1	BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH
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3	IN THE MATTER OF THE )
	PETITION OF ESCHELON )
4	TELECOM OF UTAH, INC., )
	FOR ARBITRATION WITH )
5	QWEST CORPORATION, PURSUANT )
	TO 47 USC SECTION 252 OF THE)
6	FEDERAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS )
	ACT OF 1996. ) Docket No.
7	) 07-2263-03
	)
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9	September 12, 2007 - 9:30 a.m.
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15	160 East 300 South, Room 403
16	Salt Lake City, Utah 84114
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24	Reporter: Kathy Morgan, CSR, RPR
25	Notary Public in and for the State of Utah
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## PROCEEDINGS

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- 4 THE COURT: Let's go on the record. This
- 5 is the Public Service Commission hearing in the
- 6 Matter of the Petition of Eschelon Telecom of Utah,
- 7 Inc., for Arbitration with Qwest Corporation Pursuant
- 8 to 47 UCS Section 252 of the Federal
- 9 Telecommunications Act of 1996, Public Service
- 10 Commission docket 07-2263-03.
- 11 I'm Steve Goodwill, an Administrative Law
- 12 Judge for the Commission, and I've been assigned by
- 13 the Commission to hear this matter. Notice of this
- 14 hearing was issued by the Commission on the 24th of
- 15 August 2007. At this time we'll go ahead and take
- 16 appearances, and we'll start with Qwest.
- 17 MR. SMITH: Your Honor, may I just jump
- 18 in. I'm Ted Smith with the law firm of Stoel Rives
- 19 here in Salt Lake City. I am serving in this case as
- 20 local counsel, and I would like to introduce
- 21 co-counsel, and then I will vacate the premises. To
- 22 my far right is Mr. Jason Topp of the Qwest Law
- 23 Department. Mr. Topp is a member of the Minnesota
- 24 Bar and is a resident of and works in Minneapolis.
- To my immediate right is Mr. John Devaney of the

- 1 Washington D.C. office of the law firm of Perkins
- 2 Coie.
- 3 And Mr. Devaney, I think even before Your
- 4 Honor, has appeared here in Utah previously. He's a
- 5 member in good standing of the Bar of Washington,
- 6 D.C. So I don't think technically we need to move
- 7 for their admissions, but I did want to introduce
- 8 them, and if there are any issues that come up where
- 9 my assistance might be helpful in producing something
- or the like, please feel free to give me a call.
- 11 THE COURT: All right, thank you.
- MR. SMITH: I will be two blocks away and
- 13 available.
- 14 THE COURT: Thanks. And for Eschelon?
- 15 MR. MERZ: Good morning, Your Honor. My
- 16 name is Greg Merz with the Gray, Plant & Mooty law
- 17 firm in Minneapolis representing Eschelon Telecom of
- 18 Utah. Behind me here, and I'll just introduce them
- 19 briefly, because they'll be appearing later, are the
- 20 witnesses who will be appearing for Eschelon. Bonnie
- 21 Johnson is farthest to the right. Mr. Douglas Denny
- is there in the middle, and Michael Starkey is here
- 23 on the left.
- 24 THE COURT: Okay, thanks.
- 25 Prior to moving to testimony and evidence

- in this matter, I just want to remind everybody that
- 2 we do have information in this docket that's being
- 3 claimed as confidential, and it's been prefiled, a
- 4 protective order is in place to govern access to that
- 5 information. If necessary, we can close this hearing
- if the parties or witnesses need to discuss the
- 7 specifics of this information, and it would be my
- 8 preference that we keep the hearing open to the
- 9 extent that we can.
- 10 I'll ask the attorneys' assistance in
- doing that by referring to the information in
- 12 general, and but perhaps not to the specific
- information. If we can get through it that way,
- 14 great. If you really feel the need to refer on the
- 15 record to specific information, we can, then, close
- the hearing to only those who have signed the
- 17 protective order in this matter.
- 18 Again, I'll just ask the attorneys and, of
- 19 course, the witnesses to please be careful treading
- 20 around confidential information, and to alert me to
- 21 any potential problems that we're having with that.
- 22 Also prior to going on the record we
- discussed the manner in which to proceed today, and
- it's my understanding we'll start with Qwest and its
- 25 witnesses and testimony and then move to Eschelon.

- 1 With that, I guess, Mr. Topp?
- 2 MR. TOPP: Thank you, Your Honor. Qwest
- 3 calls Renée Albersheim to the stand. We have
- 4 provided the court reporter with a copy of an exhibit
- 5 list just for reference, and I would ask you if you
- 6 would like a copy of that as well, as we could
- 7 provide that to you.
- 8 THE COURT: If I could, please. Thanks.
- 9 Good morning, Ms. Albersheim. Good to see
- 10 you again. Could you please raise your right hand
- 11 and I'll swear you in.
- 12 (The witness was sworn.)
- 13 Thanks. Please be seated.
- Mr. Topp?
- 15 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 16 BY MR. TOPP:
- Q. Good morning, Ms. Albersheim.
- A. Good morning.
- 19 Q. Am I correct that you've filed testimony
- 20 in this case?
- 21 A. Yes, I have.
- 22 Q. And your direct testimony dated June 29th,
- 23 2007 has been marked as Qwest Exhibit 1?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. And then the exhibits to that testimony

- 1 have been marked as Qwest Exhibits 1.1 through 1.7?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And you filed rebuttal testimony on
- 4 July 27th, 2007?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. That's been marked as Qwest Exhibit 1R?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And the exhibits to that testimony have
- 9 been marked as Exhibits 1R.1 through 1R.9; is that
- 10 correct?
- 11 A. Yes, that's right.
- 12 Q. And you filed surrebuttal testimony on
- 13 August 10th, 2007?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. And that's been marked as Qwest
- 16 Exhibit 1SR?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And sitting here today, do you have any
- 19 modifications to the testimony that you have
- 20 provided?
- 21 A. Yes, I do. I have a modification to my
- 22 surrebuttal, Qwest Exhibit 1SR at page 30. I need to
- insert a line, I would say, at line 25, which should
- say: "Fifth, CLEC," C-L-E-C, "submits" -- I'm writing
- it down here -- "a supplemental order." And that,

- 1 then, necessitates a change to line 26, which should
- 2 read, instead of "fifth," "sixth." And then on the
- 3 next page, page 31, line 1 "sixth" should be changed
- 4 to "seventh."
- 5 Q. With that correction, are there any other
- 6 modifications you would make to your testimony if
- 7 those questions were put to you today?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 MR. TOPP: Owest would offers Exhibit 1.1R
- and 1.1SR, along with the associated Exhibits 1.1
- through 1.7, and 1R.1 through 1R.9.
- 12 THE COURT: Any objection to their
- 13 admission?
- MR. MERZ: No objection, Your Honor.
- 15 THE COURT: All right, they're admitted.
- 16 MR. TOPP: And Ms. Albersheim is available
- for cross-examination.
- THE COURT: Mr. Merz?
- 19 MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 20 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 21 BY MR. MERZ:
- Q. Good morning, Ms. Albersheim.
- A. Good morning.
- Q. You are trained as a lawyer; is that
- 25 right?

- 1 A. Yes. Though I'm not a lawyer for Qwest,
- 2 yes.
- 3 Q. But that's your formal education, is as a
- 4 lawyer?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Your job title is Staff Witnessing
- 7 Representative? Do I have that right?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Now, you testified in this case, among
- 10 other things, regarding Qwest's Change Management
- 11 Process, also referred to as CMP; is that right?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 O. You are not, yourself, part of Owest's
- change management team, are you?
- A. No, I am not.
- 16 O. And you do not participate in changes that
- 17 Qwest makes to its product catalog, also referred to
- 18 as the PCAT, P-C-A-T?
- 19 A. That's correct.
- 20 O. And your job at Owest is to testify in
- 21 regulatory proceedings like this; is that right?
- A. Among other things, yes.
- Q. I'd like you to refer to your rebuttal
- testimony, which has been marked as Owest Exhibit 1R.
- 25 And I'm looking specifically at page 7 of that

- 1 testimony.
- 2 A. I'm there.
- Q. At line 12 of page 7, you say that: "CLECs
- 4 have rejected a significant number of the changes
- 5 proposed by Qwest through the CMP." Do you see that?
- A. Yes, I do.
- 7 Q. Now, when you refer to CLECs rejecting
- 8 changes proposed by Qwest, do you mean to say that
- 9 Qwest withdrew proposed changes in response to some
- input that they received from Qwest?
- 11 A. Generally, yes.
- 12 Q. CLECs do not have the ability to reject
- changes that Qwest has proposed through CMP, do they?
- 14 A. In the strict sense of the term, no, but
- they can object, and Qwest listens to their
- 16 objections.
- 17 Q. Qwest is not obligated to withdraw a
- 18 change that is proposed in CMP because CLECs have
- 19 objected, is it?
- 20 A. It's not obligated, but it is not likely
- 21 to try and push through a change that the CLEC
- 22 strongly objects to.
- Q. Well, we actually have had a recent
- 24 hearing regarding some changes that Owest made to its
- 25 expedites process. Do you recall that?

- 1 A. Yes, which was requested by a CLEC.
- 2 Q. And you recall that the specific change
- 3 that gave rise to the complaint in that matter was a
- 4 change that was objected to by CLECs; is that
- 5 correct?
- 6 A. It was objected to, though not
- 7 unanimously.
- 8 Q. Qwest is not obligated under CMP to
- 9 withdraw a proposed change even if CLECs do
- 10 unanimously object to the proposed change, correct?
- 11 A. That is correct, and the CMP allows the
- 12 CLEC several avenues for further objection, should
- 13 Qwest proceed.
- 14 Q. Now, in your testimony you described
- 15 postponement as one of the most powerful mechanisms
- that CLECs have for challenging changes in the CMP;
- is that right?
- 18 A. It is one of the mechanisms, yes.
- 19 Q. And postponement is a mechanism in the CMP
- that enables a CLEC to request a delay in the
- 21 implementation of a proposed change; is that right?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. It is up to Qwest to decide whether to
- grant postponement; is that right?
- 25 A. That's correct.

- 1 Q. Postponement is an option that is
- 2 available to CLECs only if a CLEC has initiated
- 3 dispute resolution proceedings; isn't that right?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. Would you go to Qwest 1.1, which I believe
- 6 is the first exhibit to your testimony.
- 7 A. I'm there.
- 8 Q. Qwest 1.1 is the CMP document; is that
- 9 right?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 O. If Owest denies a postponement, a change
- can go into effect in 30 days; is that right?
- 13 A. That sounds correct, yes.
- 14 Q. If a postponement is granted, that
- postponement may be for as few as 30 days; is that
- 16 right?
- 17 A. I believe that's correct.
- 18 Q. And would you agree with me that there is
- 19 no mechanism available for obtaining a longer
- 20 postponement if Owest grants a 30-day postponement?
- 21 A. I don't believe that's correct. They can
- 22 ask for a longer postponement.
- Q. If Qwest grants a CLEC's request for a
- 24 postponement and says the postponement will be for
- 25 30 days, does CMP enable the CLEC to ask for a longer

- 1 postponement?
- 2 A. Rather than enabling, I would say I don't
- 3 think it prohibits that. I believe the point of a
- 4 postponement is to allow for further discussion on
- 5 the change request.
- 6 Q. And I guess my question is: Are you aware
- 7 of any provision in CMP that would allow a CLEC to
- 8 seek a longer postponement if Qwest grants a
- 9 postponement of 30 days?
- 10 A. Well, there are lots of mechanisms
- 11 available that could result in a longer postponement,
- 12 not the least of which is the dispute resolution
- process.
- Q. And I'm not sure you've answered my
- 15 question. Postponement being a powerful mechanism
- 16 for CLECs.
- 17 A. Sure.
- 18 Q. My question is: If a CLEC requests a
- 19 postponement and Qwest grants that request, which
- 20 says that the postponement will be 30 days, is there
- 21 any provision in CMP that would allow the CLEC to
- seek longer postponement if the 30-day request has
- 23 been granted?
- A. Well, my answer is there's no prohibition,
- okay? I don't believe it's explicit that it allows a

- longer postponement. I believe that's still possible
- through the mechanisms available in the CMP. There's
- 3 no prohibition.
- 4 Q. Is there any specific provision in CMP
- 5 that you're relying on in support of that opinion
- 6 that you've just given us?
- 7 A. Well, all the mechanisms that I've
- 8 testified to that allow a CLEC to object to a change,
- 9 including dispute resolution, including referral to
- 10 the oversight committee, so I don't believe there's a
- 11 prohibition against a longer postponement should it
- 12 be needed.
- 13 O. And you believe that the CMP docket would
- 14 allow a CLEC whose request for a postponement had
- been granted to seek a longer postponement than the
- one that Owest was allowed to, the one that Owest had
- 17 agreed to grant?
- 18 A. I believe they could seek that.
- 19 Q. And my question is: Are you aware of any
- 20 provision in CMP that supports that opinion that
- 21 you've just given?
- 22 A. Again, I don't believe there's an explicit
- 23 statement to that effect, but I believe the
- 24 mechanisms in the CMP would let that happen.
- Q. You've also mentioned dispute resolution.

- 1 You would agree with me that under the dispute
- 2 resolution in CMP, it's the CLEC, not Qwest, that is
- 3 the party seeking dispute resolution?
- 4 A. Generally that would be the case.
- 5 Q. And under the dispute resolution
- 6 provision, each party to the dispute resolution bears
- 7 its own cost in connection with that process?
- A. I would assume so.
- 9 Q. And are you aware that that's, in fact,
- what the CMP document provides?
- 11 A. That makes sense.
- 12 Q. I'm going to change gears now and talk
- about intervals, and "intervals" refers to how long
- it takes Qwest to provide a product or service,
- 15 correct?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Now, in your direct testimony, which has
- been marked as Qwest Exhibit 1, page 34.
- 19 A. I'm there.
- 20 O. You refer at lines 26 and 27 to change
- 21 requests submitted by AT&T, Eschelon, Comcast, Covad
- 22 and Qwest; is that right?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And you're talking here specifically about
- interval change requests; is that right?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. The requests submitted by AT&T, Eschelon,
- 3 Comcast and Covad all sought shorter intervals; is
- 4 that right?
- 5 A. I believe so.
- 6 Q. None of those requests involved a CLEC
- 7 requesting a longer interval, did it?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. Now, Eschelon has proposed that when
- 10 parties are able to agree on an interval change, that
- 11 that change can be incorporated into the ICA through
- the use of something called an advice adoption
- 13 letter; is that right?
- 14 A. That's Eschelon's proposal.
- 15 Q. And, in fact, it has proposed specific
- 16 forms attached to the proposed ICA at Exhibits N and
- 0 to accomplish that process, correct?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. And you, I believe, criticized Eschelon's
- 20 proposal in that regard because it creates a unique
- 21 process for Eschelon?
- 22 A. Yes, and it also interrupts the CMP
- process, which is the intended process for managing
- 24 service intervals.
- Q. And you describe that process unique to

- 1 Eschelon as a one-off, correct?
- 2 A. Well, it would be true for Eschelon and
- anyone who opts into Eschelon's contract, that's
- 4 correct.
- 5 O. The one-off criticism is one that we see
- 6 in a number of places in your testimony with regard
- 7 to a number of issues; isn't that true?
- A. That's true.
- 9 O. Now, we've talked about these two forms,
- 10 Exhibits N and O. Those forms are modeled on similar
- 11 forms that the parties have agreed to use for
- purposes of adding new products to Eschelon's ICA; is
- 13 that right?
- 14 A. They are similar. They are not the same.
- 15 O. And those forms are Exhibits L and M,
- 16 correct?
- 17 A. I think that's right.
- 18 Q. And there's closed language in the
- 19 contract that talks about how parties will use those
- 20 forms to streamline the process for adding new
- 21 products to Eschelon's ICA; is that right?
- 22 A. Yes. That allows Eschelon to take
- 23 advantage of products created after the ICA was
- 24 completed.
- Q. Now, you are familiar with Qwest's

- 1 negotiation template; is that correct?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And Qwest's negotiation template is
- 4 essentially Qwest's proposed offer that it holds out
- 5 as the terms under which it would agree to renew
- 6 their interconnection agreement with a CLEC, correct?
- 7 A. If the CLEC wanted to accept the
- 8 negotiation template as its contract, yes. But it's
- 9 also our starting point for negotiation, should a
- 10 CLEC wish to seek different terms.
- 11 Q. Now, formerly, the Qwest negotiation
- 12 template included the forms that are Exhibits L and M
- to the proposed Eschelon ICA, correct?
- 14 A. I think that's correct. I'm not certain
- if it was always attached to the negotiation
- 16 template.
- 17 Q. The negotiation template had the same
- process by which a CLEC could, through the use of
- 19 advice adoption letters, add new products and
- 20 services to their contract, correct?
- 21 A. Yes, I think so. I'd have to check.
- Q. We talked about this very thing, and I
- 23 believe it was in Washington; did we not?
- 24 A. Probably. I don't recall.
- Q. And you recall that Qwest is changing its

- 1 negotiation template, and has, in fact, changed its
- 2 negotiation template to get rid of that process, the
- 3 advice adoption process, by which a CLEC can add new
- 4 products to its contract?
- 5 A. Like I said, I don't recall if it was part
- of the negotiation template or not. I don't believe
- 7 it's part of it today.
- 8 Q. And so that's not something that Qwest is
- 9 holding out to other CLECs as part of its starting
- 10 point for negotiations?
- 11 A. That's correct, and I believe that's
- 12 because it was not used.
- 13 O. And the advice adoption process is part of
- the agreed-upon provisions of the Qwest-Eschelon
- 15 proposed ICA, correct?
- 16 A. Yes, and I suspect that is mostly a matter
- of timing, and that we probably came to that
- 18 agreement before Owest determined that it was no
- 19 longer useful to continue the advice adoption
- letters, as they were not being used.
- 21 Q. You would agree with me that in
- 22 eliminating that process as part of its negotiation
- template, Qwest has effectively created a one-off, a
- 24 specific process for Eschelon relating to adding new
- 25 products to its contract?

- 1 A. That would be true if Qwest suspected that
- 2 Eschelon were going to use the advice adoption
- 3 letters, but since they have not been used
- 4 previously, there is not much likelihood of that.
- 5 Q. I'd like to talk with you now about
- 6 acknowledging of mistakes and root cause analysis.
- 7 The issue here is that Eschelon has proposed language
- 8 regarding circumstances under which Qwest will
- 9 provide Eschelon with a root cause analysis of errors
- 10 to determine the cause of problems in ordering and
- 11 billing and the like, correct?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 0. And then in addition, there's an issue
- 14 regarding the circumstances under which Qwest will
- 15 provide Eschelon with a written acknowledgment of a
- 16 mistake that it has made as part of the ordering,
- 17 provisioning, billing, repair process, correct?
- 18 A. That is part of it, yes.
- 19 Q. Now, Qwest objects to Eschelon's proposed
- 20 language. At least part of its objection is it
- 21 believes the language is ambiguous; is that right?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And if you would turn to your rebuttal
- testimony, Owest Exhibit 1R, I'm looking at page 32.
- 25 A. I'm there.

- 1 Q. And at the bottom of that page, beginning
- at line 21, then carrying on to the next page, you
- 3 describe Qwest's concern regarding the ambiguity of
- 4 Eschelon's proposed language; is that right?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Now, your specific concern is the phrase:
- 7 "The letter will include a recap of sufficient,
- 8 pertinent information to identify the issue"; is that
- 9 right?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 O. And in particular, you're concerned about
- the word "sufficient"; is that right?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Would you agree with me that if the
- 15 Acknowledgement of Error letter is going to serve its
- 16 useful purpose, that it needs to contain sufficient
- information to identify the issues?
- 18 A. The point is "sufficient" is a subjective
- 19 term. What will be "sufficient"?
- 20 O. And my question is different. My question
- 21 is: You would agree that in order for this letter to
- serve its purpose, it needs to provide sufficient
- information to identify the issue; does it not?
- 24 A. Well, that would depend on the purpose
- 25 it's intended to serve. If it is simply -- if its

- 1 sole purpose is to say Qwest made an error, that
- 2 would be it. But the language is vague enough that
- 3 Eschelon could ask for more.
- 4 Q. What language has Qwest proposed to
- 5 address this ambiguity?
- 6 A. Qwest has not proposed language because
- 7 Qwest believes that it already has processes for root
- 8 cause analysis that are enough to provide Eschelon
- 9 with information regarding the source of errors
- 10 during processes.
- 11 Q. Go to your direct testimony, Qwest
- 12 Exhibit 1, and I'm looking at page 40 where the
- 13 Eschelon proposed language is set out.
- 14 A. I'm there.
- 15 Q. You see that -- and I'm looking
- specifically at section 12.1.4.2.1 at the bottom of
- 17 the page.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Do you see that? And that's the provision
- 20 where this phrase "sufficient information to identify
- the issue" is, correct?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Eschelon's proposed language includes
- 24 examples of what would constitute sufficient
- information; is that right?

- 1 A. Yes, but it's not limited. It's an
- 2 example, but it's not an exhaustive list.
- 3 Q. You would agree with me that information
- 4 that is sufficient to identify the issue is going to
- 5 vary from circumstances to circumstance, correct?
- 6 A. I suspect it will.
- 7 Q. And it would be very difficult to come up
- 8 with an exhaustive list that in all cases is going to
- 9 be sufficient; is that correct?
- 10 A. That's true, but my point is that based on
- "sufficient," we don't know what will be enough.
- 12 Q. Now, you've also expressed a concern that
- 13 Eschelon's language regarding providing the letter on
- 14 a non-confidential basis might require Qwest to
- 15 reveal sensitive customer information, including
- 16 CPNI.
- 17 A. That is a potential, yes.
- 18 Q. Now, Eschelon's proposal describes
- 19 specifically what Qwest must provide on a
- 20 non-confidential basis; isn't that right?
- 21 A. Not really.
- Q. Well, I'm looking -- now I'm looking at
- page 41, so the next page of your direct testimony.
- 24 A. Okay.
- 25 Q. And at section 12.1.4.2.5, you see that

- 1 what has to be provided on a non-confidential basis
- 2 is "the acknowledgment response described in Section
- 3 12.1.4.2.3, " correct?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And if you look at that section, it refers
- to Qwest's acknowledgment provided with Qwest's
- 7 identification, such as a Qwest letterhead or logo,
- 8 correct?
- 9 A. That's correct.
- 10 Q. And then the preceding section,
- 11 12.1.4.2.1., describes the information that has to be
- 12 included, correct?
- 13 A. Which includes a partial list, but it's
- 14 not exhaustive, and that's our concern.
- 15 O. You would agree with me that at least with
- 16 respect to the examples that have been provided, that
- none of those things are confidential information,
- 18 are they?
- 19 A. Actually, I believe they would be
- 20 confidential to Eschelon. Now, if Eschelon was
- 21 willing to share that, then they would not.
- 22 Q. But in any event, that's not information
- 23 that Qwest would have a concern about sharing with
- 24 Eschelon on a non-confidential basis, would it?
- 25 A. No.

