. be, and it is hereby, approved.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the executed amendment filed herein be, and it is hereby, made the official copy on file with the Nebraska Public Service Commission.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 3rd day of April, 2001.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Deputy Director