- 1 Q. Now, the language that Eschelon has
- proposed does not require Qwest, as part of its
- 3 Acknowledgment of Mistake letter, to include all of
- 4 the data that is associated with the root cause
- 5 analysis that is performed, does it?
- 6 A. It's not explicitly required, but it's
- 7 also not excluded.
- 8 Q. Well, is there anything in 12.1.4.2.1 that
- 9 you would point to as requiring Qwest to provide
- 10 information associated with its root cause analysis?
- 11 A. Yes. The sufficient pertinent
- information, Eschelon could demand that the data that
- provided the source for the root cause analysis be
- 14 included.
- 15 Q. And Qwest has not proposed any alternative
- language to deal with that issue we've been talking
- 17 about, has it?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. Now, the language that Eschelon has
- 20 proposed is based on relief that was ordered by the
- 21 Minnesota Commission in a complaint case; is that
- 22 right?
- 23 A. Yes, it's based on that, yes.
- 24 O. And that's sometimes referred to as the
- 25 Minnesota 616 Case, correct?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And in that case, Qwest made an error in
- 3 transferring a customer to Eschelon; is that right?
- 4 A. I believe that's correct.
- 5 Q. As a result of that error, Eschelon's
- 6 customer unexpectedly lost service; is that right?
- 7 A. I think that's right. I'm a little vague
- 8 on the details now. It's been a while since I looked
- 9 at that case.
- 10 Q. The Minnesota Commission found Qwest's
- 11 service to be inadequate and ordered it to make
- 12 certain changes in its process; is that right?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And those changes included implementing
- 15 procedures for promptly acknowledging and taking
- 16 responsibility for those mistakes; is that correct?
- 17 A. That's correct.
- 18 Q. Now, referring to your rebuttal testimony,
- 19 Qwest Exhibit 1R, page 33.
- 20 A. Okay.
- 21 Q. And I'm looking specifically at line 17,
- 22 page 33 where you say: "Eschelon is the only CLEC to
- 23 request this process." Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes, and also that Eschelon has not used
- 25 the process.

- 1 Q. And is the process that Qwest implemented
- in response to Minnesota Commission's order one that
- 3 was specific to Eschelon, or was it one that was
- 4 available to all CLECs in Minnesota?
- 5 A. I believe it was available to all CLECs in
- 6 Minnesota. I believe that's what we were ordered to
- 7 do.
- 8 Q. I want to talk with you about expedites.
- 9 THE COURT: Before we do that, I just have
- 10 a quick question. Speaking to the interval issue a
- moment ago, you mentioned the "sim" process. That's
- the change management process?
- THE WITNESS: Yes, CMP. It's referred to
- various ways, both ways.
- 15 THE COURT: Okay, thank you. Sorry.
- 16 Q. (By Mr. Merz) Expedite. An expedite is a
- 17 process by which Qwest provides service more quickly
- 18 than it would under the interval that would generally
- 19 apply; is that right?
- 20 A. Yes, than it would under the standard
- 21 interval, yes.
- 22 Q. You testified in your testimony about
- various changes that Qwest made to the expedite
- 24 process; is that right?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And you were not, yourself, involved in
- developing any of those changes, correct?
- A. No, I was not.
- 4 Q. And you were not involved in implementing
- 5 any of those changes; is that right?
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 O. You are familiar with Bonnie Johnson of
- 8 Eschelon?
- 9 A. Yes, I am.
- 10 Q. And you are also aware of that Ms. Johnson
- 11 was involved on behalf of Eschelon in CMP activities
- relating to changes that Qwest made to its expedite
- 13 process; is that right?
- 14 A. That's my understanding, yes.
- 15 Q. Do you understand that at one point in
- 16 time Qwest offered CLECs the opportunity to expedite
- loops when certain emergency conditions were met?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Under that process, if the emergency
- 20 conditions were met, the expedite was provided at no
- 21 additional charge; is that right?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. That process was one that was in place at
- least sometime before 2000, correct?
- 25 A. I'm not sure when that process was

- 1 formally adopted.
- 2 Q. But you're aware of that it was before
- 3 2000?
- 4 A. I think so, yes.
- 5 Q. As of January of 2006, Qwest would no
- 6 longer provide emergency expedites for unbundled
- 7 loops; is that right?
- 8 A. In fact, Qwest offered expedites for
- 9 unbundled loops in all circumstances, not just in
- 10 emergencies.
- 11 O. And you make a good point. The emergency
- 12 expedite process was one by which if the emergency
- 13 conditions were met, the CLEC didn't have to pay any
- 14 additional charge for the expedite, correct?
- 15 A. That was the old process, yes.
- 16 O. As of January 2006, all expedites were
- 17 subject to a \$200-per-day retail charge; is that
- 18 correct?
- 19 A. No, that's not correct. Design service
- 20 expedites were subject to a charge of \$200 per day.
- 21 Non-designed services were still available for free
- in emergency circumstances only.
- Q. And so before January of 2006, CLECs could
- get expedited loops under emergency conditions at no
- 25 charge?

- 1 A. That's correct.
- 2 Q. And after January of 2006, CLECs had to
- 3 pay \$200 a day for expedites for loops; is that
- 4 correct?
- 5 A. That's correct.
- 6 Q. You will agree with me that CLECs,
- 7 including Eschelon, objected to that change; did they
- 8 not?
- 9 A. Some CLECs did, yes, but the original
- 10 request was from a CLEC to expand the availability of
- 11 expedites for design services.
- 12 Q. And that request was a request that was
- implemented in 2004, correct?
- 14 A. I believe the first implementation was,
- 15 yes.
- 16 O. And that implementation didn't require
- 17 Qwest to start charging \$200 a day for emergency
- 18 expedites for design loops, did it?
- 19 A. I believe that was phased in.
- 20 O. And that was phased in as part of Owest's
- 21 own decision-making, not something that any CLEC was
- 22 asking for?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. There was no CLEC that was asking to pay
- for something that they formerly hadn't been charged

- 1 for, was there?
- 2 A. Actually, that's not quite true, because
- 3 when Covad made its request, it said that it was
- 4 willing to pay a fee to expand the availability of
- 5 expedites.
- 6 Q. And did Covad also ask that Qwest
- 7 eliminate the emergency expedites process for loops?
- 8 A. No. It asked for broader availability of
- 9 expedites for loops, for all products.
- 10 Q. No CLEC asked Qwest to eliminate the
- 11 emergency expedited process for loops?
- 12 A. Not in those terms, no.
- 13 O. And those CLECs that did offer input in
- 14 the CMP objected to Qwest's eliminating the emergency
- 15 expedite process for loops?
- 16 A. Some did, yes.
- 17 Q. Did any CLEC speak in favor of eliminating
- the emergency expedites process for loops?
- 19 A. No. They spoke in favor of expanding the
- 20 expedite availability.
- 21 O. That was in 2004?
- 22 A. I believe that continued through the phase
- 23 in process.
- Q. Now, Eschelon's proposed language
- describes when expedites will be available; is that

- 1 right?
- 2 A. As Eschelon would like them to be
- 3 available, yes.
- 4 Q. Qwest's proposed language refers to
- 5 Owest's PCAT for the terms and conditions under which
- 6 expedites will be available; is that right?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Now, if the Commission were to adopt
- 9 Qwest's proposal with respect to expedites, the terms
- 10 and conditions under which expedites would be
- 11 available would be subject to change through CMP,
- 12 correct?
- 13 A. Would you say that again? I'm sorry.
- 14 Q. Yes. If the Commission were to adopt
- 15 Qwest's proposal with respect to expedites, the terms
- 16 and conditions under which Owest would make expedites
- available would be subject to change in CMP?
- 18 A. I'm not sure I would phrase it that way,
- 19 because as I see it, an interconnection agreement
- 20 deals with terms and conditions, whereas our PCAT
- 21 term deals with processes and procedures. So I would
- 22 not phrase it that way.
- Q. Well, all right, I'll rephrase the
- 24 question. You would agree with me that if Owest's
- 25 proposal with respect to expedites is adopted in this

- 1 case, the process by which Eschelon would be able to
- get expedites would be subject to change in CMP?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Go to your rebuttal testimony, Qwest
- 5 Exhibit 1R. I'm looking at page 42.
- 6 A. I'm there.
- 7 Q. And I'm looking specifically at line 11 of
- 8 page 42. Do you see that there?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And you say they're: "Providing a service
- in a shorter time frame than that set forth in the
- 12 standard interval is a premium service." Do you see
- 13 that?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And by "premium service," what you mean
- 16 there is that Owest is providing service more quickly
- 17 than under the standard interval; is that right?
- 18 A. Generally, yes.
- 19 Q. Now, you are familiar with the Eighth
- 20 Circuit decision in the Iowa utilities board case,
- 21 correct?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. In fact, that's a decision that you cite
- in your testimony, correct?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. You cite it for the proposition that Qwest
- is not required to provide superior service to CLECs,
- 3 correct?
- 4 A. Yes, and I'd like to expand on that. Our
- 5 belief is that our requirement under 251 is to
- 6 provided the CLECs with a meaningful opportunity to
- 7 compete, and that is measured by our standard
- 8 interval, which are performance indicator definitions
- 9 set forth and under which we are measured by our
- 10 performance. If we are asked to provide service more
- 11 quickly, that goes above and beyond what we are
- obligated to provide under 215.
- Q. Well, you've already told me that when you
- 14 use "premium service" in your testimony, you're
- 15 talking about providing service more quickly than is
- set forth in the standard interval, correct?
- 17 A. That's correct.
- Q. You're not using "premium service" here in
- 19 your testimony to mean "superior service," are you?
- 20 A. I don't understand your question.
- Q. Well, you used in your testimony at
- page 42, line 11, the phrase "premium service,"
- 23 right?
- A. Okay, yes.
- Q. And you've been talking to me about a

- decision regarding superior service, correct?
- 2 A. Okay, yes.
- 3 Q. And as I understand it, "premium service"
- 4 as used here in your testimony refers to providing
- 5 service more quickly than Qwest otherwise would
- 6 provide it under the standard interval?
- 7 A. That's correct.
- 8 Q. You're not using "premium service" to mean
- 9 "superior service." In your mind, they're different
- 10 things; isn't that right?
- 11 A. Yes, they could be used as different
- 12 terms.
- 13 O. Not only could they be used as different
- terms, but as you're using the phrase "premium"
- 15 service" in your testimony at page 42, lines 11 and
- 16 12, it is intended as something different than
- "superior service"; is that right?
- 18 A. In that sense. But I do believe that we
- 19 still consider expedites a superior service.
- 20 O. You're not saying that Owest -- that when
- 21 Qwest is providing service more quickly than the
- 22 standard interval, that that makes the expedite a
- 23 superior service, are you?
- 24 A. It is a superior service in that that is
- faster than we are obligated to provide it, and that

- our only obligation is to provide CLECs with parity,
- 2 and that we give expedites to them on the same terms
- and conditions that we give to our retail customers.
- 4 Q. And I'm not sure if you answered my
- 5 question. My question is: You are not relying on the
- fact that service is provided more quickly in an
- 7 expedite as the basis for your conclusion that an
- 8 expedite is a superior service, correct?
- 9 A. No. No. That's correct.
- 10 Q. In your rebuttal testimony -- do you
- 11 recall referring in your rebuttal testimony to the
- 12 fact that Eschelon can obtain high-capacity loops
- more quickly than a retail customer can obtain a
- retail analog private line, correct?
- 15 A. I recall that, yes.
- 16 Q. Now, you're not claiming, by virtue of
- 17 that faster provisioning, that a high-capacity loop
- isn't a UNE, correct?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 O. Owest sets the intervals for its retail
- 21 service; isn't that right?
- 22 A. I believe the intervals were set as a
- 23 result of our 271 process, so it wasn't so much that
- we set them as that they were agreed to.
- Q. Well, I'm focusing on the retail

- 1 intervals.
- A. Oh, on the retail?
- 3 O. Yes.
- 4 A. There I'm not sure.
- 5 Q. Qwest could shorten these intervals if
- 6 they chose to, correct?
- 7 A. I imagine so.
- 8 Q. Going to your rebuttal testimony at
- 9 page 44, and I'm looking at the standard that starts
- 10 at line 19 and goes through 21. I'm just confused if
- 11 there's a missing word or a missing parenthesis or
- 12 something.
- 13 A. Page 44?
- 14 Q. Yes, page 44, line 19. I'm looking at the
- 15 sentence that starts at line 19, Eschelon's proposed
- 16 expedite language.
- 17 A. I think that is a typographical error, and
- there probably should not be the parenthesis, "(only
- in Washington)." That is probably not supposed to be
- 20 there.
- 21 Q. So that phrase, parentheses, "(only in
- 22 Washington) " is just -- that's another correction
- 23 that should be made?
- 24 A. Let me read this again.
- 25 Q. Sure.

- 1 A. Yes, I believe that is in there.
- 2 Q. So how would be it corrected?
- 3 A. I would strike out from the parentheses
- 4 through the word "in Washington."
- 5 Q. Qwest does provide expedites for design
- 6 and non-design services to CLECs under the emergency
- 7 conditions in Washington, correct?
- 8 A. In Washington it does, yes.
- 9 Q. And that's the only state where Qwest is
- 10 doing that presently?
- 11 A. That's correct. That's because our tariff
- does not -- has not been updated to reflect the
- current process in Washington, so we offer both to
- 14 retail and wholesale customers the emergency
- 15 expedites.
- 16 O. Go to your rebuttal testimony at page 46,
- 17 line 21. You say there: "No CLECs requested
- 18 postponement of Qwest's proposed changes to the
- 19 expedite process, or sought dispute resolution
- 20 pursuant to the CMP document, or filed a complaint
- 21 against Qwest as a result of the changes implemented
- through the CMP."
- Do you see that?
- 24 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. And, in fact, Eschelon filed a complaint

- 1 against Qwest regarding those changes; did it not?
- 2 A. Actually, the complaint was for
- 3 disconnection of a customer. Eschelon ultimately
- 4 blamed the expedite process for that. But the
- 5 complaint was that we refused to expedite
- 6 reconnection.
- 7 Q. And the complaint alleged that changes
- 8 that Qwest had made through its CMP process were
- 9 contrary to the commitments that Qwest had made in
- 10 the ICA, correct?
- 11 A. That was one of the allegations, and we
- 12 disputed that finding.
- 13 O. And I understand you disputed it, but you
- 14 would agree with me that Eschelon, in fact, did file
- 15 a complaint in Arizona regarding changes that Owest
- made to the expedite process through CMP?
- 17 A. See, I wouldn't characterize it that way.
- 18 It wasn't a direct result of the CMP. It was the
- 19 result of being refused an expedite in Arizona.
- 20 O. And Owest's justification for refusing to
- 21 provide that expedite was that it had changed its
- process through CMP, correct?
- 23 A. No. Our justification was that Eschelon
- 24 had not signed an amendment giving it the ability to
- 25 request expedites.

- 1 Q. And the reason Qwest believed an amendment
- 2 was necessary was because Qwest made a change in the
- 3 CMP that required that amendment, correct?
- 4 A. That's correct.
- 5 Q. Going to your rebuttal testimony, at
- 6 page 48 you refer to the recommendation of the
- 7 Arizona Staff in the complaint document that we've
- 8 just been talking about; is that right?
- 9 A. In the complaint docket?
- 10 Q. Yes.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Now, in that docket, the Arizona Staff did
- 13 not accept Qwest's argument that expedites are a
- 14 superior service, did it?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 O. In that docket, the Arizona complaint
- 17 docket, the Arizona Staff recommended that the rates
- 18 for expedites be determined on a cost case, correct?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 O. The Staff didn't say that Owest should be
- 21 able to charge a retail rate for providing expedites
- or for CLECs, did it?
- 23 A. No.
- 24 O. The ALJ in Minnesota and the Minnesota
- Commission also rejected Qwest's claim that expedites

- 1 are a superior service, correct?
- 2 A. I believe that's correct.
- 3 O. And the ALJ recommended and the Minnesota
- 4 Commission ordered that the issue of the appropriate
- 5 rates for expedites be determined in a cost case?
- A. That's correct.
- 7 O. I want to talk with you now about
- 8 jeopardies, the issue of jeopardies. I'd like you to
- 9 refer to your surrebuttal testimony, which is Qwest
- 10 1-SR, page 5.
- 11 A. Okay.
- 12 Q. At line 21 of page 5 you say: "Eschelon
- wants this Commission to believe that Owest can
- maintain jeopardy notice requirements specific to
- 15 Eschelon, and allow the CMP to maintain separate
- jeopardy notice requirements for all other CLECs."
- 17 Correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Now, the Minnesota Commission has ordered
- that Eschelon-proposed language with regard to
- jeopardies be adopted, correct?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And Qwest has, in fact, already begun the
- 24 process of developing a separate system to implement
- the Minnesota Commission's order, correct?

- 1 A. Yes, which creates, as I believe I said in
- 2 my testimony, the greater potential for error.
- 3 Q. But regardless of what this Comission
- does, Qwest is going to need to implement and
- 5 maintain the two systems that you're talking about at
- 6 the bottom of page 5 of your testimony, correct?
- 7 A. Yes. We have to keep a separate process
- 8 just for Eschelon and opt-ins in Minnesota.
- 9 Q. In your testimony you refer to changes
- 10 made in CMP regarding the jeopardy process; is that
- 11 right?
- 12 A. I believe I do, yes.
- Q. And you were not involved in any of those
- 14 change requests, correct?
- 15 A. Not directly, no.
- 16 Q. And your testimony is based on documents
- that you reviewed and things that other Qwest
- 18 employees told you, correct?
- 19 A. Qwest employees who were directly
- involved, yes.
- 21 Q. And you were aware that Bonnie Johnson was
- involved on behalf of Eschelon as part of changes
- 23 made in CMP to the jeopardy process?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Go to your rebuttal testimony, Qwest 1R at

- 1 page 52.
- 2 A. Okay.
- 3 Q. I'm looking at the top of the page where
- 4 you say: "What did Eschelon ask for in its second
- 5 change request, PC-081403?" Do you see that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And then you go on to describe what
- 8 Eschelon asked for as: "Change the jeopardy
- 9 notification process to reduce unnecessary jeopardy
- 10 notices being sent to the CLEC when the due date is
- 11 not in jeopardy and to improve the overall jeopardy
- 12 process."
- Do you see that?
- 14 A. Yes, and that was what, ultimately,
- 15 Eschelon and Qwest agreed to implement in that second
- 16 change request.
- 17 Q. That was not what Eschelon asked Qwest to
- do in CMP, was it?
- 19 A. Not originally, no.
- 20 O. Go to -- actually I think it's
- 21 Exhibit 1R.2.
- A. I'm there.
- Q. Qwest Exhibit 1R.2 is documentation
- relating to the changes made in CMP to the jeopardy
- 25 process; is that right?

- 1 A. The second change request, yes, the change
- 2 request record.
- Q. Then if you go to the second page of 1R.2,
- 4 do you see at the bottom of the page there's a line
- 5 of stars?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And right underneath the line of stars you
- 8 see where it says: "Qwest will contact the CLEC to
- 9 test and accept only after the updated FOC has been
- 10 sent and a designated time frame has passed. Qwest
- 11 will not put the order in the CNR (Customer Not
- 12 Ready) jeopardy status until this time frame has
- passed and the CLEC is not ready."
- 14 Do you see that?
- 15 A. I see that.
- 16 O. That is what Eschelon asked for in the
- 17 second change request?
- 18 A. That was the original change request.
- 19 Qwest realized there were synergies between this
- 20 change request and prior one. In discussions in the
- 21 CMP with Eschelon, Qwest and Eschelon agreed to
- 22 change the change request to reflect the top portion,
- the portion above that line, and that is what was
- delivered as a result of the change request.
- Q. Eschelon's agreement was that Qwest could

- add additional material to the change request, but
- 2 that the initial request that Eschelon had made, the
- 3 one that we just read, needed to be retained as part
- 4 of the change request, correct?
- 5 A. Qwest agreed to retain the description of
- 6 the change request. Qwest did not agree to implement
- 7 the original change request. Qwest agreed to the
- 8 change implementation. If Qwest had agreed to the
- 9 original change request, the documentation changes
- 10 that Qwest produced as a result of the change request
- 11 would have reflected that deliverable. They did not.
- 12 Q. Qwest understood when Eschelon said you
- can add additional material to this CR, but you have
- 14 to keep what we initially asked for; that Eschelon
- 15 was not giving up on its request as we've just
- 16 described it, correct?
- 17 A. That is not Qwest's understanding, no.
- 18 MR. DEVANEY: I guess I'd object to the
- 19 question without a reference to what he's talking
- about.
- 21 THE COURT: I think she'd answered that
- it's not her understanding.
- Q. (By Mr. Merz) Well, let's look at the
- 24 first page of Owest Exhibit 1R.2. Under "Description
- of Change, you describe the additional synergies

- that you've been talking about; is that correct?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And underneath the line of stars on the
- 4 first page is language that Qwest authored, correct?
- 5 A. Correct, based on discussions with
- 6 Eschelon and the other CLECs in the CMP, yes.
- 7 Q. Go to your rebuttal testimony at page 59.
- 8 This is Qwest Exhibit 1R.
- 9 A. What page?
- 10 Q. Page 59.
- 11 A. Okay, I'm there.
- 12 Q. I'm looking at line 4 where you say:
- "Qwest's analysis of Eschelon's data on CNR
- 14 jeopardies contained in Exhibit 1R.9 and discussed in
- detail below represent a very small portion of the
- 16 number of orders that Qwest places with -- that
- 17 Eschelon places with Qwest, demonstrating that such
- 18 issues are rare."
- 19 Do you see that?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. What is it that you're saying is "rare"
- there?
- 23 A. The CNR jeopardy situation described by
- 24 Eschelon in that exhibit.
- Q. You understand that the exhibits that

- 1 you've referred to are intended to be examples. It's
- 2 not the complete and exhaustive list of situations
- 3 where the CNR jeopardy issue has arisen?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And so if those were examples, how could
- 6 you rely on that exhibit to form a conclusion that
- 7 that issue is rare?
- 8 A. If this addition -- if this issue were
- 9 more common, I would have expected more examples
- 10 along the lines of the other exhibit that it had
- 11 provided.
- 12 O. Go down a little bit further to line 13
- where you say: "Second, the data in Eschelon
- Exhibit 3.75, also discussed in more detail below,
- 15 demonstrate that Eschelon is not dependent on the FOC
- to install service, and that Eschelon is in
- 17 communication with Qwest, as more than 76 percent of
- 18 those orders were delivered by Qwest and accepted by
- 19 Eschelon on the original due date, even though
- 20 Eschelon did not receive an FOC."
- 21 Do you see that?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Now, another way to say this is 24 percent
- of the time, Eschelon, when Eschelon didn't receive
- an FOC following a Qwest jeopardy, Eschelon was not

- able to accept the service on the due date, correct?
- 2 A. Actually that's not correct, and I didn't
- 3 catch that the last time you asked me that question,
- 4 because, in fact, another 8 percent were delivered
- 5 before the original due date without an FOC.
- 6 Q. Before the original due date or before the
- 7 supplemented due date?
- 8 A. Before the original due date.
- 9 Q. And what's the purpose of telling Eschelon
- 10 what the due date will be?
- 11 A. To provide it with a due date.
- 12 Q. Why do you want to provide Eschelon with a
- due date? What's the purpose of that function?
- 14 A. So that they know when the service will be
- 15 delivered.
- 16 O. And the way you advise Eschelon of the due
- date is by providing an FOC, correct?
- 18 A. That is one way.
- 19 Q. So if Eschelon is expecting the service to
- 20 be delivered on Wednesday, and the service actually
- 21 gets delivered on Monday, wouldn't you regard that as
- 22 a problem?
- 23 A. I would think that's an advantage. You're
- 24 getting your service early.
- Q. And you're not expecting the service to

- 1 come, correct?
- 2 A. No, but if you can be there to accept
- 3 service, I would expect you would want it earlier.
- 4 Q. The customer isn't expecting the service
- 5 to come, correct?
- 6 A. No, but most customers like it when they
- 7 get their service early.
- 8 Q. So if we've got 76 percent of orders
- 9 accepted, even though there was no FOC, and 8 percent
- of orders that were accepted -- you're saying they
- 11 were accepted early?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. So that leaves us with 17 percent of the
- 14 time, when Eschelon didn't get an FOC, it wasn't able
- 15 to accept on the due date, correct?
- 16 A. Actually, in some of those cases service
- 17 was delivered after the original due date. In most
- of the other cases, that was what happened.
- 19 Q. Yes, and that was because Eschelon wasn't
- able to accept the service on the original due date
- 21 because it hadn't gotten an FOC?
- 22 A. I don't think that's clear, because what
- we're talking about are jeopardies, and it's more
- 24 likely that they were delivered late because the
- jeopardy was not resolved until later. But that is

- 1 not clear from the data.
- 2 Q. Go to your rebuttal testimony at page 60.
- 3 I'm looking at line 10 where you say: "Nothing in our
- 4 procedures states that a facility jeopardy notice
- 5 should be interpreted as a definite indicator that
- 6 that service will be delivered late."
- 7 A. That's correct.
- 8 Q. Go to Exhibit 1R.3.
- 9 A. Okay.
- 10 Q. First of all, what is 1R.3?
- 11 A. That is a CMP notification.
- 12 Q. Relating to what?
- 13 A. The CR we've been discussing, PCOA1403-1.
- 14 Q. So these were changes that Qwest had made
- 15 to the jeopardy process, correct?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Go to the second full paragraph under
- "Summary of Changes." Do you see that?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 O. Looking at the next-to-the-last sentence
- of that paragraph where it says: "If the column
- 22 contains 'yes' and Qwest is responsible for
- resolution of the jeopardy condition, you will be
- 24 advised of a new due date when the jeopardy condition
- 25 has been resolved." Do you see that?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Now, when it says: "If the column contains
- 3 'yes,'" what it's referring to is this is a jeopardy
- 4 due date, correct?
- 5 A. Well --
- 6 Q. I'm sorry, let me say that again. If the
- 7 column is checked "yes," this is a due date jeopardy,
- 8 correct?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And so there's a jeopardy notice that the
- 11 due date may not be met, correct?
- 12 A. That's right, it may not be met.
- 13 Q. And Qwest is responsible for resolution of
- 14 a jeopardy condition. If it's a Qwest facility's
- 15 jeopardy, Qwest is responsible for resolving that
- 16 jeopardy condition, correct?
- 17 A. Correct.
- 18 Q. And so if we have a due date jeopardy that
- is the result of a Qwest facility problem and
- 20 Eschelon hasn't been advised of the new due date, it
- 21 would be fair for Eschelon to conclude that the
- jeopardy condition has not been resolved, correct?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 O. Go to your surrebuttal, Owest 1-SR, at
- page 30. You have here a specific fact pattern

- 1 relating to a possible CNR jeopardy situation,
- 2 correct?
- 3 A. Yes. This is to illustrate the typical
- 4 CNR situation.
- 5 Q. This is one possible fact pattern that
- 6 might give rise to a CNR, customer not ready,
- 7 jeopardy, correct?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. Now, this fact pattern does not include
- 10 Qwest jeopardy as one of its assumptions?
- 11 A. No, it does not. The intent was to
- 12 illustrate a typical CNR situation.
- 13 Q. The jeopardy language that Eschelon has
- 14 proposed, and that is the subject of this
- 15 arbitration, applies when there is a Qwest jeopardy,
- 16 correct?
- 17 A. That's correct.
- 18 Q. And so the fact pattern here that you are
- 19 describing is not one to which Eschelon's proposed
- 20 language would apply, is it?
- 21 A. Not directly, no. The intent was to
- 22 illustrate a CNR situation.
- Q. Go to your rebuttal at page 1R at 62. I'm
- looking at line 18. You say there: "As the evidence
- demonstrates, in most instances this characterization

- of the cause of delay is unreasonable"; is that
- 2 right?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. What you're saying there is you believe
- 5 it's unreasonable to characterize Owest as the cause
- 6 of delay in the kind of situation to which Eschelon's
- 7 proposed jeopardy language would apply, correct?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Now, Qwest's language -- I'm sorry --
- 10 Eschelon's proposed language applies, as we
- discussed, where there's a Qwest-caused jeopardy,
- 12 correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And a Qwest-caused jeopardy is something
- that is Qwest's fault, right?
- 16 A. I'm not sure I would want to assign the
- 17 term "fault." It means that Qwest had encountered a
- 18 facility issue.
- 19 Q. And it's Qwest's responsibility to address
- 20 that problem?
- 21 A. That's correct.
- 22 Q. And under Qwest's process, as we've seen,
- once Qwest resolves the problem, it's supposed to
- 24 send an FOC with a new due date. That's Owest's
- 25 process?

- 1 A. That is Qwest's process.
- Q. And so if Qwest hasn't done that, it's
- acted in a manner contrary to its own process,
- 4 correct?
- 5 A. That's correct.
- 6 Q. And you would agree with me that the
- 7 failure of Qwest to send an FOC is something that's
- 8 Qwest's fault, correct?
- 9 A. I would simply say that Qwest failed to
- 10 follow its process.
- 11 Q. Well, it's certainly not Eschelon's fault
- that Qwest has failed to follow its process?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- 14 Q. And it's not Eschelon's fault that there
- 15 weren't adequate facilities available in the first
- 16 instance to deliver the service that Eschelon had
- 17 ordered?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. Now, you talk in your testimony in a
- 20 couple of places about communications between Owest
- 21 technicians and Eschelon technicians. Do you recall
- 22 that?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And the communications you're talking
- about relate to the delivery of service, correct?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. You would agree with me that there's no
- 3 provision in the PCAT that requires any particular
- 4 communication between Qwest technicians and Eschelon
- 5 technicians regarding service delivery issues?
- A. No, because the technicians are not part
- of the service delivery, they're in the network
- 8 organization.
- 9 Q. And so if those communications are going
- on, that's something that's not part of Qwest's
- 11 process as documented in the PCAT, correct?
- 12 A. Well, I would say it's part of Qwest's
- process and it's part of Eschelon's process as well.
- 14 The explicit communication requirement, no, that
- 15 would not be in the PCAT.
- 16 O. So if there were no communication between
- 17 Qwest technicians and Eschelon technicians, that
- 18 wouldn't be contrary to Qwest's process, would it?
- 19 A. Well, it would be hard to deliver design
- 20 services without that communication.
- 21 Q. And I'm talking now about communications
- 22 relating to when we're going to deliver. And it's my
- 23 understanding from your testimony that you believe
- that that kind of communication should suffice, for
- 25 Eschelon to be aware that Qwest is ready to deliver

- 1 service.
- 2 A. Well, clearly is has sufficed. Based on
- 3 the data we were just discussing, in 82 percent of
- 4 the cases they were able to make those delivery
- 5 connections by communicating without an FOC.
- 6 Q. And my point is that communication is not
- 7 required under the contract or Qwest's written
- 8 process or any other requirement that you can think
- 9 of, is it?
- 10 A. It's not in the contract. I believe it is
- 11 probably a part of our internal process, and I
- imagine it's part of yours as well.
- 13 O. It's not something that's documented that
- 14 Eschelon could point to and say: "Here's your
- 15 responsibility. Your technicians will talk to our
- 16 technicians, "instead of providing an example?
- 17 A. That would not be in the contract, no.
- 18 Q. The contract, the formal process
- 19 recognized by the contract and the parties is that
- 20 the FOC will be the notice of the due date?
- 21 A. That is the formal process.
- 22 MR. MERZ: I don't have anything further.
- 23 Thank you.
- THE COURT: Mr. Topp?

## REDIRECT EXAMINATION

2 BY MR. TOPP:

- Q. Why don't we stick with jeopardy since we
- 4 discussed that at length. First I wanted to talk
- 5 generally about the issue of the jeopardy dispute.
- 6 And one aspect of the dispute is whether we're going
- 7 to refer to the PCAT or have the jeopardy process
- 8 spelled out in the interconnection agreement; is that
- 9 correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 O. And then so the second issue is whether
- 12 Eschelon's proposal is consistent with Qwest's
- 13 current process?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. And then a third issue is if, in fact,
- 16 there are changes to Qwest's current process, is it a
- good idea to do that as part of this arbitration?
- 18 A. That's part of the issue as well, yes.
- 19 Q. Now, with respect to the second piece of
- this, there's been allegations made by Eschelon that
- 21 Qwest has agreed to provide an FOC the day before it
- 22 attempts to deliver service?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. Is that your understanding?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. First of all, if Qwest were to resolve a
- 2 jeopardy, a facilities issue on the date that
- 3 services was due, would it be possible for Qwest to
- 4 provide an FOC on the day before it delivers service?
- 5 A. No, that would be impossible to do,
- 6 because the jeopardy was resolved on the due date.
- 7 So it wouldn't be possible to provide the FOC at
- 8 least the day before, because Qwest cannot predict
- 9 when the jeopardy will be resolved.
- 10 Q. And it's the agreement of both Qwest and
- 11 Eschelon, is it not, that the parties are going to
- 12 endeavor to try and provide service on the due date?
- 13 A. That is everyone's goal, yes.
- 14 Q. And if you miss the due date, you're going
- 15 to attempt to provide service as soon as possible?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Now, if you could turn to Exhibit 1R.2
- 18 that Mr. Merz was discussing with you.
- 19 A. Yes. I'm there.
- 20 O. Okay. And I think there was some
- 21 discussions about the notes related to the March 4th
- 22 ad hoc meeting which is discussed on pages 6 and 7 of
- this document.
- A. I don't have page numbers.
- MR. MERZ: Your Honor, I didn't ask any

- 1 questions about the ad hoc meeting. I don't think
- 2 it's appropriate redirect. It's beyond the scope of
- 3 cross.
- 4 THE COURT: I don't recall any reference
- 5 to those pages, Mr. Topp. Was there some other
- 6 discussion?
- 7 MR. TOPP: There were some questions
- 8 regarding what the expected deliverable from Eschelon
- 9 was.
- 10 Q. (By Mr. Topp) Do you recall that,
- 11 Ms. Albersheim?
- 12 A. Yes, I do.
- 13 O. And the March 4th, 2004 minutes discuss
- that issue to some extent; do they not?
- 15 A. I believe they do.
- 16 O. And, in fact, Eschelon has relied on
- 17 language under the March 4th minutes stating that:
- 18 "Bonnie confirmed that the CLEC should always receive
- 19 the FOC before the due date."
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And then the statement that "Phyllis
- 22 agreed." Do you see where I'm referring?
- 23 A. Yes, I do.
- 24 O. Now, in order to fully understand the
- 25 resolution that was discussed on that date, you would

- 1 agree with me, would you not, that one should look at
- 2 the entire minutes from that meeting?
- 3 MR. MERZ: Again, Your Honor, I think this
- 4 is beyond the scope of cross.
- 5 THE COURT: Could you ask that again,
- 6 Mr. Topp? I'm not sure.
- 7 Q. (By Mr. Topp) In order to understand the
- 8 commitment that was made by Qwest, would you agree
- 9 that looking at the entire minutes from that meeting
- 10 would be appropriate?
- 11 THE COURT: I think -- you can go ahead.
- MR. MERZ: My question really didn't
- relate to Qwest's commitment, but rather what it was
- 14 that Eschelon had asked for. That was, I think, the
- only purpose that I had in talking about this
- 16 document.
- 17 MR. TOPP: They're attempting to create
- 18 the impression that Qwest agreed to a day before as a
- 19 part of this process. And Mr. Merz, when he talked
- about what they asked for, that's the specific
- 21 language that he is talking about. That is the
- language in between the stars on pages 2 and 3 of
- this document. And I'm asking Ms. Albersheim some
- 24 questions to put into context exactly how this
- 25 process worked out.

- 1 Now, if Eschelon is willing to stipulate
- 2 that Qwest never agreed to this day before proposal,
- 3 we'd been fine with that. But they have extensive
- 4 testimony and they've asked questions in this hearing
- 5 attempting to further that position.
- THE COURT: I'll allow the question.
- 7 MR. TOPP: Does --
- 8 THE WITNESS: Well, did you want me to
- 9 answer it?
- 10 MR. TOPP: I think you did, but . . .
- 11 THE COURT: Go ahead.
- 12 THE WITNESS: Because I don't think I got
- there, but I would say you would look at the entire
- minutes for that meeting, but also the other meetings
- in this change request.
- 16 O. (By Mr. Topp) And in the minutes for that
- 17 meeting, the next paragraph, which Eschelon has not
- 18 pointed out, what does that address?
- 19 A. It addresses how Qwest would approach
- 20 solving the issue raised by the change request. And
- 21 she's indicated there would be two phases. She
- 22 indicated they would ignore critical date jeopardies
- and concentrate on due date jeopardies. And I would
- like to point out that the final resolution involving
- 25 how this would be implemented was further discussed

- in the March 17th meeting in which it was described
- 2 how this change request would be implemented, and
- 3 that is what resulted in the subsequent description
- 4 of the change requests and the new, if you will,
- 5 deliverables and what were provided by Qwest as a
- 6 result of this change request.
- 7 Q. Now, let's focus on the March 4th meeting
- 8 first, and then we'll get to March 17th. March 4th,
- 9 is it not correct that Ms. Martain -- and that's who
- 10 "Jill" refers to; is it not?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And that's Qwest representative, a Qwest
- 13 representative involved in these discussions; is it
- 14 not?
- 15 A. Yes, she was.
- 16 O. And she says: "We'd like to implement this
- 17 process and monitor the impact and see if this
- 18 reduces the number of issues." Correct?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. Then on the March 17th CMP meeting notes,
- which began on the page before.
- 22 A. Page 5?
- Q. Yes. That describes the agreement that
- was reached regarding the CMP request; does it not?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And that describes some things that will
- 2 happen within 72 hours of the initial jeopardy
- 3 notification?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. It does not provide that the CLECs will
- 6 receive an FOC at least a day before Qwest attempts
- 7 to provide service?
- A. That's correct.
- 9 Q. And then the agreement was put out to CLEC
- 10 for comment; was it not? The agreement was
- 11 documented?
- 12 A. It was -- the results of the change
- 13 request were documented and put out for CLECs to
- 14 comment on in the form of a redlined PCAT.
- Q. And the notice announcing those changes is
- 16 attached to your testimony as Exhibit 1R.3?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And if you'd turn to that exhibit.
- 19 A. Okay.
- 20 O. That exhibit provides a description of the
- 21 changes that are, in fact, being made?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And again, the exhibit describes that
- resolution usually occurs within 72 hours?
- 25 A. The resolution of the jeopardy, yes.

- 1 Q. And that's within 72 hours after the
- 2 jeopardy condition has been identified or noticed?
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 Q. Now, there was a comment cycle on these
- 5 proposed modifications?
- A. That's correct.
- 7 O. Did Eschelon submit any comments?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 Q. And did they object?
- 10 A. No.
- 11 Q. Were the changes announced in this exhibit
- 12 ultimately the changes that were, in fact, made to
- 13 Qwest's PCAT?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Now, when Mr. Merz asked you some
- 16 questions about delivery of the FOC, there seemed to
- 17 be a general effort to portray it as unfair to
- 18 Eschelon to expect that they might receive the
- 19 service in the absence of an FOC. Do you agree with
- 20 that?
- 21 A. That's how it sounds, yes.
- 22 Q. Do you agree that that is an unfair burden
- to place on Eschelon?
- A. No, I don't, because we have
- communications other than the FOC, and it's

- everyone's desire to deliver service on the due date,
- or before the due date, but on the due date
- 3 certainly. That is our obligation and what we try
- 4 and do.
- 5 Q. And typically, when service is being
- 6 provided, do the technicians work with each other
- 7 between the companies?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And are there communications associated
- 10 with attempting to provide service?
- 11 A. Yes. There are e-mails and telephone
- 12 calls.
- 13 O. Let me turn to the issue of CMP in
- 14 general. You were asked some questions at the
- 15 beginning of cross-examination, or direct -- I quess
- 16 cross-examination by Mr. Merz. Mr. Merz asked you
- 17 some questions on a number of occasions about your
- 18 participation in CMP. How did you come by the
- 19 information that you have regarding what has taken
- 20 place?
- 21 A. Well, I have the CMP record, which is
- 22 public and available to the CLECs and to anyone else
- who wants to know when has happened with certain
- 24 change requests. But I also have direct
- communication with the CMP team on a regular basis

- and with people who implement change requests that
- are processed through the CMP.
- 3 Q. Now, with respect to -- you were also
- 4 asked a bunch of questions regarding dispute
- 5 resolution provisions and that sort of thing. Would
- 6 you suggest that the Utah Commission rely upon your
- 7 recollection of those dispute resolution provisions,
- 8 or are they documented somewhere so that that can be
- 9 verified?
- 10 A. I would suggest relying on the CMP
- document itself, which is attached to my testimony
- 12 and to Ms. Johnson's testimony.
- 13 O. I'd like to turn to the issue of
- 14 intervals. Now, intervals currently are controlled
- or altered through a CMP process; is that correct?
- 16 A. That's correct.
- 17 Q. Have there been any concerns or problems
- 18 that you're aware of associated with interval
- 19 changes?
- A. Through the CMP?
- Q. Correct.
- 22 A. No.
- Q. Now, Eschelon has asked you some questions
- about an advice adoption letter proposal that they
- 25 have made. Is that the only proposal that Eschelon

- 1 has, in fact, made with respect to interval issues?
- 2 A. I'm not sure I follow you.
- 3 Q. They have different options for their
- 4 proposed language on these issues?
- 5 A. Well, yes. One involves only requiring
- 6 the advice adoption letter if an interval is
- 7 increased.
- 8 Q. And the other requires modification of the
- 9 contract; does it not?
- 10 A. Well, they both do. The advice adoption
- 11 letter is essentially an amendment to the contract.
- 12 And what they're doing is inserting contract
- processing in the middle of the CMP. And it's not
- just a matter of signing a document.
- 15 You have to, first of all, if this is
- 16 required, we're going to have to review our contract
- 17 when any interval change comes up, contact the CLECs
- 18 to ask for this amendment, advice adoption letter,
- 19 get their consent to sign the advice adoption letter,
- 20 agreeing on the terms, because just taking the letter
- 21 doesn't mean that that's what the terms will be.
- 22 CLECs may request changes, so that involves a
- 23 negotiation cycle.
- If we come to terms, then it must be
- 25 submitted to the Commission and approved by the

- 1 Commission. All of that becomes a new part of the
- 2 process inserted into the CMP.
- 3 O. Absent either of Eschelon's proposals, how
- 4 would modifications to intervals occur?
- 5 A. Using the change request process in the
- 6 CMP.
- 7 Q. Now, you were asked some questions about
- 8 exhibits to the contract that have been agreed upon
- 9 in Utah, and I believe they're Exhibits L and M,
- 10 which are advice adoption letters for new products.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. What's the difference, from Qwest's
- perspective, of CLECs opting into a new product that
- 14 Qwest has offered, as opposed to an altering of
- 15 intervals?
- 16 A. Well, part of the difference is what Owest
- 17 has to do to implement that change. If a CLEC wants
- 18 to take advantage of a new product, and as I've
- 19 stated in my prior responses, no one has used this
- 20 process, but that would involve changes in our
- 21 systems that would allow them to order the process,
- that simply is a tabled update that lets them place
- 23 the order at that point.
- 24 What this involves is whether or not we
- 25 must change our provision intervals, and if we have a

- 1 process where Eschelon could refuse to sign the
- advice adoption letter, we have the option of a
- 3 shorter interval for Eschelon and a longer one for
- 4 other CLECs, or vice-versa, we don't have a
- 5 synchronous process for our intervals. And it's not
- 6 realistic to try and offer a product at different
- 7 intervals to different CLECs.
- 8 Q. And it's also possible that other CLECs
- 9 might opt into the --
- 10 A. Yes, and then that complicates the process
- 11 more for us, because we then have the CLECs with one
- interval and then the CLECs with another.
- 13 Q. And is it your understanding that even if
- there is an objection to a change to an agreement,
- are there still challenges in trying to alter the
- 16 contract to reflect those changes?
- 17 A. You're speaking of the advice adoption
- 18 letter?
- 19 O. In either circumstance.
- 20 A. Well, there's an assumption that Eschelon
- 21 will simply sign the advice adoption letter and
- that's the end of it. But they might want to
- 23 negotiate further terms. It becomes a contract
- amendment, and they don't necessarily have to be
- 25 accepted on their face. We are required to

- 1 negotiate. That increases the complexity of the
- 2 circumstance.
- 3 Q. And would that complexity be further
- 4 increased if you have other CLECs in that mix?
- 5 A. Absolutely.
- 6 Q. I want to turn briefly to expedites. You
- 7 were asked some questions about expedites. Is it
- 8 your view that expedites constitute a superior
- 9 service?
- 10 A. It is my view that they do, yes.
- 11 Q. And have, in fact, State commissions
- 12 concluded that expedites constitute superior service?
- 13 A. Yes. The Florida and Kentucky Commissions
- 14 have ruled that way.
- 15 Q. In determining whether, in fact, an
- 16 expedite is a superior service or not, what, in your
- 17 view, do you compare it to?
- 18 A. To what we are obligated to provide under
- 19 251, and that is our standard balance interval, is
- what we're obligated to provide. That's what we're
- 21 measured on. And on the basis of our standard
- 22 interval, we have been deemed as providing CLECs with
- a meaningful opportunity to compete.
- 24 O. And where have we been deemed, or where
- has Qwest been deemed, to have met that requirement?

- 1 A. By the FCC in all 14 states, and by the
- 2 State Commission approving our application for 271.
- MR. TOPP: That concludes my questions.
- 4 THE COURT: Any recross, Mr. Merz?
- 5 MR. MERZ: Just very briefly, Your Honor.
- 6 RECROSS-EXAMINATION
- 7 BY MR. MERZ:
- 8 Q. You were asked some questions by Mr. Topp
- 9 regarding advice adoption letters. You are aware
- 10 that that process is not part of Eschelon's current
- 11 ICA with Qwest, correct?
- 12 A. I believe that's correct.
- 13 Q. And so that wasn't a process that
- 14 historically Eschelon had available to it, did it?
- 15 A. I don't believe so.
- 16 O. So there's not, right now, any indication
- 17 that Eschelon does not intend to use that advice
- 18 adoption process, correct?
- 19 A. No, nor is there that it will.
- 20 O. You were discussing with Mr. Topp concerns
- 21 that under Eschelon's proposal relating to intervals,
- 22 you would -- may be a situation where you're involved
- in negotiations regarding those intervals; is that
- 24 right?
- 25 A. That potential exists through Eschelon's

- 1 proposal.
- 2 Q. So in your mind, an advantage of CMP is
- 3 that it avoids the need to have to negotiate with
- 4 Eschelon; is that right?
- 5 A. No. Actually, what it does is provides a
- forum for all CLECs to have input on the proposed
- 7 change, and therefore we react consistently. Either
- 8 the change happens or it doesn't, based on the
- 9 feedback we've received from all CLECs, not just
- 10 Eschelon.
- 11 O. If intervals are addressed only in the CMP
- and not in Eschelon's contract, then Qwest would be
- relieved of the obligation to negotiate with Eschelon
- 14 regarding changes to intervals; is that correct?
- 15 A. That's true.
- 16 MR. MERZ: I don't have anything further.
- 17 Thank you, Your Honor.
- THE COURT: Mr. Topp?
- 19 MR. TOPP: I just have one or two.
- 20 FURTHER REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 21 BY MR. TOPP:
- 22 Q. When Mr. Merz asked you about Qwest being
- relieved of the obligation to negotiate, were you
- 24 referring to the obligation to negotiate a contract
- amendment under section 251?

- 1 A. Well, I was referring to the specific use
- of the advice adoption letter. We're always
- 3 obligated to negotiate. If we need to make a change
- 4 to a contract, we're obligated to negotiate a change
- 5 to the contract. But I was answering the question
- 6 with regard to using the advice adoption letter in
- 7 the situation where a request has been made to change
- 8 an interval.
- 9 Q. Let's assume that the advice adoption
- 10 letter is not in effect, and instead, CMP, as Qwest
- 11 has suggested, controls intervals, which is, I think,
- 12 what Mr. Merz's question was addressing. In that
- 13 circumstance, would there be discussions back and
- 14 forth with CLECs regarding interval changes?
- 15 A. Yes, absolutely.
- 16 Q. And are there dispute resolution
- 17 mechanisms available if a CLEC is unhappy with the
- 18 outcome of the process?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 O. And has that process successfully dealt
- 21 with intervals up to this point?
- 22 A. Yes, it has. As I noted in my testimony,
- we have not implemented all interval change requests
- that we have proposed. As a result, the feedback
- 25 from CLECs.

1 MR. TOPP: No further questions. 2 THE COURT: Mr. Merz? 3 MR. MERZ: Nothing further, Your Honor. 4 THE COURT: You can go ahead and step down. We'll take a five-minute break. 5 6 (Recess) 7 THE COURT: Let's go back on the record. Mr. Topp. 8 9 MR. TOPP: Thank you, Your Honor. 10 Qwest next would offer the testimony of Mr. William R. Easton. Pursuant to discussions prior 11 12 to this hearing, we have not brought Mr. Easton with us to this hearing, but we have provided the Court 13 with an affidavit indicating that he stands by his 14 15 testimony, and we have offered -- or at this point 16 we'd offer and ask that it be accepted into evidence, Exhibit Qwest 2 with associated Exhibit Qwest 2R, 17 which contains a confidential as well as a public 18 version, and Qwest 2SR. 19 THE COURT: We've got 2R, and that 20 21 contains confidential 2R.1 and 2R.2; is that correct? 22 MR. TOPP: That is correct. And I note, 23 at least on the exhibit list that I have, that those

exhibits are not reflected. So we'll modify and

provide a corrected version of that.

24

- 1 THE COURT: Thank you.
- 2 Any objection to the admission of
- 3 Mr. Easton's testimony as so marked?
- 4 MR. MERZ: No objection, Your Honor.
- 5 THE COURT: All right, it's admitted.
- 6 Mr. Topp?
- 7 MR. TOPP: Your Honor, at this point I'll
- 8 turn it over to Mr. Devaney.
- 9 MR. DEVANEY: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 10 Qwest at this point would call Ms. Teresa Million to
- 11 the stand. She's already there.
- 12 THE COURT: Ms. Million, would you please
- 13 stand and raise your right hand, I'll swear you in.
- 14 (The witness was sworn.)
- Thank you, please be seated.
- Mr. Devaney?
- 17 MR. DEVANEY: Thank you.
- 18 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 19 BY MR. DEVANEY:
- 20 Q. Good morning, Ms. Million.
- 21 A. Good morning, Mr. Devaney.
- 22 O. You have filed direct rebuttal and
- 23 surrebuttal testimony; is that correct?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. And for the record, your direct has been

- 1 marked as Qwest Exhibit 4. It's dated June 29th,
- 2 2007. Your rebuttal has been marked as Owest
- 3 Exhibit 4R, and there are two exhibits accompanying
- 4 Exhibit 4R. They are 4R.1, 4R.2, neither of which is
- 5 confidential; is that correct?
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 O. And then finally, you have Owest
- 8 Exhibit 4SR, which is your surrebuttal testimony
- 9 dated August 10, 2007. None of the testimony you
- 10 provided is confidential, I believe; is that correct?
- 11 A. That's correct.
- 12 Q. Do you have any changes to any of your
- 13 testimony?
- 14 A. I do not. I will just note that with
- 15 respect to the exhibit, I only refer to that as one
- exhibit in my testimony, and it has two parts. It
- 17 has an executive summary and then the attached cost
- 18 study that's in Excel format. And I think we've
- 19 listed them here as two separate exhibits. In my
- 20 testimony I only reference those as one
- 21 all-encompassing exhibit.
- 22 Q. And you're referring specifically to the
- 23 attachment to your rebuttal testimony?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. Are the answers that you provided to the

- 1 questions in all three pieces of your testimony true
- and correct, to the best of your knowledge?
- 3 A. Yes, they are.
- 4 MR. DEVANEY: Thank you.
- 5 Your Honor, at this point we'd ask for
- 6 admission of Exhibits 4, 4R, 4R.1, 4R.2, 4SR.
- 7 THE COURT: And just for clarification
- 8 sake, I've got 4R.1. I just want to -- I'm not
- 9 seeing where anything is marked on my copies as 4R.2.
- 10 Is that the spreadsheet, Ms. Million? Is that what
- 11 you're referring to?
- 12 THE WITNESS: And that's what I was saying
- just now, Your Honor.
- 14 THE COURT: That your testimony is marked?
- 15 THE WITNESS: That my testimony is only
- marked as 4R.1, and it includes both the Word
- document and the attending Excel spreadsheet.
- 18 THE COURT: And Mr. Devaney, when you
- refer to 4R.2, you're calling that the actual
- 20 spreadsheet, then; is that correct?
- MR. DEVANEY: Your Honor, I just was
- 22 handed a corrected exhibit list. I apologize.
- There's only been one exhibit, Exhibit 4R.1. So let
- 24 me just go back through that again. So the rebuttal
- 25 testimony is 4R, and the single exhibit attached to

- 1 it is 4R.1. There is no 4R.2.
- 2 THE COURT: Great. Thank you for that.
- MR. DEVANEY: My apologies.
- 4 THE COURT: No problem. Any objection to
- 5 the admission of this testimony?
- 6 MR. MERZ: No objection, Your Honor.
- 7 THE COURT: All right. It will be
- 8 admitted.
- 9 MR. DEVANEY: Ms. Million is available for
- 10 cross.
- 11 THE COURT: Mr. Merz?
- MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 13 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 14 BY MR. MERZ:
- Q. Good morning, Ms. Million.
- 16 A. Good morning, Mr. Merz.
- 17 Q. You are trained as a lawyer; is that
- 18 right?
- 19 A. That's correct.
- 21 A. No, I'm not.
- 22 Q. Your job at Qwest is to be a cost witness,
- 23 correct?
- A. Well, in the public policy organization I
- am a cost witness. I'm involved in the preparation

- 1 of the cost studies.
- 2 Q. And in your testimony you describe your
- job as that of a cost witness, correct?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. That has been your job for eight years at
- 6 Qwest?
- 7 A. That's correct.
- 8 Q. I want to talk with you now about design
- 9 changes. Qwest acknowledges that Eschelon is
- 10 entitled to design changes at a cost-based rate,
- 11 correct?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Between approximately 1999 until October
- of 2005, Qwest did not assess a separate charge for
- loop design changes or CFA changes, did it?
- 16 A. That's correct.
- 17 Q. It did assess a separate charge for design
- 18 changes to unbundled dedicated interoffice transport,
- 19 sometimes referred to as UDIT, U-D-I-T, correct?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. Qwest takes the position that the rate
- that has been established for design changes that it
- 23 has been charging for UDIT design changes should
- 24 apply to loops and CFA changes as well; is that
- 25 right?

- 1 A. Qwest takes the position that the costs
- 2 that it submitted and that were approved by this
- 3 Commission contemplated that design changes applied
- 4 not only to transport services, but to loop services,
- 5 CFA changes, and in a variety of circumstances and to
- 6 a variety of products, and that that is evidenced in
- 7 the executive summary that I've attached as
- 8 Exhibit 4R.1 to my testimony.
- 9 And that it's been Qwest's position all
- 10 along, that those costs are included in the rate that
- was established, regardless of whether Owest actually
- 12 charged for it in every circumstance that it could
- have since the time that rate was established.
- 14 Q. Eschelon has proposed a specific interim
- 15 rate for CFA changes, correct?
- 16 A. Yes, they have. And it's my position that
- 17 those interim rates aren't necessary, because there's
- 18 already an approved rate on record that includes the
- 19 costs incurred for all different types of design
- 20 changes.
- 21 Q. And I think it's likely we'll get through
- this a little quicker if you'll answer my questions.
- Obviously, Mr. Devaney will have a chance to further
- question you about your position, so if you'll just
- 25 stick to my questions, I'll appreciate that, if you'd

- 1 try to do that.
- 2 A. Certainly.
- 3 Q. Eschelon has also proposed a specific
- 4 interim rate for design changes to loops; is that
- 5 correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Now, to refer to your surrebuttal
- 8 testimony, Qwest Exhibit 4SR, and I'm looking at
- 9 page 19. Specifically at line 5, you say:
- 10 "Particularly in an increasingly competitive
- 11 marketplace, it would be inappropriate to micromanage
- 12 Qwest's product offerings by requiring Qwest to
- provide costs and processes to address every possible
- 14 way of provisioning all available products."
- 15 Correct?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Now, you would agree with me that with
- 18 respect to design changes, that's something for which
- 19 Eschelon does not have a competitive alternative,
- 20 does it?
- 21 A. If you're asking can Eschelon receive a
- design change to a product that it's purchasing from
- 23 Qwest from another provider, the answer is no. All
- 24 I'm doing in this paragraph is suggesting that
- 25 micromanaging the way that a company provides its

- 1 products isn't appropriate when the marketplace in
- 2 general is becoming competitive.
- 3 Q. And I think you answered my question, but
- 4 if Eschelon needs a design change for a UNE that it's
- 5 getting from Qwest, Qwest is the only entity that can
- 6 provide that design change, correct?
- 7 A. That's correct.
- 8 Q. Now, historically, Qwest did distinguish
- 9 in its pricing which were UDIT design changes and
- 10 design changes for loops and CFAs, correct?
- 11 A. No, it did not.
- 12 Q. Well, I think you told me that until
- October of 2005, Qwest didn't charge for loop design
- 14 changes or design changes -- for CFA changes,
- 15 correct?
- 16 A. Not charging and distinguishing between
- 17 pricing is two different things, in my opinion.
- 18 Q. The fact was that Qwest charged for design
- 19 changes for UDITs and didn't charge for design
- 20 changes for loops and CFAs prior to October of 2005?
- 21 A. Correct, and as my testimony states, there
- are any number of reasons that can account for the
- 23 fact that Qwest might have an approved rate for
- something and not be charging for that.
- Q. If you would go to your surrebuttal

- 1 testimony at page 5.
- 2 A. I have that.
- 3 Q. Actually, I think I'm looking at your
- 4 rebuttal testimony rather than surrebuttal testimony
- 5 at page 5. At line 10, you say that: "Mr. Denney
- 6 fails to recognize that the necessary conclusion of
- 7 his argument is that Eschelon has benefitted by
- 8 paying a rate for UDIT design changes that is less
- 9 than a fully-compensatory stand-alone rate would be."
- 10 Do you see that?
- 11 A. Yes, I do.
- 12 Q. Now, Mr. Denney's argument is that the
- rate that was established for UDIT design changes is
- 14 not an average rate, correct?
- 15 A. That's Mr. Denney's argument. My argument
- is that it is a rate that encompasses all the
- 17 different types of products, so that's the basis for
- 18 that statement.
- 19 Q. But you say: "Mr. Denney fails to
- 20 recognize that the necessary conclusion of his
- 21 argument is that Eschelon has benefitted by paying a
- 22 UDIT design change rate that is less than the
- fully-compensatory stand-alone rate." That's not
- Mr. Denney's argument, is it?
- A. Well, Mr. Denney argues that the UDIT rate

- is higher, and my point is that the UDIT rate --
- 2 first of all, I disagree with him that the UDIT rate
- 3 is higher, but if that were the case, and it's clear
- 4 from the cost study that was approved in the cost
- 5 docket that it's an average rate, then if you buy
- 6 Mr. Denney's argument that a UDIT process is more
- 7 expensive and costs more, then his conclusion that
- 8 they've only been paid for UDITs and not for loops
- 9 and CFAs leads you to understand, then, that the UDIT
- on a stand-alone basis should be higher, and that's
- 11 not the case.
- I go on further to explain that there's
- very little difference in the cost, and that the rate
- 14 that was calculated and approved by this Commission
- is an average rate.
- 16 O. And again, you're going quite a ways
- beyond my question. My question really meant to
- 18 focus on this sentence on line 10, page 5 of your
- 19 rebuttal testimony regarding the "necessary
- 20 conclusion of Mr. Denney's argument." And my
- 21 question is: If Mr. Denney's argument is that the
- 22 design change rate is not an average rate, then the
- necessary conclusion that you're describing here,
- that's not the necessary conclusion of his argument,
- is it? It's the necessary conclusion of your

- 1 argument; isn't that right?
- 2 MR. TOPP: Your Honor, it's been asked and
- 3 answered.
- 4 MR. MERZ: It's been asked, but it hasn't
- 5 been answered.
- MR. TOPP: I disagree.
- 7 THE COURT: Go ahead and answer, Ms.
- 8 Million.
- 9 A. Well, again, that assumes that Mr. Denney
- 10 -- Mr. Denney talks about it being only based on
- 11 UDIT, and UDIT is transport. And I've been very
- 12 clear that the rate applies to more than transport,
- and user premises are not involved in transport.
- 14 Q. (By Mr. Merz) I don't mean to necessarily
- 15 be getting into that issue. My only issue is your
- 16 characterization of the "necessary conclusion of Mr.
- 17 Denney's argument." What I would suggest to you is
- 18 that the characterization is, in fact, the necessary
- 19 conclusion of your argument, if it is, in fact, the
- 20 case that the design change rate is an average rate.
- 21 Isn't it true?
- 22 A. I disagree with you. I think that
- Mr. Denney's conclusion that the rate is based on
- UDIT only is wrong, and so then his conclusion that
- it's based on UDIT is wrong, and because of that, if

- they're only paying for UDIT and not design changes
- for loops and CFAs, then based on his argument, that
- 3 UDIT by itself is more expensive than the other two
- 4 alternatives, which again, I argue, are not, that
- 5 somehow UDIT would be more expensive on a stand-alone
- 6 basis. And that's not the case. I explain that it's
- 7 not.
- 8 Q. But Mr. Denney isn't saying that the UDIT
- 9 design change rate is less than the fully
- 10 compensatory stand-alone rate, is he?
- 11 A. By failing to recognize that there are
- both CFA changes and loop changes included in that
- 13 average rate, I believe so.
- 14 Q. If there aren't CFA changes and loop
- 15 changes included in the design change rate, then the
- 16 design change rate is fully compensatory as to the
- design changes for UDIT, correct?
- 18 A. That would be correct if it were true, but
- 19 it's not true.
- 20 O. And I understand you're quarreling with
- 21 the hypothetical. But it is the case that if the
- 22 UDIT -- if the design change rate that's been
- approved is not an average rate, then that rate fully
- 24 compensates Owest for UDIT design changes, correct?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And that's Mr. Denney's position, correct?
- 2 A. His position is that it's only based on
- 3 UDITs, and I've provided the evidence that shows that
- 4 that's not true.
- 5 MR. MERZ: I have just one exhibit that
- 6 I'm going to mark, Your Honor.
- 7 THE COURT: All right.
- 8 Q. (By Mr. Merz) Ms. Million, you have in
- 9 front of you there what's marked as Eschelon Cross 1;
- 10 is that right?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And you recognize this as the Exhibit A,
- the price list for Qwest's Utah SGAT; is that right?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And you see here -- well, tell me, does
- 16 this document reflect the design change rate you've
- 17 been talking about?
- 18 A. Yes, it does. It's listed at 9.20.13
- 19 under "Miscellaneous Charges."
- 20 MR. MERZ: Your Honor, Eschelon offers
- 21 Eschelon Cross Exhibit 1.
- 22 THE COURT: Any objection?
- MR. DEVANEY: No objection.
- 24 THE COURT: All right, we'll admit it.
- Q. (By Mr. Merz) I want to shift gears now

- and talk to you a little bit about superior service.
- 2 One of the things that you say in your testimony is
- 3 that the standard interval for a DS1 private line
- 4 retail customer is nine days, while the standard
- 5 interval or a DS1 loop is five days; is that correct?
- A. Yes, that's correct.
- 7 Q. Now, you would not contend, based on that
- 8 difference in interval, that the DS1 loop represents
- 9 a superior service, would you?
- 10 A. The DS1 loop itself is not a superior
- 11 service, no.
- 12 Q. Now, what is your understanding of how the
- retail interval for a DS1 private line was set?
- 14 A. I don't have any understanding of that.
- 15 Q. Do you know whether Qwest could change
- 16 that interval if it wanted to?
- 17 A. I do not.
- 18 Q. In your surrebuttal testimony, Qwest 4SR,
- 19 page 23, you refer to a decision by the Florida
- 20 Commission; is that right?
- 21 A. What page was that, please?
- 22 Q. Page 23 of your surrebuttal.
- 23 A. Yes, I have that.
- 24 O. And so you're referring to a decision by
- 25 the Florida Commission; is that right?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And the specific issue on which you are
- 3 citing the Florida Commission concerns whether
- 4 expedites are a superior service; is that right?
- A. Yes, that's correct.
- 6 Q. Now, you're aware that that particular
- 7 issue has already been addressed by the Minnesota
- 8 Commission in arbitration proceedings between
- 9 Eschelon and Qwest; is that right?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 O. And you're aware that the Minnesota
- 12 Commission has rejected Qwest's argument that an
- 13 expedite is a superior service, correct?
- 14 A. Yes, I'm aware of that.
- 15 O. You're also aware that the Minnesota
- 16 Commission ordered a \$100-per-order interim rate for
- 17 expedites, correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. That was the rate proposed by Eschelon?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 O. The Minnesota Commission also ordered that
- 22 a permanent rate for expedites be established in a
- 23 cost docket; is that right?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. And Qwest, in fact, filed a cost study in

- 1 the Minnesota cost docket with respect to expedites;
- 2 is that right?
- A. Yes, that's correct.
- 4 Q. You're aware as well -- we were just there
- 5 a couple weeks ago -- that the Arizona Commission
- 6 Staff has also rejected Qwest's position that
- 7 expedites represent a superior service?
- 8 A. The Staff argued that the Commission
- 9 hadn't decided that point, yes.
- 10 Q. And I'm speaking about the Commission
- 11 Staff. You're aware that that's their conclusion,
- 12 correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. And you're also aware that the Arizona
- 15 Commission Staff recommended that the rate be
- 16 established for expedites in a cost docket, right?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 MR. MERZ: Nothing further. Thank you.
- THE COURT: Mr. Devaney?
- 20 MR. DEVANEY: No redirect, thank you.
- 21 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Million.
- Owest's next witness.
- 23 MR. DEVANEY: Call Ms. Karen Stewart.
- 24 THE COURT: Ms. Stewart, if you'll raise
- your right hand, I'll go ahead and swear you in.

- 1 (The witness was sworn.)
- 2 Please be seated.
- 3 Mr. Devaney?
- 4 MR. DEVANEY: Thank you.
- 5 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 6 BY MR. DEVANEY:
- 7 Q. Good morning, Ms. Stewart.
- 8 A. Good morning.
- 9 Q. You have filed three pieces of testimony
- 10 also. Your direct has been marked as exhibit --
- 11 Qwest Exhibit 3, and attached to it is Qwest
- 12 Exhibit 3.1. Your rebuttal has been marked as Qwest
- Exhibit 3R, and attached to it three exhibits, 3R.1,
- 14 3R.2, 3R.3. Finally your surrebuttal has been marked
- 15 as Qwest Exhibit 3SR. Let me ask you first, do you
- have any corrections to any of your testimony?
- 17 A. No, I do not.
- 18 Q. And are the answers you've provided in
- 19 your testimony true and correct, to the best of your
- 20 knowledge?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 MR. DEVANEY: Thank you. Your Honor, we'd
- ask for the admission of each of Ms. Stewart's
- 24 exhibits, that is Exhibits 3, 3.1, 3R, 3R.1, 3R.2,
- 25 3R.2, 3R.2 and 3SR.

- 1 THE COURT: Any objection to their
- 2 admission as marked?
- MR. MERZ: No objection, Your Honor.
- 4 THE COURT: We'll admit them.
- 5 MR. DEVANEY: Thank you. Ms. Stewart is
- 6 available for cross-examination.
- 7 THE COURT: Mr. Merz?
- 8 MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 9 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 10 BY MR. MERZ:
- 11 Q. Ms. Stewart, we'll begin by talking first
- about access to UNEs, which is issue 931. I'd like
- 13 you to refer to your rebuttal testimony, which is
- 14 Qwest 3R, and I'm looking at page 14. Specifically
- 15 I'm referring to line 18 on page 14 where you say:
- 16 "Eschelon's language implies that access to or use of
- 17 a UNE entitles it to moves, adds and changes at no
- 18 additional charge." Do you see that testimony?
- 19 A. Yes, I do.
- 20 O. Now, you would agree with me that
- 21 Eschelon's proposed language relating to issue 931
- does not say what would be charged for access to
- 23 UNEs, it only defines what that phrase means?
- A. My conclusion came from the hearing, which
- 25 hearing exhibits have been attached to my testimony,

- 1 that the interpretation of Mr. Denney was that it
- 2 could include all the adds, moves and changes.
- 3 Q. And my question is just focusing on
- 4 Eschelon's proposed language. And you would agree
- 5 with me that that language does not say what would be
- 6 charged for access to UNEs, it only defines what that
- 7 phrase means; is that right?
- 8 A. Yes, except for the term "access" implies
- 9 the recurring portion. When you access a UNE, you
- 10 pay a recurring charge to use that UNE. And so,
- therefore, that was our concern with the word
- 12 "access," is that it implies that the use of the UNE
- would result in you being able to do adds, moves and
- 14 changes at no additional charge.
- 15 Q. Let me ask you this: I mean, installation
- of a loop, in order for Eschelon to access a loop, it
- has to be installed, correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And there's a separate installation change
- 20 that Eschelon pays to install a loop, correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 O. So that's been established and Eschelon
- pays it, correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. And Eschelon never indicated that it would

- 1 not pay a rate that's been approved by this
- 2 Commission, has it?
- 3 A. Other than your concerns over design
- 4 changes, we believe that is a rate that has been
- 5 approved by the Commission for design changes for CFA
- 6 loops and UDIT, and my understanding is you're
- 7 disputing that.
- 8 Q. And the parties disagree. But when
- 9 Eschelon acknowledges that the Commission has
- 10 established a rate, it pays that rate; does it not?
- 11 A. If you're saying when Eschelon
- 12 acknowledges and agrees with the rate the Commission
- established, that you pay it, yes, I think that's
- 14 correct.
- 15 O. Eschelon's language doesn't address -- and
- 16 I'm focusing on the language relating to issue 931 --
- 17 that language doesn't address whether there will be a
- 18 separate charge for access to UNEs, does it?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 O. And you would agree with me that in order
- 21 to recover a separate rate for an activity, Qwest has
- 22 to show the cost of performing that activity is not
- already recovered in an existing rate; is that right?
- A. I agree that generally that's the case.
- 25 Q. Looking at your rebuttal, again at

- 1 page 15, at the very bottom you have Qwest's proposed
- 2 language here. Do you see that?
- 3 A. Yes, I do.
- 4 Q. And I'm looking at the phrase "moving,
- 5 adding to, repairing and, " and it's underlined. Do
- 6 you see that?
- 7 A. Yes, I do.
- 8 Q. Now, I believe that the contention, at
- 9 least that has been used generally in this case, is
- 10 that underlining indicates language that is disputed;
- 11 is that right?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. But you would agree with me that the
- phrase "moving, adding to, repairing and" is
- 15 agreed-upon language, correct?
- 16 A. In the process of the negotiations with
- 17 Eschelon, Qwest agreed to that language with its
- 18 additional modifications, that these are activities
- 19 that would occur, versus the use of the word
- 20 "access," which implies that they're included in the
- 21 recurring rate.
- Q. And my only point is that page 15,
- line 27, "moving, adding to, repairing and" shouldn't
- 24 be underlined, should it?
- A. No, it should not.

- 1 Q. Now, if Qwest's language is adopted
- 2 relating to issue 931, you would agree with me that
- 3 there is potential for a future dispute about whether
- 4 the items covered by section 9.1.2 are subject to
- 5 cost-based rates or tariff rates, correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Now, there are specific examples inside
- 8 the parentheses at page 16 of your testimony,
- 9 beginning at line 1 through line 3, correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 O. Those examples include design changes,
- maintenance of service, including trouble isolation,
- 13 additional dispatches and cancelation of orders,
- 14 correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Now, is Owest willing to commit to
- 17 providing these things under Eschelon's contract
- 18 TELRIC rates, unless and until there's a change of
- 19 law?
- 20 A. That's not a question that I have
- 21 researched, but if Eschelon was willing to accept all
- of our other language, then that would be potentially
- 23 something we could look at.
- 24 O. Well, I mean, Owest agrees that it's
- 25 required to provide design changes at cost-based

- 1 rates, correct?
- 2 A. That is correct, that Qwest is agreeing to
- 3 TELRIC-based design changes in this ICA.
- 4 Q. And does Qwest also agree that Eschelon is
- 5 entitled to trouble isolation charges at cost-based
- 6 rates?
- 7 A. I don't represent the trouble isolation
- 8 product, so I'm hesitant to make any statements on
- 9 that.
- 10 Q. How about additional dispatches? Do you
- 11 know whether Qwest would commit to providing
- additional dispatches at cost-based rates?
- 13 A. Again, I don't represent that issue, so
- 14 I'm hesitant to make a statement.
- 15 Q. Cancellation orders, same answer?
- 16 A. Same answer. I don't represent that part
- of the company.
- 18 Q. But you do represent the company with
- 19 respect to this language at the bottom of page 15 and
- 20 carrying on to page 16, correct?
- 21 A. Yes, I do. I do represent that at
- 22 applicable rates, we'll make these activities
- 23 available.
- Q. And my question is: If this language is
- adopted, what can the Utah Commission expect going

- 1 out into the future? Can the Commission expect that
- 2 Qwest will provide design changes, maintenance
- 3 service, including trouble isolation, additional
- 4 dispatches and cancellation of orders at cost-based
- 5 rates, or is Qwest going to take the position that
- 6 these things may be tariff rates?
- 7 A. Well, what we relied upon is that we
- 8 currently do have in Exhibit A lists of various
- 9 rates, and if there's going to be changes with those
- 10 rates, we'll file them with the Commission. If the
- 11 Commission has any concerns, at that time they can be
- 12 researched.
- 13 O. And but I take it that "at the applicable
- 14 rate" would not, in your mind, foreclose Qwest from
- 15 charging a tariff rate even for those things that are
- 16 identified as examples in these parentheses on
- 17 page 16?
- 18 A. No, we're not trying to foreclose. We're
- 19 not also trying to say that there would be tariff
- 20 rates. What we're trying to say is because, as in
- 21 the testimony of Mr. Starkey that this language could
- 22 cover thousands of activities, even unknown
- activities, we have no way of knowing, into the
- future, what those may be.
- 25 And in particular, now that the FCC has

- 1 required Qwest to make commingled arrangements, which
- 2 are arrangements of UNEs and tariff services, then
- 3 that question of would some activity toward a
- 4 commingled arrangement, if there are new and
- 5 different activities not even foreseen at this point
- 6 as indicated by Eschelon's witness, that then we'll
- 7 need to look at what will be the applicable rates.
- 8 Q. And I'm not talking about any activities
- 9 beyond those that are listed as examples in your
- 10 testimony, and the language that the parties have
- 11 agreed to. With respect to those examples, I take it
- 12 Qwest would not commit that those things will be
- subject to cost-based rates and not TELRIC, not
- tariff rates, unless and until there's a change in
- 15 the law?
- 16 A. And if I wasn't clear before, I'll be
- 17 clearer now. I'm not the witness that represents
- 18 those issues, so I'm not qualified to make that
- 19 commitment on the witness stand, as I sit here. I
- 20 said that if that is Eschelon's proposal, and it
- 21 would settle the issues, Qwest would be more than
- 22 happy to take that issue back and see if we can
- 23 settle it.
- Q. I'm not asking or questioning a new
- 25 commitment, but what I'm asking is to try and

- 1 understand what's meant by the phrase "at the
- 2 applicable rate." I take it in your mind, that rate
- 3 might be even as to those items that are listed as
- 4 examples in Section 9.1.2, that "applicable rate"
- 5 might be the tariff rate; is that correct?
- 6 A. It might be, but once again, I'm focusing
- 7 on this "e.g." which indicates that these are only
- 8 examples, and by Eschelon's own witness' testimony,
- 9 that this could cover thousands of activities. So we
- 10 believe that it's crucial that we would have cost
- 11 recovery in whatever is the appropriate cost recovery
- 12 at the time those activities are asked of Qwest.
- 13 O. I want to talk with you now about network
- modernization and maintenance, which is issue 9-33,
- 15 and it concerns section 9.1.9 in the contract. These
- 16 terms relate to network modernization and maintenance
- 17 activities performed by Qwest; is that right?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Now, the parties have agreed on language
- that provides Owest with the ability to do network
- 21 modernization and maintenance activities that result
- in minor changes to transmission parameters; is that
- 23 right?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Eschelon has proposed language to define

- what would not be considered a minor change to the
- transmission parameters; is that right?
- 3 A. That's my understanding.
- 4 Q. And you understand as well that Eschelon
- 5 has made two alternative proposals on this issue?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. One of those proposals is that changes to
- 8 transmission parameters resulting from Qwest network
- 9 modernization and maintenance activities will not
- 10 adversely affect service to Eschelon end-user
- 11 customers; is that correct?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 O. And the other proposal is that if changes
- do result in unacceptable changes in the transmission
- of voice or data, that Owest and Eschelon will work
- together to address that situation, correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Now, looking at your rebuttal testimony,
- 19 which is Qwest Exhibit 3R, and I'm looking at
- 20 page 23. At line 5 you say: "Eschelon's use of the
- 21 defined term 'CLEC's End-User Customer' would
- 22 improperly expand the prohibition against
- 23 'unacceptable changes' to third-party retail
- 24 customers, including customers of carriers other than
- 25 Owest and Eschelon."

- 1 Do you see that?
- 2 A. Yes, I do.
- 3 Q. Now, you would agree with me that "CLEC"
- 4 has a defined meaning in the contract, the proposed
- 5 contract, between Eschelon and Qwest; is that right?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And that defined meaning is "Eschelon,"
- 8 correct?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. So wherever you see "CLEC" in the
- 11 contract, you're supposed to insert "Eschelon,"
- 12 correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. So you read the phrase "Eschelon's
- 15 End-User Customer" as applying not only to Eschelon's
- 16 end-user customer, but end-user customers of other
- 17 carriers; is that right?
- 18 A. Yes, because the capital "E" and the
- 19 capital "U" indicate that "End-User" is a defined
- 20 term within the ICA. When you go to the ICA
- 21 definition section, you will see that "End-User" used
- 22 that context, with a capital E and a capital U, means
- other end-users than the CLECs.
- Q. But you would not read the phrase
- "Eschelon's End-User Customer" that in that phrase,

- 1 Eschelon has limited the scope of "End-User
- 2 Customer"?
- 3 A. No, again because "end-user" is a defined
- 4 term within the ICA. You go back and you look at the
- 5 defined term, and I believe it includes the end-users
- of other CLECs, and Qwest's end-users.
- 7 Q. So how should that phrase be written in
- 8 order to limit it to Eschelon's end-user customers?
- 9 A. One potential would have been the CLEC's
- 10 small "E," small "U." It still does not address our
- 11 primary concern, which is that Qwest cannot step into
- some type of obligation between Eschelon and
- 13 Eschelon's end-users. Qwest has an ICA between Qwest
- 14 and Eschelon, but it does not have an ICA agreement
- 15 between Owest and the end-user. And so this language
- 16 has the end-user being the one who is defining
- 17 whether the service is acceptable.
- 18 Q. And the focus of my question is really a
- 19 lot narrower than that. And I just want to address
- 20 this concern that you raised in your testimony that
- 21 Eschelon's language expands Qwest's obligation beyond
- 22 the customers of Eschelon. And I understand that the
- way you would deal with that is to put "end-user" in
- lower case; is that right?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Going now to issue 9-34, which is another
- 2 issue related to network modernization and
- 3 maintenance, this issue concerns customer notice that
- 4 Qwest is obligated to provide Eschelon; is that
- 5 right?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Now, going to your surrebuttal testimony
- 8 at page 16. At page 16, line 5 you criticize
- 9 Eschelon's language on the ground that it's not
- 10 sufficiently narrowly tailored; is that right?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Has Qwest proposed any alternative
- language to address that concern that you've raised?
- 14 A. Qwest believes that it's -- that the
- 15 existing language that's in the ICA is suitable
- 16 because it identifies that Owest will provide all of
- 17 the notice that it's required to per the FCC
- 18 requirement. So Owest doesn't believe that any
- 19 addition is needed to make a complete coverage of
- 20 this notice of issue for Eschelon.
- 21 Q. The FCC requirements that you're referring
- to are described in the FCR rule as minimum
- 23 requirements; is that right?
- 24 A. I think "minimum." I believe that they're
- 25 the appropriate requirements that have stood the test

- of time across the United States for many carriers
- 2 making updated changes. For example, Qwest made
- 3 thousands of changes in its network.
- 4 Q. And my question isn't about your opinion
- 5 regarding the appropriateness of the requirements.
- 6 My question is whether you understand that those
- 7 requirements are described by the FCC as "minimum"
- 8 requirements.
- 9 A. Yes. Qwest must at least do that portion.
- 10 Q. And you understand that there's nothing in
- 11 the FCC rules that would prevent the Utah Commission
- from requiring more than that list of requirements?
- 13 A. Yes. However, if we did more, then
- 14 potentially the underlying cost and factors for
- 15 network adds, moves and changes, or whatever these
- 16 apply under, would maybe not be appropriate, because
- if you do more notice, then there's more cost. And
- 18 our costs were determined on using the FCC notice
- 19 requirements.
- 20 O. I want to talk with you now about loop
- 21 transport combinations, and as I understand it, you
- have two concerns with Eschelon's proposed language.
- One is that Eschelon is trying to create a new
- 24 product called a loop transport combination; is that
- 25 right?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And another concern is that Eschelon is
- 3 trying to bring non-UNEs within the coverage of the
- 4 ICA; is that right?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. I'd like to go to your direct testimony,
- 7 which is Qwest 3. Looking at page 49, "Loop
- 8 Transport Combinations." Do you see there on page 49
- 9 the underlined language in bold-face type is the
- language proposed by Eschelon; is that right?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And you see there in the middle of that
- language that it says: "At least as of the effective
- 14 date of this agreement, Loop Transport Combination is
- not the name of a particular Owest product."
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Does that language proposed by Eschelon
- 18 not address your concern that Eschelon is trying to
- 19 require Qwest to create a new product?
- 20 A. No, it does not, because these terms cover
- 21 three distinct products, or three distinct terms and
- 22 conditions. And by trying to use one umbrella term,
- it could result -- or I believe Eschelon's intent of
- the result is that each of those three separate
- products, EELs, commingled EELs and high-capacity

- 1 EELs, would be treated the same. Therefore, that
- 2 creates, like, a single product.
- 3 Q. Go to the last sentence of Eschelon's
- 4 proposal where it says: "The UNE components of any
- 5 Loop Transport Combination are covered by this
- 6 agreement." Do you see that?
- 7 A. Yes, I do.
- 8 Q. Now, doesn't that also suggest that the
- 9 non-UNE components of any loop transport combination
- are not governed by this agreement?
- 11 A. No, because the sentence up above states:
- "If no component -- if no component -- of the loop
- transport combination is a UNE, however, the loop
- 14 transport combination is not addressed by this
- 15 agreement."
- 16 However, because your umbrella loop
- 17 transport covers commingled arrangements, in a
- 18 commingled arrangement the components is a UNE.
- 19 Therefore, you would be implying that a commingled
- arrangement would be covered by this agreement,
- 21 including the tariff portion. And Qwest believes
- that's inappropriate.
- O. But doesn't the last sentence of
- 24 Eschelon's proposal address that? Because it says:
- 25 "The UNE components of any loop transport combination

- 1 are governed by this agreement."
- 2 A. I think at best it's silent but implied,
- 3 that if there is no component, it's not covered by
- 4 this agreement, but if there is a component, it could
- 5 be covered by this agreement. That is Qwest's
- 6 concern.
- 7 Q. If the last sentence were to say: "The UNE
- 8 components of any loop transport combination are
- 9 governed by this agreement, and the non-UNE
- 10 components of any loop transport combination are not
- governed by this agreement," that would address your
- 12 concern, wouldn't it?
- 13 A. It would address one of our concerns, yes.
- 14 Q. And the other concern, as I understand it,
- is addressed by the sentence: "At least as of the
- 16 effective date of this agreement, loop transport
- 17 combination is not the name of a particular Qwest
- 18 product." Is that not the case?
- 19 A. No, it is not. Like, for example, in the
- 20 loop transport combination umbrella it talks about
- 21 using a single LSR to provide service, and in a
- 22 commingled arrangement, we actually need to have an
- 23 ASR for the private line portion, because that's the
- 24 systems that do that. And for the UNE portion, we
- 25 need the LSR. So by having this umbrella term,

- there's already at least one underlying process
- 2 change that would be forced upon Qwest.
- 3 So again, it's not going to address our
- 4 concerns. Saying it's not a product doesn't change
- 5 the legal obligation to treat three separate
- 6 services, EELs, commingled EELs and high-capacity
- 7 EELs, the same. So for all intents and purposes,
- 8 it's like you would create a single product.
- 9 Q. Go to your rebuttal testimony, 3R. Look
- 10 at page 35. At line 15 you have language that Qwest
- is proposing to resolve this loop transport -- I'm
- sorry -- resolve issue 9-55; is that right?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Now, you say there that: "When a UNE
- 15 circuit is commingled with a non-UNE circuit, the
- 16 rates, terms and conditions of the ICA will apply to
- 17 the UNE circuit (including Commission jurisdiction)
- and the non-UNE circuit will be governed by the
- 19 rates, terms and conditions of the appropriate
- 20 tariff." Correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. Now, a non-UNE circuit will not always be
- 23 covered by tariff; isn't that correct?
- 24 A. That is correct, although the tariff is a
- defined term, and I've tried to indicate that it's a

- 1 variety of services.
- Q. One of the things that you say, you said
- 3 the tariff is a defined term that includes interstate
- 4 tariffs, state tariffs, price lists and price
- 5 schedules. What about commercial agreements? Is a
- 6 commercial agreement included in the defined term
- 7 "tariff"?
- 8 A. Not specifically.
- 9 Q. A commercial agreement is something that
- 10 could govern a non-UNE circuit, correct?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. I want to talk with you now about
- 13 commingling. If you'd refer to your direct
- 14 testimony, Qwest Exhibit 3, page 82. And on page 82
- 15 you have Owest's proposed language related to
- 16 "Maintenance and Repair for UNE Component of
- 17 Commingled EELs"; is that right?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And Qwest's proposal, boiled down, is that
- 20 Eschelon will have to do separate trouble tickets,
- one for the UNE portion and one for the non-UNE
- portion of a point-to-point that is non-multiplex
- 23 commingled EEL; is that right?
- 24 A. No.
- Q. Okay, explain to me where I'm wrong.

- 1 A. What our language is is that the CLEC
- 2 needs to do the appropriate trouble isolation to the
- 3 Qwest network. In doing that isolation they will
- 4 typically be able to determine what the portion is.
- 5 They would then send in a repair ticket on that.
- If they want to help us, in case we get
- 7 there and see no trouble, they can also include in
- 8 their "remarks" section the circuit ID of the other
- 9 service that is commingled with it so we'll have that
- information as we are taking a look. So there is no
- 11 requirement that you have to put in two circuit
- 12 trouble tickets.
- 13 Q. How is Eschelon going to know whether the
- 14 trouble is in the UNE or the non-UNE portion of a
- point-to-point EEL?
- 16 A. Well, typically that's an arrangement
- 17 where it's -- and there's various arrangements, but
- in a typical arrangement it's the high-capacity
- 19 transport between central offices, and then a local
- 20 loop between the end-user and central office. And I
- 21 believe that Eschelon would typically have the
- 22 capability to determine or see, or at least make an
- educated guess, whether it's between the end-user and
- the central office, or if it's in the high-capacity
- 25 transport.

- 1 Q. Now, remember, we're talking about a
- 2 point-to-point EEL, so that the transport and the
- 3 loop are the same bandwidth for a point-to-point EEL,
- 4 correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And so you believe that for a
- 7 point-to-point EEL, Eschelon has the ability, through
- 8 testing, to be able to know whether the trouble is in
- 9 the transport or the loop portion of the circuit?
- 10 A. My understanding is that there is
- information that is helpful for them. But I'm going
- 12 to be honest. I'm not an expert in Eschelon's
- 13 testing capabilities.
- 14 Q. Well, do you know how helpful it would be?
- 15 You said an "educated guess." I guess the question
- 16 is: How likely is Eschelon to guess right that the
- 17 trouble is in the transport of the loop portion of
- 18 the circuit?
- 19 A. As I indicated before, it's my
- 20 understanding, in consultation with our network
- 21 individuals, that you would be able to have an
- indication. But regardless, if you don't, you can
- 23 add in the other circuit ID in the "remarks" section
- 24 so we'll have both pieces of information as we're
- going forward to test that circuit.

- 1 If we determine that it is not on the
- 2 circuit that the trouble ticket was put in on, then
- 3 we will immediately contact Eschelon and see whether
- 4 Eschelon wants us to put in the trouble ticket on the
- 5 section that had a problem, or whether Eschelon will
- 6 put in the trouble ticket on the section that had a
- 7 problem.
- 8 But in all cases, the repair is not being
- 9 delayed. We're going forward. However, it is
- 10 necessary that we have a complete and accurate repair
- 11 record on each circuit. So part of that is because
- there are hidden past payment-type issues that come
- into play on repair tickets and, etc., and they're
- 14 different for wholesale services than they are for
- 15 UNE services. So ultimately we do need to have a
- 16 complete record of all repair issues on a particular
- 17 circuit.
- 18 Q. You would agree with me that it's
- 19 technically feasible to simultaneously test both the
- loop and transport portion of a commingled
- 21 point-to-point EEL, correct?
- 22 A. It's technically feasible, right. I'm
- 23 sure it is.
- 24 O. And that is, in fact, how Owest tests UNE
- point-to-point EELs today, correct?

- 1 A. I don't know exactly how they do that,
- because, again, typically it's a high-capacity
- 3 transport component, and it's a loop component. So I
- 4 personally don't know in what order or how the
- 5 company tests.
- 6 Q. Well, Qwest doesn't require a CLEC to open
- 7 a trouble ticket for one part of a UNE EEL and then
- 8 open a second trouble ticket for the second part if
- 9 it turns out the trouble isn't in the first part,
- 10 does it?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. Now, another aspect of Qwest's proposed
- 13 language is that Owest may charge if no trouble is
- found on either circuit; is that right?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 O. Now, if the trouble isn't found on either
- 17 part of the commingled EEL, could the trouble still
- 18 be in Owest's network?
- 19 A. If no part of the circuit has trouble, is
- 20 it still in the Owest network? I mean, I quess I'd
- 21 need an example of what you were thinking about.
- 22 O. What if the trouble was at the switch?
- 23 A. That would still be a trouble in the path
- of the circuit, plus an EEL point-to-point circuit
- 25 that we're talking about here doesn't go through the

- 1 central office.
- Q. It's got to start somewhere, right?
- 3 A. Well, it does, but it doesn't typically.
- 4 Typically it would not go through a central office.
- 5 It would go from the end-user to a frame in the
- office, out to, typically, a CLEC colocation at a
- 7 remote CO. Typically an EEL would not go through our
- 8 central office switch.
- 9 Q. And I guess my question is: If the trouble
- isn't on either part of the commingled EEL, could the
- 11 trouble still be in the Owest network?
- 12 A. I'm struggling to come up with a scenario.
- 13 Q. Eschelon has proposed language that would
- 14 allow Eschelon to assess a trouble isolation charge
- under certain circumstances; is that right?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And that language, actually, has been
- stricken in Qwest's proposal; is that right?
- 19 A. Yes, because initially this was a disputed
- issue between the parties.
- 21 Q. And you're aware it's no longer a disputed
- 22 issue?
- 23 A. Yes, I am.
- 24 O. You've done some work on that since we
- 25 last met, I take it?

- 1 A. Yes, I have.
- 2 Q. So Qwest would no longer propose, I take
- 3 it, striking that language from its proposal; is that
- 4 right?
- 5 A. I believe it would be reasonable, based on
- 6 the latest information I've received.
- 7 O. It would be reasonable to include that
- 8 language?
- 9 A. Yes, it appears to be reasonable, given
- 10 that that issue has been resolved.
- 11 THE COURT: Just so that I'm clear, is
- 12 that the language that appears stricken in this
- testimony here that you're referring to?
- 14 MR. MERZ: Yes, and let's actually find
- 15 that.
- 16 O. (By Mr. Merz) The language we're talking
- about, Ms. Stewart, if you'd look at your direct
- 18 testimony on page 82.
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 O. And I'm looking at the language that
- 21 starts on line 32 and ends on line 34. "Hence, the
- 22 CLEC may charge Qwest" -- to section 12.4.1.8: "Qwest
- 23 may also" -- "CLEC may also charge only a single
- 24 charge for both circuits associated with a commingled
- 25 EEL." Is that right?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And that language, you believe, is
- 3 reasonable to be included?
- 4 A. Yes. However, since the parties were
- 5 unable to negotiate the whole settlement in an
- 6 agreement, we've had no fresh work on that situation.
- 7 Q. The very last issue I wanted to talk with
- 8 you about -- and I don't have much to say about it --
- 9 is loop mux combination. In your rebuttal testimony
- 10 you, at page 81 -- well, that can't be right. Well,
- 11 I'll just ask you the question. Do you recall
- testifying at some point in this case that multiplex
- is used with commingling in an interstate access
- 14 service?
- 15 A. What I testified is that typically what
- 16 we're seeing in commingled arrangements -- well, in a
- 17 loop mux combination, since multiplexing is not an
- individual UNE, therefore, it needs to be purchased
- 19 from a tariff service, which would make a combination
- of multiplexing and a loop a commingled arrangement,
- 21 yes.
- Q. And my question is whether or not
- 23 multiplexing is being used to provide intrastate
- 24 access service?
- 25 A. Yes, it can.

- 1 Q. And it can be used with a loop to provide
- 2 intrastate access service?
- 3 A. Yes, it can.
- 4 MR. MERZ: I don't have anything further.
- 5 Thank you.
- THE COURT: Mr. Devaney?
- 7 MR. DEVANEY: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 8 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 9 BY MR. DEVANEY:
- 10 Q. Ms. Stewart, just a few followups. First
- 11 I'd like to ask you some questions about Eschelon's
- 12 proposed use of the term "loop transport combination"
- in the Interconnection Agreement, which you just
- 14 discussed with Mr. Merz a few minutes ago. And that
- issue relates to three products that Owest has that
- 16 consist of loop transport combinations. And I think
- 17 you testified in response to Mr. Merz's questions
- that those products are EELs, commingled EELs and
- 19 high-capacity EELs. Do you recall that?
- 20 A. Yes, I do.
- 21 Q. And would you just explain for Your Honor
- and the Commission what an EEL is as compared to a
- commingled EEL and a high-capacity EEL?
- 24 A. Yes, I will. An EEL, by definition, is a
- combination of UNEs, and typically that would be a

- 1 UNE loop with UNE transport, and Qwest puts it
- 2 together and makes a combination. A commingled
- 3 arrangement would be where one portion of the service
- 4 is not a UNE. It could be an intrastate service, it
- 5 could be an interstate service, but nonetheless, it's
- 6 not a UNE, it's commingled. And the definition of
- 7 "commingled" is basically putting two things
- 8 together, and Qwest makes the combination.
- 9 High-capacity EELs are EELs in that it's
- 10 typically an arrangement of a UNE -- an arrangement
- of two UNEs, although it doesn't necessarily have to
- be because a commingled high-capacity EEL could also
- occur. But the reason, the bottom-line reason why
- 14 high-capacity EELs are pulled out and are a separate
- product is because the FCC established unique
- 16 requirements for CLECs to require Owest to create a
- 17 high-capacity EEL.
- 18 And so there's numerous tests that have to
- 19 be met, and the intent of those tests was so that
- those EELs could not be, wholesale, used to bypass
- 21 switched access service. And so there's some tests
- to ensure the appropriate use of the service; so, for
- example, that circuits and that high-capacity
- 24 arrangements have access to 911, a seven-digit
- telephone number has been assigned to show that it's

- 1 going to be used for local exchange service and not
- 2 to bypass the Qwest network.
- 3 Q. In response to one of Mr. Merz's questions
- 4 you said that Qwest has concerns about the use of
- 5 what you call the "umbrella" term "loop transport
- 6 combination" because it may result in a meshing
- 7 together, if you will, or failure to distinguish
- 8 among these three services. Why does Qwest believe
- 9 it's important to distinguish among these three
- 10 products and services?
- 11 A. Just as I indicated, there are very unique
- terms and conditions. If you have a UNE EEL, then,
- of course, you've got the UNE components and the
- 14 terms and conditions of that. As I've discussed, I
- think, previously there's PIT and PAT payments that
- have to do with performance, etc.
- 17 If it's a commingled arrangement, then
- 18 one-half would be controlled by the ICA, because
- 19 that's a UNE. The other portion of the circuit would
- 20 be controlled by the tariff, or whatever mechanism
- 21 was being used to purchase that second element.
- 22 And then thirdly, the high-capacity EEL
- restrictions or requirements that I just discussed.
- 24 They're not appropriate to apply to a
- 25 non-high-capacity EEL. On the other hand, we need to

- 1 make sure that they are appropriately applied for a
- 2 high-capacity EEL. So an umbrella term, trying to
- 3 call these all sort of one product, then, would lead
- 4 to potential confusion about what terms and
- 5 conditions would apply.
- 6 Q. Changing the subject to the issue of
- 7 commingling repairs that I think is issue 9-59, if I
- 8 recall correctly.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Mr. Merz just talked to you about that. I
- just want to be sure the record is clear on this.
- 12 Did you testify that if Eschelon were to place the
- 13 circuit IDs for both circuits in a commingled
- 14 arrangement on a trouble report, that could eliminate
- 15 the need for Eschelon to submit a second trouble
- 16 report?
- 17 A. Yes. Well, there may be no need for a
- 18 second trouble report at all if the first trouble
- 19 report does an adequate job of isolating it to which
- 20 circuit has a repair problem. But Owest would
- 21 allow -- there's no way on a trouble ticket you can
- officially put in two circuits. Each circuit has to
- 23 have its own trouble ticket. But we will allow the
- 24 CLEC to put into the "remarks" section the second
- circuit ID so that we'll know, one, it's a commingled

- 1 arrangement; and two, then we've got that second
- 2 circuit ID as we go and do testing on the facility.
- 3 Q. And my last question for you relates to
- 4 issue 9-61, loop mux combinations. In response to
- 5 one of Mr. Merz's last questions, you, I think, said
- 6 that multiplexing with commingled arrangements can be
- 7 used for -- to provide intrastate service. Do you
- 8 recall that?
- 9 A. Yes, I do.
- 10 Q. And I think it's also clear from your
- 11 answer that it can be used to provide interstate
- 12 service; is that correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And do you know which is more common in
- Qwest's experience with CLECs, whether they use
- 16 commingling in these -- I'm sorry -- whether they use
- 17 loop mux combinations with commingling to provide
- interstate service or intrastate service?
- 19 A. Our language allows them to use either
- one, whatever is appropriate, intrastate private line
- or interstate private line. And if I implied our
- 22 language didn't do that, then I'll correct that. You
- 23 can do either one. However, what we have seen is
- that the vast majority are using interstate services
- when they put together a commingled arrangement.

- 1 We're not seeing intrastate service being commingled.
- 2 MR. DEVANEY: Thank you. That's all I
- 3 have.
- 4 THE COURT: Mr. Merz?
- 5 MR. MERZ: Just one question following up
- on, I think, the question Mr. Devaney just asked.
- 7 RECROSS-EXAMINATION
- 8 BY MR. MERZ:
- 9 Q. Does Qwest agree that a CLEC can purchase
- 10 a UNE with a special access mux?
- 11 A. That -- for example, in the example that
- we just gave, yes, it could be an intrastate service
- that they make the commingled arrangement with.
- 14 Q. And just to make sure we're clear, Qwest
- 15 would allow a CLEC to purchase a UNE loop with a
- 16 special access mux?
- 17 A. Well, when you say "special access," there
- 18 are -- I don't know if that's enough of a generic
- 19 term. Are we going off into discussions of, like,
- loops, trunking? And, I mean, there are various
- 21 different types of services that are generally called
- 22 access service. So I feel like I should more
- 23 specifically answer the question: If you were to go
- to the private line portion of the tariff, be it an
- interstate tariff, then yes, you could have

- interstate commingling with a UNE. And typically,
- 2 like I said, what commingled arrangement people are
- 3 choosing to do are out of the FCC interstate tariff.
- 4 Q. In a loop mux combination, what part of
- 5 that combination is the UNE and what part is the
- 6 non-UNE?
- 7 A. In that particular arrangement, the loop
- 8 is the UNE and the multiplexing is the non-UNE.
- 9 Q. And so could the non-UNE multiplexer be a
- 10 special access multiplexer?
- 11 A. My understanding is it can be whatever
- would be the appropriate private line tariff price
- list, etc., that would be appropriate for that. The
- 14 reason I'm hesitating is because people use
- interchangeably "special access," "switched access,"
- 16 "private line service." And so I just feel that your
- 17 question is trying to target that.
- 18 I'm not sure I'm understanding the
- 19 question. Generally, you could make a commingled
- 20 arrangement, whether it was a loop mux combo or
- 21 another one, between -- my understanding is --
- 22 between a UNE and another service that you've
- obtained, and you could obtain that service from an
- 24 interstate tariff.
- Q. And I'm not talking generically about

- 1 combinations. I'm talking specifically about loop
- 2 mux combo and what Owest believes is available to
- 3 CLECs under that description, "loop mux combo." The
- 4 question is whether a loop with a special access mux
- 5 would be considered to be, by Qwest, to be a loop mux
- 6 combo.
- 7 A. If Eschelon was to request that Qwest make
- 8 a combination between a UNE and a non-UNE, and they
- 9 put a service together, whether it was loop mux combo
- or, etc., and the multiplexing was obtained, not from
- an interstate service but from an intrastate service,
- that would be fine. If you're somehow implying
- intrastate service doesn't exist in the State of Utah
- for multiplexing, that I do not know.
- 15 MR. MERZ: Nothing further. Thank you.
- 16 THE COURT: Anything further for this
- 17 witness?
- MR. DEVANEY: No, thank you.
- 19 THE COURT: Okay, thank you. Anything
- 20 further from Owest?
- 21 MR. TOPP: That concludes our witnesses.
- 22 THE COURT: Okay. Given that, I quess at
- 23 the time I guess it makes sense to break for lunch.
- We'll be back at 1:30. Does that work?
- 25 (Brief discussion concerning times held off the

- 1 record.)
- THE COURT: We're back on the record in
- docket 07-2633-03, and I believe, Mr. Merz, we were
- 4 going to turn to you.
- 5 MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 6 Eschelon calls Michael Starkey to the stand.
- 7 THE COURT: If you'll raise your right
- 8 hand, I'll swear you in.
- 9 (The witness was sworn.)
- 10 Thank you. Please be seated.
- 11 Mr. Merz?
- MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 13 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 14 BY MR. MERZ:
- 15 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Starkey.
- 16 A. Good afternoon, Mr. Merz.
- 17 Q. You prepared in this case direct rebuttal
- and rebuttal testimony; is that right?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 O. I will note for the record that your
- 21 direct testimony has been marked as Eschelon
- 22 Exhibit 1, and includes Eschelon Exhibits 1.1 through
- 23 1.7; that your rebuttal testimony has been marked as
- 24 Eschelon Exhibit 1R, and that your surrebuttal
- testimony has been marked as Eschelon Exhibit 1SR.

- 1 Mr. Starkey, is the information contained in your
- 2 direct rebuttal and your surrebuttal testimony true
- and correct, to the best of your knowledge?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 MR. MERZ: Your Honor, Eschelon offers
- 6 Eschelon Exhibit 1, including 1.1 through 1.7;
- 7 Eschelon Exhibit 1R and Eschelon Exhibit 1SR.
- 8 THE COURT: Any objection to their
- 9 admission as marked?
- 10 MR. DEVANEY: No objection.
- 11 THE COURT: We'll go ahead and admit them.
- MR. MERZ: Your Honor, Mr. Starkey is now
- 13 available for cross-examination.
- 14 THE COURT: Mr. Topp or Mr. Devaney?
- 15 MR. DEVANEY: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 16 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 17 BY MR. DEVANEY:
- 18 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Starkey.
- 19 A. Good afternoon, Mr. Devaney.
- 20 O. Let me just begin by asking you a few
- 21 questions about your background. I see from your CV
- 22 that your educational background is primarily in
- finance and economics; is that correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. And you're not a telecom engineer; is that

- 1 right?
- 2 A. That is correct.
- 3 Q. And you've not had a job with
- 4 telecommunications engineer responsibilities; is that
- 5 right?
- 6 A. That is correct.
- 7 Q. And I take it you don't consider yourself
- 8 an expert in operational support systems; is that
- 9 correct?
- 10 A. I know a good deal about operational
- 11 support systems, but I probably wouldn't hold myself
- 12 out as an expert.
- 13 Q. Have you ever designed, developed or
- maintained an operational support system?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. Have you ever been an employee of a
- 17 telephone company?
- 18 A. I have not.
- 19 Q. I see from your CV, which is marked as
- 20 Exhibit 1.1 to your direct, that you've testified in
- 21 more than 150 proceedings, you say, before about four
- 22 state commissions, the FCC and the courts. And as I
- looked at your CV and the parties that you've
- represented, it appeared that the majority of them
- 25 were CLECs. Is that a fair statement?

- 1 A. I've not looked to see whether the
- 2 majority of them are. A good number of them are.
- 3 But there are also carriers in there that are
- 4 wireless carriers. There are commissions themselves,
- 5 ILECs, and there are various types of companies that
- 6 I've represented. But CLECs are a large part of our
- 7 business.
- 8 Q. I'd like to ask you about issue 9-31,
- 9 which is non-discriminatory access to UNEs. And I'll
- 10 ask you to turn to page 134, 135 of your direct. I'm
- 11 asking you to turn there simply because it's a
- 12 convenient place to see the parties' competing
- 13 proposals, and I just want to make sure we agree what
- 14 the differences are between the proposals. As you
- 15 see at line 10 on page 134, that's where Eschelon's
- 16 proposed number 1 is set forth. Are you with me?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 O. And I think Eschelon's strike-through
- 19 language indicates what the dispute is. Qwest is
- 20 proposing that activities available for UNEs includes
- 21 "moving, adding to, repairing and changing" the UNE,
- and Eschelon is replacing that with "access to." And
- then, of course, in the last phrase, Qwest has
- inserted "at the applicable rates," which Eschelon
- 25 has proposed to strike; is that correct?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And I think the dispute really boils down
- 3 to, in large part, whether all of the activities
- 4 encompassed by those terms, "moving, adding to,
- 5 repairing and changing, " must be provided by Qwest at
- 6 TELRIC cost-based rates or whether some of the
- 7 activities could be governed by a rate other than
- 8 TELRIC. Is that a fair summary?
- 9 A. It is fair, though I might add one thing
- 10 to it, which is I think what I would say is that the
- 11 crux of the issue comes down to whether those things
- we've identified there, "moving, adding to, repairing
- and changing, " fall within the FCC's definition of
- 14 access to an unbundled network element.
- 15 O. And the relevance of that is, from
- 16 Eschelon's perspective, if those activities fall
- 17 within access to a UNE, then TELRIC would govern; is
- 18 that correct?
- 19 A. That's right. The FCC has determined that
- 20 TELRIC is the proper basis for setting rates for
- 21 access to unbundled network elements.
- 22 Q. And would you agree with me that TELRIC
- only applies to products and services that an ILEC is
- 24 required to provide under Section 251 of the Act?
- 25 A. No, first because I would take issue with

- the notion of products and services as opposed to
- 2 access to unbundled network elements. "Network
- 3 element" is a defined term in the Act that describes
- 4 access to a facility and to features and functions.
- 5 I think limiting it to products and services is
- 6 overly restrictive, more so than simply saying
- 7 "access to unbundled network elements."
- 8 Q. Let me ask it another way. Would you
- 9 agree that for an element, a product, a service or a
- 10 service related to a product to be governed by a
- 11 TELRIC, it has to fall within section 251?
- 12 A. I would agree that, I think, to date the
- 13 FCC has applied the TELRIC pricing standard only to
- those elements that are subject to 251.
- 15 O. You have agreed in other states, I think,
- 16 and I'll ask you to confirm this, that the terms
- 17 "moving, adding to, repairing and changing" encompass
- 18 literally thousands of activities, correct?
- 19 A. They do, or could.
- 20 O. And those terms could include activities
- 21 that we don't know about today that might evolve in
- the future with changes to technology and engineering
- 23 procedures; is that correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. And Eschelon's position in this

- arbitration is that every one of those activities,
- 2 those thousands of activities, falls within section
- 3 251 and are governed by TELRIC; is that correct?
- 4 A. I don't believe so. I think I would say
- 5 it differently. When you look at section 9.1.2 of
- 6 the contract, which is where the disputed language is
- found, 9.1.2 deals with what is access to unbundled
- 8 network elements. In fact, if you read the first
- 9 sentence, it says: "Qwest shall provide
- 10 non-discriminatory access to unbundled network
- 11 elements." Then it goes on to say the rates, terms
- 12 and conditions. The remainder of the paragraph
- describes what "access to unbundled network elements"
- means.
- The disputed language under issue 9-31
- really, in my mind, comes down to whether the
- 17 activities that are described in the agreed-upon
- 18 language under "moving, adding to or repairing," fall
- 19 under the purview of "access to unbundled network
- 20 elements."
- Q. If they fall within the "access to
- 22 unbundled network elements," then those activities
- are within section 251, correct?
- 24 A. Yes, per the FCC's decision in the Local
- 25 Competition Order.

- 1 Q. And TELRIC would apply, under your
- 2 proposal?
- 3 A. Yes, because, in part --
- 4 Q. Let me just ask you another question.
- 5 MR. MERZ: Your Honor, could I ask that
- the witness be allowed to finish his answer?
- 7 THE COURT: You can go ahead.
- 8 MR. DEVANEY: You can go ahead.
- 9 A. I was just going to say because, in part,
- taking section 9.1.2 in whole, the last part of 9.1.2
- 11 talks about "routine network modifications," which is
- 12 another component of accessing unbundled network
- elements. And therein, when it talks about routine
- 14 network modifications, the FCC specifically put the
- 15 standard as non-discrimination, and refused to
- 16 identify specifically the activities that might fall
- 17 thereunder. Understanding that things change and
- that these are multiple activities, instead it
- 19 expressed a standard under which it required them to
- 20 be considered access to unbundled network elements.
- Q. (By Mr. Devaney) Eschelon's position,
- though, is that while these terms encompass thousands
- of activities, some of which we don't know about
- today, all of those activities, by definition,
- constitute access to UNEs within section 251, and

- that TELRIC applies, correct?
- 2 A. And I think that's the same question that
- 3 I answered before, and I would say yes, with the
- 4 understanding that if they fall within the purview
- of, quote, unquote, "access to unbundled network
- 6 elements," then yes, TELRIC rates apply. If they
- 7 don't, then perhaps not.
- 8 Q. And by contrast, Qwest's language
- 9 recognizes that certainly TELRIC will apply to many
- of these activities, but leaves the door open to
- 11 perhaps some activities that might be outside the
- 12 purview of 251 and for which TELRIC rates would not
- apply; isn't that right?
- 14 A. It does, and we think unnecessarily so,
- 15 because it wouldn't, by definition, be purviewed to
- 16 251 if it weren't an access to unbundled network
- 17 element.
- 18 O. But the point is we don't even know what
- 19 all these activities are, do we?
- 20 A. We don't, nor did the FCC when they made
- 21 the routine network modifications decision and said
- though we don't know what they are, we know what the
- 23 standard is. And the standard is if you do it for
- 24 yourself or your retail customers, then you must do
- 25 it for the CLEC. That's what "non-discriminatory

- 1 access" means.
- Q. Well, let's talk about non-discriminatory
- 3 access. And I think you have the agreement in front
- 4 of you, the interconnection agreement.
- 5 A. I do.
- 6 Q. I'll ask you please to turn to section
- 7 9.1.2.
- 8 MR. DEVANEY: And, Your Honor, if you have
- 9 the issues matrix in front of you, it's page 33 of
- 10 the issues matrix.
- 11 THE COURT: Thank you.
- MR. DEVANEY: Mr. Starkey, I'll give you a
- 13 second to look that over.
- 14 THE WITNESS: I'm familiar with it.
- 15 Q. (By Mr. Devaney) There's agreed language
- in section 9.1.2 that establishes Owest must provide
- 17 non-discriminatory access to UNEs on rates, terms and
- 18 conditions that are non-discriminatory, just and
- 19 reasonable, correct?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. And there's also agreed language that
- 22 Qwest must provide equal UNE access to that which
- 23 Qwest provides to other carriers, correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. And there's also agreed language that

- 1 Qwest must provide the same routine network
- 2 modifications that it performs for its own customers,
- 3 correct?
- 4 A. I think it's broader than that. It says
- 5 to itself or its own affiliates as well, so it's not
- only its customers, but also to itself and its
- 7 affiliates.
- 8 Q. Okay, fair enough. And related to that
- 9 there's also agreed language that Qwest must provide
- 10 access to UNEs in substantially the same time and
- 11 manner that it provides to itself and its affiliates,
- 12 correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And finally, there's also agreed language
- 15 that Qwest must provide access to UNEs and give
- 16 Eschelon a meaningful opportunity to compete,
- 17 correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Changing the subject now to issue 9-33,
- 20 network modernization. Please turn to page 146 of
- 21 your direct.
- 22 A. Okay.
- Q. And again, I'm asking you to reference
- that page simply because that's where Eschelon's
- 25 proposals are set forth. You have two proposals for

- 1 issue 9-33; is that right?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And just as a point of reference, issue
- 4 9-33 relates to changes to the network that result in
- 5 minor changes in transmission parameters, correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Now, within section 9.1.9, I believe, and
- 8 you can confirm this for me, that there is agreed
- 9 language ensuring that any network maintenance and
- 10 modernization activities that Qwest engages in will
- 11 result in UNE transmission parameters that are,
- quote, "within transmission limits of UNE ordered by
- the CLEC, " correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And would you agree this language
- obviously places a limit on the changes in
- 17 transmission parameters that can result from a Qwest
- 18 maintenance or modernization activity?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 O. Are you aware of an Eschelon customer ever
- 21 complaining that a Qwest modernization or network
- 22 maintenance activity, as opposed to installation
- 23 activity -- I'm talking now about maintenance
- 24 modernization -- has put an Eschelon customer out of
- 25 service? Service that was operating and then no

- 1 longer is.
- 2 A. I know you realize that we have a bit of
- dispute as to whether the dB loss example resulted
- 4 from installation versus maintenance and
- 5 modernization. In my testimony I describe the fact
- 6 that we believe that when the Qwest technician
- 7 changed the various transmission capabilities of the
- 8 electronics in the dB loss example, that they were
- 9 undertaking a modernization maintenance activity. So
- 10 my answer would be yes, with that caveat.
- 11 O. Well, as you say, we do have a debate
- 12 about whether that was an installation or a
- modernization, that one incident. But my question is
- 14 broader than that. Let's put that one incident
- aside, over which we obviously debate, and let me ask
- 16 you: Do you have any knowledge of a Qwest
- 17 modernization or maintenance activity ever having put
- 18 an Eschelon customer out of service?
- 19 A. I don't, though Ms. Johnson, being
- directly involved with that on a day-to-day basis,
- 21 would probably be the better person. If that
- happened regularly, she would know more than I.
- Q. But you're the person responsible for this
- 24 issue, correct?
- 25 A. For this particular language, because we

- 1 have identified specific instances where these types
- of activities have put our customers out of service,
- 3 with respect to the dB loss example.
- 4 Q. Let's go back. You said "instances." All
- 5 you're talking about is the one episode you and I
- 6 just discussed, which is one episode, and it
- 7 involved, in our view, an installation. You don't
- 8 have anything in mind other than that, do you?
- 9 A. I don't, but think it was more -- I think
- 10 it was beyond just one customer. I think it was an
- issue that impacted customers generally.
- 12 Q. Okay. Now, turning to Eschelon's proposal
- number 1 for this issue, which is page 146 of your
- 14 direct, the proposal would prohibit Qwest from making
- 15 changes to the network that, quote, "adversely affect
- 16 service to any CLEC End User customers"; is that
- 17 right?
- 18 A. I'm reading along with you here. Yes.
- 19 Q. And I know we've been through these
- 20 questions before, but I have to ask them for the sake
- 21 of the record in this case. It's correct that
- Eschelon's use of "adversely affect" is not defined
- 23 anywhere in its proposal or elsewhere in the
- interconnection agreement; is that right?
- 25 A. And my answer today is probably going to

- 1 be a little different from what you heard the last
- 2 couple of times, because as I read this further, I
- 3 think the answer to that is yes, that's true, it's
- 4 not a defined term.
- 5 However, if you read on in that sentence,
- 6 and you read the sentence in its entirety, it gives
- 7 you an "other than." It basically says that these
- 8 changes will not adversely affect services to any End
- 9 User, CLEC End User customers "other than a
- 10 reasonably-anticipated temporary service
- 11 interruption."
- 12 So it's telling you what would not be
- 13 considered an adverse effect, and that's a temporary
- 14 out-of-service situation. I think you can take from
- that that if it were anything but a temporary service
- 16 outage, then it would be considered an adverse
- 17 effect.
- 18 Q. So "anything but a temporary service
- 19 outage." Does that mean a reduction in dB loss that
- 20 doesn't result in an outage? Would that be covered
- 21 by your term, "adverse effect"?
- A. No. I mean, I think, as we've talked
- about, and I know you're focusing on option 1, and
- option 2 takes care of many of these things you're
- 25 talking about.

- 1 Q. And we'll talk about option 2.
- 2 A. I know we will, but the purpose of this
- 3 language is to deal with service outages. It's to
- 4 deal with situations where our customer has said,
- 5 Prior to this particular network maintenance and
- 6 modernization activity, my service worked fine. Now
- 7 it doesn't. Then it's an adverse effect.
- 8 Q. But here's my question for you. You said
- 9 that the purpose of this is a customer says, My
- 10 service worked fine, and now it doesn't. That is,
- 11 under your language, an adverse effect. How do we
- 12 know, on your proposal, whether service no longer
- works fine? There's no definition or metric that
- 14 allows the parties to determine whether a service no
- longer, quote, "works fine," or whether there has
- 16 been an adverse effect. That's my ultimate question
- for you. That's not defined anywhere, is it?
- 18 A. It's not defined anywhere, and I think, as
- 19 we've talked about before, you have to keep two
- things in mind when you look at that term, "adverse
- 21 effect." The first thing is that terms like that,
- 22 and that term itself, are found elsewhere in the
- 23 contract and are not defined in agreed-upon language.
- 24 So this notion that it must be defined specifically
- 25 here but not elsewhere, in my mind just rings hollow.

- 1 Secondly, you have to take -- you also
- 2 have to take note of how this particular piece of the
- 3 contract would work in reality, and that is Qwest
- 4 would go out, they would do their network maintenance
- 5 and modernization activity. Unless and until an
- 6 Eschelon customer contacts Eschelon and says, I don't
- 7 know why, but my service worked yesterday and it
- 8 doesn't work today, or, My service worked well
- 9 yesterday and today I barely have signal, Eschelon
- 10 would research. They would find that that was in an
- 11 area where this network modernization process was
- 12 taking place.
- 13 If they could pinpoint that that was the
- 14 causality of the situation, they'd then contact
- 15 Owest, and they'd say, We have an adverse service
- 16 effect. If Owest agreed, they'd take care of it. If
- 17 not, then we have a dispute under the contract that
- 18 has -- where we do dispute resolution.
- 19 Q. Right. And I guess my point is that I
- 20 think we all agree that these contracts ought to have
- 21 some certainty to them. And with respect to this, if
- 22 Eschelon came to Owest and said, There's an adverse
- effect to one of our customers, there's nowhere in
- this contract we could go to look, for example, to an
- 25 ANSI standard, or some sort of other performance

- 1 standard, to determine whether there really is a
- 2 measurable adverse effect. It's a purely subjective
- 3 determination, isn't it?
- 4 A. I wouldn't agree it's purely subjective,
- 5 though I would agree with the first part of your
- 6 question, which is it's not tied to a particular ANSI
- 7 standard. It's really tied to the customer service
- 8 and Eschelon's ability to continue to provide that
- 9 service they provided yesterday, the day after this
- 10 activity takes place.
- 11 O. Well, then, who determines -- from whose
- 12 perspective is it determined whether there's been an
- 13 adverse effect? Is it from Eschelon's customer's
- 14 perspective? From Eschelon's perspective? From
- 15 Owest's perspective? That's not defined anywhere in
- 16 your language, either, is it?
- 17 A. Nor would it have to be. It's Eschelon's
- 18 perspective. They bring it to Qwest. Qwest either
- agrees or they don't, and if they don't, you
- 20 undertake a dispute resolution. The notion here is
- 21 that we're trying -- without this type of language,
- we feel there's no obligation on Qwest's part to put
- 23 a circuit that went out of service back in service.
- Q. Also with respect to this proposal, and
- we'll turn to the proposal in a second, if there is a

- 1 prohibited adverse effect, there's no language in
- 2 your proposal that explains what the consequences are
- 3 for Owest; is that correct?
- 4 A. Not as specifically under option 1 as
- 5 there is under option 2. I think under option 1 it
- 6 says: "There shall be no adverse effect." I think
- 7 you deduct from that that if there was an adverse
- 8 effect, that you have to fix it.
- 9 Q. Let's turn to option number 2, then. And
- in option 2 your proposal says that: "If a change to
- 11 the network results in CLEC's end-user customer
- experiencing, quote, 'unacceptable changes' in the
- transmission of voice or data" -- and let's stop
- there, and I'll ask you a similar question, and that
- is, again, "unacceptable changes" is not defined
- 16 anywhere in your proposal or in the interconnection
- 17 agreement; is that right?
- 18 A. That's correct. I'd give the same answer
- 19 I gave previously.
- 20 Q. So again, there's no metric by which the
- 21 parties would be able to determine whether a change
- is acceptable or unacceptable; is that correct?
- 23 A. I'd give you the same answer I gave
- earlier, which is I think there is. I think the
- 25 process by which the contract is constructed is that

- this places an obligation on Qwest to do certain
- 2 things. If Eschelon believes that Qwest hasn't met
- 3 that obligation, the two of them discuss it. And if
- 4 they're not able to resolve the dispute, then they
- 5 follow dispute resolution.
- 6 Q. Well, then, let me ask you this: If
- 7 Eschelon comes to Qwest and says, you know, This
- 8 change that my customer is experiencing is
- 9 unacceptable, and Qwest says, you know, I don't
- 10 agree, where do the parties go in the interconnection
- 11 agreement, and what language can they look at to see
- if this change we're talking about is acceptable or
- not? There's nowhere to go, is there?
- 14 A. I think there is. And I think what you
- 15 have to do is you have to understand -- let's say
- that Eschelon were to come to Owest and say,
- 17 Yesterday my customer's service worked and --
- 18 Q. Let me just -- let me be very specific.
- 19 Is there anyplace we can go to find what
- "unacceptable" means as you're proposing to use it?
- 21 Is there a definition somewhere?
- 22 A. It's not a defined term.
- 23 Q. Okay. That's all I need to know. Then
- 24 the rest of option 2 says that: "If there is an
- unacceptable change, that service will be restored

- to, quote, 'an acceptable level.'" And again,
- 2 "acceptable level" is not defined anywhere in the
- 3 proposal or elsewhere in the agreement; is that
- 4 correct?
- 5 A. It's not a defined term, you're correct.
- 6 Q. Let's turn to issue 9-34, which is "Notice
- 7 of Network Changes." And just to put this in
- 8 perspective, I believe this issue involves the
- 9 content of the notice Qwest will provide to Eschelon
- 10 when it plans to modify its network as part of a
- 11 modernization or maintenance activity. Is that a
- 12 fair statement?
- 13 A. It is.
- 14 Q. And Eschelon's proposals relating to this
- issue are also set forth on page 146 of your direct;
- 16 is that right?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Looking first at option 1, it states:
- 19 "Such notices will contain the locations at which the
- 20 changes will occur, including, if the changes are
- 21 specific to an End User Customer, the circuit ID and
- 22 End User Customer address information."
- Just to back up, Qwest is agreeing to
- 24 provide notice that complies with the FCC's rules
- with respect to notice; is that right?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 O. And here Eschelon is proposing to go
- 3 beyond those rules by requiring Qwest to provide
- 4 circuit ID customer addresses. With that in mind,
- 5 you use the words "changes specific to an End User
- 6 Customer." And I know, again, we've had this
- 7 discussion elsewhere, but "specific to an End User
- 8 Customer" means exactly what? Where can we find that
- 9 in your proposed language?
- 10 A. "Specific to an End User Customer" means
- 11 changes that are not those types of changes that are
- described in the sentence above that deal with area
- code changes, seven- to ten-digit dialing, that type
- of thing. They are changes whereby you undertake an
- 15 activity, if we have a customer that's going to be
- impacted because of that, then we expect enough
- information to be able to inform that customer, more
- 18 so than inform a group of customers that might be
- impacted on a broader sale.
- 20 As to the second part of your question,
- 21 where can that be determined in the contract, again,
- 22 it's not a defined term. What we're talking about
- here is contract language that would be applied when
- 24 an activity has taken place that has impacted one of
- our customer's service.

- 1 So again, we come back to you and we say,
- 2 Look. We have an issue. Something you did put our
- 3 customer out of service or substantially impacted the
- 4 quality of their service, and we need to get it
- 5 fixed. The notion here is that if that type of
- 6 activity is going to take place, we need to know
- 7 which customers to talk to.
- 8 Q. So does that notice requirement apply to
- 9 any customers whose service could be affected or
- whose transmission parameters could be affected by
- 11 network changes?
- 12 A. Can I hear that again?
- 13 O. Yes. Let me be a little more specific.
- 14 If, for example, Qwest made a software switch, or a
- 15 software change in one of its switches that was going
- 16 to result in a potential change in transmission
- 17 parameters to customers in a distribution area, would
- 18 all customers in the distribution area have to be
- 19 given the type of notice that you're asking for here?
- 20 A. No.
- Q. Okay, and why not? And where is that
- spelled in your language?
- 23 A. Understood. And I was just reading along
- here, and the agreed-upon language that exists above
- it, if you'll go to section 9.1.9 of the contract.

- 1 It's not included on page 146 of my testimony, so you
- 2 actually have to go to that particular section.
- 3 You'll see it begins with: "Qwest shall provide CLECs
- 4 advance notice of network changes pursuant to
- 5 applicable FCC rules, including changes that will
- 6 affect" -- and then it gives three different types of
- 7 changes that will "affect CLEC performance or ability
- 8 to provide service, network interoperability, or the
- 9 manner in which customer premise equipment is
- 10 attached to the public network.
- 11 Charges -- changes that affect
- interoperability include" -- and then it goes on to
- talk about "seven- and ten-digit dialing." Then
- 14 "such notices which contain the locations at which
- the changes will occur." And then we've said, or
- 16 we've attempted to add language that would say: "And
- when specific to an End User Customer, they would
- 18 also include the customer's ID." That software
- 19 change that you're describing is not specific to an
- 20 End User Customer. It impacts multiple customers.
- 21 It fact, it probably impacts everyone on the switch.
- 22 Q. Okay. So what you're talking about is a
- 23 change that affects only one End User Customer? I
- 24 quess I'm struggling to understand the distinction.
- 25 How would Qwest know, if "specific to an End User

- 1 Customer" isn't defined, what scope of notice it
- 2 needs to provide?
- 3 A. You have two questions there, and I'm
- 4 going to try to answer them both. The first one was:
- 5 How do we know when it is specific to an End User
- 6 Customer, and does it mean one customer? Yes, I
- 7 think it does. I think what we're talking about here
- 8 is "an" End User Customer, and I think that's
- 9 singular.
- 10 The second part of your question was, How
- does Qwest know where to look in the contract when
- 12 it's going to impact one customer? Let me give an
- 13 example. One of the three impactable -- if that's a
- 14 word -- changes that are described at this section of
- 15 the contract are changes that affect customer premise
- 16 equipment that's attached to the network.
- 17 Let's say you were making a change, like
- 18 you did in the dB loss scenario, where you were
- 19 taking equipment and retuning it. That equipment has
- an origination point and a terminus point: equipment
- in a central office and equipment at an end-user
- 22 location. The equipment at the end-user location, if
- it's going to be impacted by that particular change,
- then we need to know about it.
- Q. So your position, then, is that under this

- 1 proposal, Qwest's notice obligation to provide
- 2 circuit ID and customer address, would only arise if
- a change is specific to a single End User Customer;
- 4 is that correct?
- 5 A. Yes, keeping in mind -- let's say that in,
- 6 for example, the dB loss scenario, you were going to
- 7 be retuning equipment. You might retune equipment to
- 8 one end-user today, retune equipment to another
- 9 end-user tomorrow, and so on and so forth. We'd like
- 10 to know, for each of those scenarios, which End User
- 11 Customers are going to be impacted.
- 12 Q. With respect to the request that Qwest
- provide access to -- or I'm sorry -- customer circuit
- 14 IDs and customer addresses in their notices, am I
- 15 correct that Eschelon, in its own databases, has
- 16 electronic access to both its customer circuit IDs
- 17 and customer addresses?
- 18 A. Yes, I believe it does, with one caveat.
- 19 Eschelon uses the circuit identification provided to
- 20 it by Owest to track its customers.
- Q. Okay. Let's turn to "Loop Transport
- 22 Combinations," issue 9-55. I'll ask you to turn to
- pages 189 through 190 of your direct.
- 24 MR. MERZ: I'm sorry, Mr. Devaney. Could
- 25 you give those page numbers again?

- 1 MR. DEVANEY: 189 through 190.
- 2 MR. MERZ: Thank you.
- 3 O. (By Mr. Devaney) Now, just to refresh our
- 4 memories, this issue involves Eschelon's proposed use
- 5 of the term "loop transport combinations," and it's a
- 6 defined term in the interconnection agreement; is
- 7 that right?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And it would include, under your proposal,
- 10 the following products: EELs, commingled EELs and
- 11 high-capacity EELs; is that right?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 O. And you agree, I think, that EELs, as
- 14 compared to commingled EELs, have different rates,
- 15 terms and conditions and provisioning obligations
- that apply to them; is that right?
- 17 A. I think I would, yes, with one caveat,
- which is EELs and commingled EELs are the
- 19 combinations of different things, the combination of
- 20 multiple things. The terms, conditions and rates
- 21 that apply to a UNE in either of those circumstances
- 22 are the same, it's just that in a UNE combination of
- 23 EELs, all of them are UNEs and all UNE applications
- 24 apply. In a commingled EEL arrangement, there's a
- 25 UNE and then a non-UNE. The terms and conditions

- 1 specific to UNEs still apply to that UNE piece.
- 2 O. Understood. We agree on that.
- 3 A. So there are differences, but there are
- 4 also similarities.
- 5 Q. Right. But there are also important
- 6 differences between the non-UNE piece of a commingled
- 7 EEL on the one hand, and the fact that an EEL is all
- 8 UNEs. That results in different rates, terms and
- 9 conditions; does it not?
- 10 A. I would agree there are important
- 11 differences and important similarities, and the
- 12 purpose of this particular language is to capture
- 13 both.
- 14 Q. And yet even though there are those
- 15 differences, important differences between those
- 16 products, Eschelon's proposing to use the same term
- for these three products; isn't that right?
- 18 A. It is, but not in isolation. When you see
- 19 how it defines that term, you see that it points out
- those very specific difference and similarities.
- Q. And do you recall that the Minnesota
- 22 Department of Commerce concluded that it would be
- confusing to use the same term for those three
- 24 different products?
- 25 A. The Department of Commerce did, yes.

- 1 Q. And so the Commission then rejected
- 2 Eschelon's use of that term; isn't that correct?
- 3 A. In rereading the order after our last
- 4 conversation on this topic, I don't believe so. As I
- 5 read the order, what happened was that the parties
- 6 came to an agreement on that language, and the
- 7 Commission simply adopted it.
- 8 Q. So it's your position that the Minnesota
- 9 Commission has adopted the use of "loop transport
- 10 combination"?
- 11 A. That's not what I said. My reading of the
- 12 Commission's order is that the Commission basically,
- in its order, after the ALJ's order came out, said
- 14 that this issue is really no longer before it, other
- than approving an agreement already reached by the
- 16 parties, and so it approved that agreement.
- Q. And so you are stating, then, that in
- 18 Minnesota, Eschelon agreed not to use "loop transport
- 19 combination, " that term?
- 20 A. I'm not saying that. All I'm saying is
- 21 that the Commission did not find that the term was
- 22 confusing.
- Q. Okay, but it didn't adopt the term?
- 24 A. It didn't.
- Q. At page 189, carrying over to 190 of your

- direct, you state: "When Qwest's proposals are
- 2 closely scrutinized, it becomes clear that Qwest is
- 3 attempting to position one type of loop transport
- 4 combination -- a commingled EEL -- so that the terms
- 5 governing the non-UNE" -- I'm going to skip the
- 6 parens -- "will dictate how the UNE portion of the
- 7 combination is ordered, provisioned and repaired."
- 8 Do you see that?
- 9 A. I do.
- 10 Q. Are you aware that Qwest has proposed and
- 11 agreed to language stating that when a UNE circuit is
- commingled with a non-UNE circuit, the rates, terms
- and conditions of the interconnection agreement will
- apply to the UNE circuit?
- 15 A. That sounds familiar. Can you point me to
- 16 where that is?
- 17 Q. Sure. You can find it in, I believe, the
- issues matrix under section 9.23.4.
- 19 A. I don't have a matrix in front of me, but
- I have the marked-up contract in front of me.
- Q. Right.
- 22 A. And with that in mind, can I hear your
- 23 question again?
- 24 O. Sure. All I'm trying to establish is
- you've suggested that Qwest's intent here is to have

- 1 the UNE component of a commingled EEL not be governed
- 2 by UNE terms. I'm paraphrasing your statement, but
- 3 that's how I read your statement.
- And my point is that in section 9.23.4,
- 5 Qwest has specifically agreed to language
- 6 establishing that for commingled EELs, the rates,
- 7 terms and conditions of the interconnection agreement
- 8 will apply to the UNE circuit. And it's also stated
- 9 that this Commission will have jurisdiction over that
- 10 portion of the circuit. Were you aware of that?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And it's still our testimony that Qwest is
- 13 attempting to have the UNE component of a commingled
- 14 EEL governed by terms other than those in the
- 15 interconnection agreement?
- 16 A. I need to get back to my testimony here to
- 17 make sure that's a fair characterization of what I
- 18 said. Yes, and I'll tell you why. And it has to do
- 19 with the very last part of that question, which says:
- 20 "Will dictate how the UNE portion of the combination
- is ordered, provisioned and repaired." Our concern
- is that once a UNE is commingled in a combination of
- 23 UNE and non-UNE, that the way in which the service is
- ordered and repaired become dominated by the non-UNE
- 25 component.

- 1 As we heard today in the conversation, I
- 2 think, with Ms. Stewart, in that situation Owest is
- 3 requiring that we serve, in many instances, two
- 4 trouble tickets, or to try to get us to isolate the
- 5 trouble in one circuit versus the other, changing the
- 6 way we currently do it with UNEs today.
- 7 Q. And your position is that Owest
- 8 agreed-upon language in 9.23.4 does not address that
- 9 issue?
- 10 A. I think what I said is not as clearly as
- we would like it addressed by our proposed language.
- MR. DEVANEY: Thank you. That's all I
- have.
- 14 THE COURT: Mr. Merz, if you'll allow me,
- 15 I have one quick question. I want to make sure I
- 16 understand Mr. Starkey on one point.
- 17 Mr. Starkey, back on, I believe it was
- 18 9-33.
- 19 THE WITNESS: Modernization?
- THE COURT: Yes. You indicated that, or I
- 21 thought I heard you say that if Qwest's proposed
- language were adopted with respect to that issue, the
- 9-33, that if an End User Customer experienced any
- 24 difficulties, Eschelon has no other recourse under
- 25 the ICA? Is that what you said? No recourse to

- 1 require Qwest to restore service?
- THE WITNESS: I think that is, in part,
- 3 true, yes. And the situation we give in the
- 4 testimony is the dB loss example, which is we had
- 5 service working. Qwest made a change to its network
- 6 that brought that service down. When Eschelon
- 7 reported that to Qwest, Qwest said, Well, we have
- 8 provided the service within the ANSI standard, and
- 9 hence, that's where our obligation is.
- 10 And so they defended their obligations
- 11 with respect to even though they put the circuit
- down, they had no obligation to fix it. As long as
- 13 it was within the ANSI standards, then they had met
- 14 their obligation. This was specifically intended to
- 15 address that situation, saying not only does it have
- 16 to be within the standards, it also has to work.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay. I understand now.
- 18 Thank you.
- Mr. Merz, do you have anything else?
- 20 MR. MERZ: I don't have any redirect.
- 21 THE COURT: Thank you very much.
- THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- MR. MERZ: We call Bonnie Johnson.
- THE COURT: Ms. Johnson, if you'd please
- raise your right hand, I'll go ahead and swear you

- 1 in.
- 2 (The witness was sworn.)
- 3 Thank you. Please have a seat.
- 4 Mr. Merz?
- 5 MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 6 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 7 BY MR. MERZ:
- 8 Q. Good afternoon, Ms. Johnson.
- 9 A. Good afternoon.
- 10 Q. You have prepared a direct rebuttal and
- 11 surrebuttal testimony filed in this case; is that
- 12 correct?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- 14 Q. And for the record, I will note that your
- direct testimony has been marked as Eschelon
- 16 Exhibit 3, which includes Eschelon Exhibits 3.1
- 17 through 3.85. Your rebuttal testimony has been
- 18 marked as Eschelon Exhibit 3R, which includes
- 19 Exhibits Eschelon 3R.1 and 3R.2, and your surrebuttal
- 20 testimony has been marked an Eschelon 3SR, which
- 21 includes Exhibits Eschelon 3SR.1 through Eschelon
- 22 Exhibit 3SR.3. Ms. Johnson, is the information
- 23 contained in your direct rebuttal and surrebuttal
- 24 testimony true and accurate, to the best of your
- 25 knowledge?

- 1 A. Yes, it is.
- 2 MR. MERZ: Your Honor, Eschelon offers
- 3 Eschelon Exhibit 3, including 3.1 through 3.85;
- 4 Eschelon Exhibit 3R, including 3R.1 and 3R.2; and
- 5 Eschelon 3SR, including 3SR.1 through 3SR.3.
- 6 MR. TOPP: No objection.
- 7 THE COURT: They're admitted.
- 8 MR. MERZ: With that, Ms. Johnson is now
- 9 available for cross-examination.
- THE COURT: Mr. Topp?
- MR. TOPP: Ms. Johnson, despite my efforts
- on the plane, I've ultimately decided I don't have
- 13 questions for you.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Oh, okay.
- 15 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Johnson.
- 16 MR. MERZ: Your Honor, can we just have a
- 17 brief, perhaps, restroom break?
- 18 THE COURT: Sure. We'll take five
- 19 minutes.
- 20 (Recess)
- 21 THE COURT: Let's go back on the record.
- 22 Mr. Merz?
- MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor.
- Eschelon calls as its final witness, Douglas Denney.
- THE COURT: Mr. Denney, if you'll please

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- 1 raise your right hand, I'll swear you in.
- 2 (The witness was sworn.)
- 3 Thank you. Please be seated.
- 4 Mr. Merz?
- 5 MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 6 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 7 BY MR. MERZ:
- 8 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Denney.
- 9 A. Good afternoon.
- 10 Q. You have prepared direct rebuttal and
- 11 surrebuttal testimony filed in this case; is that
- 12 correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. I will note for the record that your
- direct testimony has been marked as Eschelon
- 16 Exhibit 2, and that it includes Eschelon Exhibits 2.1
- 17 through 2.33; that your rebuttal testimony has been
- marked as Eschelon Exhibit 2R, and it includes
- 19 Eschelon Exhibit 2R.1; and that your surrebuttal
- 20 testimony has been marked as Eschelon Exhibit 2SR,
- 21 and that includes Exhibits 2SR.1 and 2SR.2.
- Is the information contained in your
- 23 direct rebuttal and surrebuttal testimony true and
- accurate, to the best of your knowledge?
- 25 A. Yes, it is.

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- 1 MR. MERZ: Your Honor, Eschelon offers
- 2 Eschelon Exhibits 2; 2.13 through 2.33; 2R, 2R.1;
- 3 2SR, 2SR.1 and 2SR.2.
- 4 THE COURT: Any objections to the
- 5 admission as marked?
- 6 MR. TOPP: No objection.
- 7 THE COURT: Okay. They're admitted.
- 8 MR. MERZ: And, Your Honor, Mr. Denney is
- 9 now available for cross-examination.
- 10 THE COURT: Mr. Devaney?
- 11 MR. DEVANEY: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 12 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 13 BY MR. DEVANEY:
- Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Denney.
- 15 A. Good afternoon.
- 16 Q. Just a few questions about your
- 17 background. Your education and training are primely
- in economics; is that right?
- 19 A. That's correct.
- Q. You're not an engineer?
- 21 A. I'm not an engineer.
- 22 Q. And you don't have expertise in OSS
- 23 issues?
- A. You mean in terms of the same context you
- asked Mr. Starkey? I haven't designed OSS systems.

- 1 I mean, certainly from a cost-study standpoint, I've
- looked at, you know, cost studies as they relate to
- 3 OSS charts.
- 4 Q. Have you ever had responsibility for
- 5 designing, developing or operating an OSS system?
- 6 A. No, I haven't.
- 7 THE COURT: Would you, for the record,
- 8 just state what OSS is?
- 9 MR. DEVANEY: Sure. Operation Support
- 10 System.
- 11 Q. (By Mr. Devaney) And as long as we're
- 12 clarifying the record on OSS systems, would you agree
- 13 that OSS systems are the computer systems that are
- 14 used to receive and process orders and to generate
- 15 bills relating to orders at the highest level?
- 16 A. Right. I mean, to both receive and to
- send. From Eschelon's side, we have our own OSS
- 18 system, so to send orders, right. So it's kind of
- 19 the exchange of orders, you know, processing orders,
- and the ways that the systems can communicate with
- 21 each other, you know, in many cases, to eliminate
- 22 human interaction in those communications and to
- facilitate the ordering, you know, provisioning and
- 24 repairing circuits.
- Q. Right. Well, let's turn to our first

- issue that we'll discuss, and that's 4-5, 4-dash-5,
- 2 Design Changes. To put this issue in context, would
- 3 you agree that a design change typically occurs when
- 4 a CLEC submits an order to Qwest, and then for some
- 5 reason decides to change the order and has to submit
- 6 a new order, which requires Qwest to engage in
- 7 additional activities to process the new order?
- 8 A. I would agree that when there's a design
- 9 change, there is a change to the order. I mean,
- there's a definition of "design change" in the
- 11 contract.
- 12 Q. Right.
- 13 A. Which states I think much more clearly
- 14 what exactly "design changes" are. That's in section
- 15 4 of the contract.
- 16 O. Okay, that's fine, but do you generally
- 17 agree with my description, that it's a change to an
- 18 order and that Qwest, when an order is changed, has
- 19 to take certain steps to process the new order?
- 20 A. I think that's encompassed by "design
- 21 change, " and the definition actually says it's a
- 22 change in the circuit design after, you know, after
- engineering review. So it's a change, you know, a
- 24 change in the circuit design from a service that was
- 25 previously requested by the CLEC. So I don't know

- that that's limited to a change in order situation,
- 2 but certainly a change in an order that's being
- 3 processed would -- could encompass, if it falls
- 4 within additional things, it could be a design
- 5 change.
- 6 Q. Okay. And I think that you've testified
- 7 in past proceedings that you've had an engineer
- 8 explain to you what is involved in a design change.
- 9 But I'm correct that you've never performed a design
- 10 change yourself; is that correct?
- 11 A. Let me clarify. In the past, my focus and
- 12 discussion with the engineer is really what's
- 13 involved with a CFA change, was connecting facility
- 14 assignment change, which is a change to, you know,
- 15 could be a change that might take place during the
- 16 turn-up of a circuit. And so I have not done those
- 17 myself, but those are the discussions I specifically
- 18 had with the engineer.
- 19 Q. So the discussions did not include design
- 20 changes involving loops and transport?
- 21 A. At a very high level, my focus is having
- that engineer, as we've discussed in the past,
- 23 walking through what would happen in a case with a
- 24 change in a connecting the facility assignment on the
- 25 day of a coordinated cut.

- 1 Q. Okay. And you've not analyzed, I take it,
- 2 what changes Qwest would have to make, or any ILEC
- 3 would have to make, to its downstream operations and
- 4 support systems in the event of either a loop
- 5 transport or CFA design change; is that correct?
- 6 A. I don't know that I would agree with that.
- 7 I mean, certainly there's been testimony on design
- 8 changes and on design change cost studies. There's
- 9 been depositions of Qwest, in the Minnesota UNE case,
- depositions of Qwest engineers who perform design
- 11 changes. And so I've looked at their descriptions of
- 12 what occurs. I've looked at Qwest cost support for
- 13 what occurs.
- 14 Q. Let me ask it a different way, then.
- 15 You've not had firsthand hands-on experience with
- 16 making changes to downstream OSS systems that are
- 17 necessitated by design change; is that correct?
- 18 A. I have not personally done that process.
- 19 Q. Now, in this case, as I think we've
- 20 established, we're really talking about three types
- of design changes: loop, UDIT for transport and CFA,
- 22 which is, I think you said before, Connecting
- 23 Facility Assignment; is that right?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. And the dispute essentially lies in the

- 1 fact that Qwest's position is that this Commission's
- 2 ordered rate for design changes of \$35.89 should
- 3 apply to all three types of design changes. And by
- 4 contrast, Eschelon is proposing separate rates for
- 5 all three design changes; is that correct?
- A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. And the rates that Eschelon is proposing
- 8 are \$35.89 for transport; \$30 for loops and \$5 for
- 9 CFA; is that right?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. And you've not -- or Eschelon has not --
- 12 submitted a cost study in support of its rates in
- 13 this case; is that correct?
- 14 A. We've certainly submitted cost support for
- the rates that we've had, and discussion as to why
- the rates we're proposing are appropriate. We're
- 17 proposing interim rates in this case.
- 18 Q. Right. And, you and I have been together
- 19 for a decade now, and you and I have talked about
- 20 cost studies in many proceedings. You wouldn't call
- 21 what you submitted in this proceeding a "cost study,"
- 22 would you?
- A. No. That's correct. But, I mean, I just
- don't want to leave the impression that we didn't
- offer cost support for our rates.

- 1 Q. And the cost support you're referring to
- is what's set forth in your testimony, your narrative
- 3 testimony. And I think there's an attachment to your
- 4 testimony; is that correct?
- 5 A. That's correct.
- 6 Q. Okay. You've presented a fair amount of
- 7 testimony with respect to this design change issue,
- 8 particularly with respect to the CFA issue relating
- 9 to what tasks are required to be performed by an
- 10 engineer or technician in a central office, correct?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Are you aware that the cost study upon
- which this Commission bases its \$35.89 rate does not
- include engineering technician time in a central
- 15 office?
- 16 A. I've looked at that study, and it does not
- 17 include activities that would be required for a CFA
- 18 change, which is part -- which supports my
- 19 conclusion.
- 20 O. That's not my question. That's not my
- 21 question, Mr. Denney. My question is different.
- 22 Would you -- are you aware of the fact that the cost
- 23 study that this Commission used to establish its
- 24 \$35.89 rate does not include technician or engineer
- 25 activity in a central office?

- 1 A. I mean, that cost study is attached to Ms.
- 2 Million's rebuttal testimony, I believe 4R.1. And, I
- 3 mean, I think there's -- I mean, a lot can be
- 4 determined from looking at that, looking at that cost
- 5 study, exactly what's there and what's not there.
- 6 And what's included there in this study is service
- 7 delivery coordinator costs and design cost.
- 8 Q. And there's nothing in there about
- 9 engineer or technician time; is that correct?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 O. Thank you. I'd like to ask you now about
- issue 9-53, which is UCCRE, U-C-C-R-E, which stands
- for "Unbundled Customer Controlled Rearrangement
- 14 Element." Let's turn, Mr. Denney, to page 112 of
- 15 your direct. And I'm asking you to refer to that
- 16 page, that page and the pages that follow it, because
- 17 that's where Eschelon's proposals are set forth for
- 18 this issue. And the proposals that Eschelon has put
- 19 forth for proposal numbers 2, 3 and 4 generally
- 20 provide for what I'm going to call a product
- 21 phase-out process. Is that a fair characterization?
- 22 A. Right, but there are three versions of
- 23 kind of a similar process, a process by which Qwest
- 24 could phase out a product that it's been offering
- 25 that it no longer wishes to -- you know, offering

- 1 under the contract that it no longer wishes to offer.
- 2 Q. And I want to ask you some specific
- 3 questions about each of the three proposals that
- 4 Eschelon has put forth for this product phase-out
- 5 process.
- 6 Let's look first on page 112 at proposal
- 7 number 2, which is section 1.7.3. It states there --
- 8 and I'm paraphrasing, and you can correct my
- 9 paraphrase if you think it's wrong -- it says here
- 10 that if Qwest wants to phase out a provision of an
- 11 element, service or functionality, it must obtain an
- order from the Commission to do that.
- However, obtaining an order won't be
- 14 necessary if, one, Qwest promptly phases out an
- 15 element, service or functionality that's in the
- 16 agreements of all CLECs in Utah within a three-month
- 17 time period, when the FCC has ordered that the
- 18 element, service or functionality does not have to be
- 19 "ordered." It says "ordered"; is that right? That
- 20 strikes me as wrong. Should that be "provided"?
- 21 A. I'm thinking here that this actually --
- this proposal here came from the Department of
- 23 Commerce in Minnesota when we were having the debate
- on these proposals. So I believe this is their, you
- know, their language that they proposed and have

- 1 adopted in Minnesota. But I do believe that, I mean,
- 2 it does not have to be processed makes sense as well.
- 4 A. I mean, you asked me if that last part
- 5 would say "does not have to be" --
- 6 Q. "Provided."
- 7 A. -- "provided."
- 8 Q. That makes more sense than ordered,
- 9 wouldn't it?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Now, here's my question for you.
- Basically, as I read this, what it says is that Qwest
- has to obtain an order from this Commission to stop
- offering a product or service that's in an agreement,
- in any CLEC's agreement, unless after an FCC order
- 16 stating that Qwest no longer has to provided the
- 17 product or element, Qwest can remove the product or
- 18 element from all the CLEC's agreements in Utah within
- 19 three months of the FCC order. Is that a fair
- 20 statement?
- 21 A. That's the first condition there under
- 22 which Qwest would not need to phase out the product.
- Q. Okay. So I want to focus on this specific
- 24 contract language that sets that forth. Would Owest
- 25 be able to avoid going through this phase-out

- 1 proceeding before the Commission if it offered an
- 2 amendment to all the CLECs within a three-month
- 3 period? Or would, in fact, the amendment removing
- 4 the product from the interconnection agreements have
- 5 to be agreed upon and approved by this Commission for
- 6 Qwest to avoid a product phase-out proceeding?
- 7 A. I mean, the mere offering of the amendment
- 8 would not -- I mean, under this particular proposal,
- 9 the mere offering of the amendment would not be
- 10 enough. Qwest needs to be involved in phasing out
- 11 that product from, you know, from all CLECs who have
- 12 that product in their interconnection agreement.
- 0. Okay, well, we're focusing on contract
- language here.
- 15 A. Right.
- 16 O. And it says, under number 1: "Owest
- 17 promptly phases out an element, service or
- 18 functionality from the agreements of all CLECs in
- 19 Utah within a three-month time period of when the FCC
- 20 has ordered that the element no longer needs to be
- 21 provided."
- 22 What I'm trying to understand is what's
- our contractual obligation under that? Does that
- 24 mean that after an FCC order comes out, we've got to
- propose an amendment, get the CLECs to agree to it,

- and get this Commission to approve it within three
- 2 months in order to avoid going through a phase-out
- 3 proceeding? Or is it enough for us to merely offer
- 4 the amendment within the three-month period?
- 5 A. I mean, as I said before, it's not enough
- 6 for you to offer the amendment, so you need to be --
- 7 Q. What is enough?
- 8 A. I mean, under this particular proposal, I
- 9 think Qwest needs to get the amendment out there,
- 10 engage the CLECs, and phase that product out from the
- 11 CLECs within a three-month time period.
- 12 Q. And if a single CLEC in Utah refuses to
- respond to our offer, say we send them an amendment
- 14 and they say, We're not interested in entering into
- 15 this. Even though the FCC has said you don't have to
- 16 provide it anymore, we're not going to talk to you
- 17 about it. Or they just don't even call us back.
- 18 That means that we've got to go through a product
- 19 phase-out, get Commission approval to stop offering
- 20 the product the FCC has said we no longer need to
- 21 provide. Is that correct?
- 22 A. That's why we have multiple proposals
- 23 here. But under this proposal, I mean, that's
- correct. The intent here is that Qwest couldn't go
- on offering a product to some select group of CLECs

- and not offer that product to Eschelon.
- 2 Q. Okay. But again, the way this would work
- 3 contractually is if we get even one obstinate CLEC
- 4 who says, I'm not going to pay attention to what the
- 5 FCC ruled. I'm going to continue demanding that this
- 6 product be in my interconnection agreement. That's
- 7 enough for us to have an obligation to everybody to
- 8 continue to provide it?
- 9 A. Well, an obligation to provide it under
- 10 Eschelon's contract, I mean, one option to Qwest is
- 11 to, with that, I mean, how would you resolve that
- dispute with that CLEC? You'd go to dispute
- resolution, you'd take that to the Commission.
- 14 You're already at the Commission, then.
- 15 O. And we sure couldn't do that within three
- 16 months, could we?
- 17 A. You could go to the Commission within that
- 18 time period. I mean, if it's a clear FCC elimination
- of a product, Eschelon's not going to oppose that
- 20 product being removed from its interconnection
- 21 agreement. Where the problem arises is where there's
- not this clear delineation, or Qwest makes a claim,
- you know, we offered this in the past, but we no
- longer want to offer that anymore for some reason.
- 25 That's where this language is here to protect, you

- 1 know, protect Eschelon from having those products
- 2 approved from Eschelon while Qwest still makes them
- 3 available to other carriers.
- 4 Q. Let's talk about the phase-out process.
- 5 If the FCC issues an order tomorrow saying that Qwest
- 6 no longer needs to provide widget A, and widget A
- 7 happens to be in the existing interconnection
- 8 agreements of some carriers, and Qwest can't get an
- 9 amendment done within three months, and it goes
- 10 through a phase-out proceeding before this Commission
- 11 pursuant to your language, is it your view, and
- 12 Eschelon's view, that this Commission would have
- authority to require Qwest to continue providing
- 14 widget A, even though the FCC has said there's no
- 15 longer an obligation?
- 16 A. I think this Commission is obliqated to
- 17 follow the FCC rules on most -- I mean, I know
- there's some distinction in cases in terms of the
- 19 authority that the Commission has. But to say it's a
- 20 case where it's a clear elimination of a product from
- 21 the FCC, then it's an easy task for the Commission to
- look at that and make that determination.
- Q. But my question is: Doesn't your phase-out
- 24 proposal presume that this Commission has authority
- 25 to decide whether to permit or require Qwest to keep

- offering a product that the FCC has said Qwest no
- longer needs to provide?
- 3 A. No, it doesn't. And I mean, I know you
- 4 said we're going to talk about these other proposals,
- 5 but there is, in the other proposals, I mean,
- 6 specifically we separated it out because of some of
- 7 the complaints you raised about the Department of
- 8 Commerce proposal.
- 9 O. We'll talk about those. But within this
- 10 that we're talking about, isn't it a fact that this
- 11 Commission, under your language, could say, I see the
- 12 FCC has said widget A is no longer required, but
- because it's in past interconnection agreements,
- we're still going to require you to provide this.
- 15 Isn't that right?
- 16 A. No. I don't see where this language here
- 17 allows the Commission to violate the law. So I don't
- 18 agree with that. What this language here would say
- 19 is the Commission would look at that, and when
- 20 they're -- the Commission would look at this case.
- 21 If it's clear-cut as you're describing, which hardly
- is ever the case, but if it's a clear-cut case, the
- Commission would look at that and say, Yes, this
- should be phased out, that would be enough.
- 25 Under these situations, I just would note

- there's a lot of things in this current contract
- 2 right now that the FCC has gotten rid of, and
- 3 Eschelon isn't trying to force a phase-out proposal
- for. It's still in your contract with some other
- 5 carriers, as I understand.
- 6 But things like unbundled switching,
- 7 that's not even in this contract. We didn't -- when
- 8 it's clear-cut, Eschelon has never been in a
- 9 situation of trying to force Qwest to offer something
- 10 that's clear. This is really designed to protect
- 11 Eschelon in the case where Qwest is offering products
- to certain carriers and not to Eschelon.
- 13 Q. Okay. If Qwest were required to go
- 14 through this phase-out process, am I correct that
- 15 under proposal number 2, there's no criteria set
- 16 forth as to how the Commission should decide whether
- 17 to allow Qwest to stop offering the product?
- 18 A. The criteria are not set here. That would
- 19 be up to the arguments the parties set forth before
- 20 the Commission, if there was even a debate.
- I would just point out, I mean --
- Q. There's no question.
- 23 A. -- there's nothing in the language --
- Q. There's no question.
- 25 A. There was a question. There's nothing in

- 1 the language that would stop Eschelon and Qwest from
- 2 entering into an agreement, you know, to remove a
- 3 product from the contract.
- 4 Q. And also, one option that Eschelon or the
- 5 CLECs would have, if Eschelon wanted a product
- 6 removed from its interconnection agreement or kept in
- 7 its interconnection agreement, would be to go through
- 8 the arbitration process; isn't that right?
- 9 A. Well --
- 10 Q. For example, if Qwest comes to Eschelon
- and proposes an amendment to remove widget A from the
- interconnection agreement, Eschelon would have a
- 13 right to perhaps say no and then go through the
- arbitration process, as opposed to a phase-out
- 15 proceeding; isn't that correct?
- 16 A. I don't think I would state it -- in
- 17 principle, somewhat I agree, but I wouldn't state it
- 18 the way that you're stating it, because if Qwest
- 19 wanted to amend Eschelon's contract, then I believe
- the burden would be upon Owest, not upon Eschelon.
- 21 Q. But again, the arbitration process is
- 22 available as an alternative to the phase-out
- 23 process --
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. -- is that correct?

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- 1 A. That's correct. I was just taking
- 2 exception that it would be up to Eschelon to then go
- 3 to the Commission and try to keep something in its
- 4 contract.
- 5 Q. Fair enough. Let's look at proposal
- 6 number 3. On page 113 of your testimony, under
- 7 proposed section 1.7.3, again about five or six lines
- 8 down, the proposal says that: "Qwest must request and
- 9 obtain Commission approval" to stop -- I'm
- 10 paraphrasing now -- to stop offering a product or
- 11 service. And is it true there that Owest would have
- to, again, obtain Commission approval even though the
- FCC had announced that it no longer had an obligation
- 14 to provide something?
- 15 A. No, that's not true in this case. I
- 16 believe it's in the subparagraph there, 1.7.3.1, that
- 17 says if the basis of Qwest's request is that it's no
- 18 longer required to provide the product or service
- 19 pursuant to a legally-binding modification or change
- 20 of existing rules, in the case of a conflict, then --
- 21 now I'm paraphrasing -- section 2.2 of the agreement
- 22 applies. So this particular instance, I mean, this
- was put in as a response to Qwest's criticism of the
- Department of Commerce's proposed language that was
- 25 proposal number 2 we were discussing, that says if

- there was a change in law, this would not apply.
- 2 O. Well, I wanted to ask you about 1.7.3.1.
- And again, to read the relevant language, it says:
- 4 "If the basis for Qwest's request is that Qwest is no
- 5 longer required to provide a product or service
- 6 pursuant to a legally-binding modification or change
- 7 in the existing rules, in the cases of conflict."
- 8 What does that mean, "in the cases of conflict"?
- 9 A. I believe that means that in conflict, in
- 10 terms of how things should be removed. If there's no
- 11 conflict, then the removal, the process, the contract
- would be amended as needed. But section 2.2 is about
- 13 what happens under, you know, under changes of law.
- 14 And I should look at section 2.2.
- 15 Q. Before you turn to 2.2, I want to ask you,
- 16 I want to focus on those words, "in the cases of
- 17 conflict." Conflict between what?
- 18 A. (No audible or visible response)
- 19 Q. Did you hear my question?
- 20 A. Yes. I need to look at section -- I mean,
- 21 this is referring to section 2.2, so I want to make
- 22 my answers as appropriate as I can. Section 2.2 of
- the contract deals with how changes in law will be
- implemented.
- 25 Q. Yes, I understand. And --

- 1 A. And section 1.7.3.1 talks about if the
- 2 basis for Qwest's request is that Qwest no longer has
- 3 to provide this, you know, service pursuant to a
- 4 legally-binding modification. Then it says: "In
- 5 cases of conflict, the pertinent ruling, " you know,
- 6 section 2.2 will apply, notwithstanding anything in
- 7 section 1.7.3. And what I believe that to mean there
- 8 is in conflict between whether this should be phased
- 9 out or whether it's a change in law.
- 10 Q. Is that defined anywhere? Is it defined
- anywhere in your proposal what "cases of conflict"
- 12 means?
- 13 A. "Conflict," I believe, is not defined in
- the contract, but it's a term that's defined.
- 15 "Conflict" would be a disagreement between the
- 16 parties as to how products would be removed from the
- interconnection agreement.
- 18 O. Okay, and if there is a conflict, who
- 19 would resolve it, under section 1.7.3.1?
- 20 A. This says: "If the basis of Owest's
- 21 request is that it is no longer required to provide a
- 22 product or service, " then section 2.2 is going to
- 23 govern. So it's -- so the basis of Qwest's request
- would require section 2.2 to govern, section 2.2
- to apply.

- 1 Q. Okay. And turn, if you would, to the next
- 2 page, 1.7.3.4.
- 3 A. This is still part of proposal number 3?
- 4 To be clear.
- 5 Q. Right. There you state: "Before Qwest
- 6 submits a request to phase out or cease offering a
- 7 product or service, Qwest must continue to offer the
- 8 product or service unless the Commission orders
- 9 otherwise." Do you see that?
- 10 A. Yes, I do.
- 11 Q. And again, if the FCC issued an order
- saying Qwest doesn't have to provide something, and
- if this phase-out process began during the duration
- of the phase-out proceeding, until the proceeding is
- 15 resolved, Owest would be required to still provide
- that product; is that correct?
- 17 A. No. I mean, I disagree with many things
- 18 you said in that sentence. What this section says is
- 19 that if Qwest wants to remove a product due to a
- 20 change in law, this section doesn't apply. Section
- 21 2.2 applies. This is a case -- so that would cover
- 22 your FCC case. Other cases, then, where Qwest wants
- to remove a product not due to a change in law, and I
- 24 think we give an example in the language -- say,
- 25 there's no demand for a product -- then this section,

- 1 1.7.3.4, would apply.
- 2 Q. Okay, thanks for that clarification. Am I
- 3 correct that Eschelon has never ordered UCCRE,
- $4 \quad U-C-C-R-E$ ?
- 5 A. To the best of my knowledge, that's
- 6 correct.
- 7 Q. Let's talk briefly about commingled
- 8 arrangements, issue 9-58. We've had discussions
- 9 already about what commingled arrangements are, so I
- 10 won't go through that. But this issue involves
- 11 Eschelon's proposals relating to ordering, billing
- and provisioning of commingled arrangements; is that
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. It's really how are we going to treat the
- 15 UNE components in comparison with their non-UNE
- 16 components of a commingled arrangement.
- 17 Q. And a commingled arrangement includes -- I
- 18 think we covered this before with Ms. Stewart --
- 19 combinations of UNEs with non-UNEs, such as
- 20 commingled EELs, correct?
- 21 A. That's correct, and a lot of this language
- here deals specifically with the point-to-point
- commingled EEL, as opposed to what we would call a
- 24 multiplexed commingled EEL.
- Q. And I take it you would agree that

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- different rates, terms and conditions apply to the
- 2 UNE components of a commingled EEL on the one hand,
- 3 versus the non-UNE component of a commingled EEL?
- 4 A. I'm thinking rates, terms, conditions, and
- 5 I'm not sure what falls in that category, but
- 6 certainly there are differences in rates, there's
- 7 difference in terms, intervals may be different for
- 8 those two products.
- 9 Q. And that's why the parties have agreed to
- 10 language, I believe, that the interconnection
- 11 agreement will set forth the terms and conditions of
- 12 the UNE component but not for the non-UNE component,
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. Could you look at page 142 of your direct.
- 16 At the bottom of the page the question reads: "Will
- 17 Eschelon's proposal cause Qwest to incur significant
- 18 costs?"
- 19 And you respond: "No. Eschelon is not
- asking Owest to modify systems and incur costs."
- 21 And I want to focus on that statement.
- The specific proposals that you have in this
- proceeding are that for commingled EELs, for example,
- 24 instead of requiring two orders, one for the UNE
- component and one for the non-UNE component, that

- 2 that correct?
- 3 A. That's correct.
- 4 Q. And similarly, instead of issuing two
- 5 bills, one for the UNE and one for the non-UNE
- 6 component, Eschelon is requesting that Qwest issue
- 7 just one bill, correct?
- 8 A. Right, one bill, and there's an
- 9 alternative proposal that says if it's not going to
- 10 be one bill, let's do something so that we can at
- 11 least relate these components on the bill so that at
- least we can tell what goes with what when we're
- doing bill verification.
- 14 Q. And Qwest's current practice is that if it
- 15 requires two orders, one for the UNE and one for the
- 16 non-UNE component, it issues two bills; is that
- 17 right? It's a yes or no answer.
- 18 A. Given those choices I would have to say
- no, and then there's an explanation as to why. I
- 20 believe "no" is the right answer.
- 21 Q. Well, the other proposal you have is to
- 22 have -- require Qwest to use the same circuit ID for
- 23 both the UNE and the non-UNE component of a
- 24 commingled EEL; is that correct?
- 25 A. I've requested a single-circuit ID, and

- there's an alternative proposal as well there that
- 2 says if you're not going to provide a single-circuit
- 3 ID, how about at least let's repair these circuits as
- 4 though they're a single circuit so the repair is
- 5 facilitated and done in a timely manner.
- 6 Q. Now, part of the reason that Qwest has
- 7 separate circuit IDs for UNEs versus non-UNEs is that
- 8 the UNEs are kept in one database inventory while
- 9 non-UNEs are stored in a separate database inventory;
- 10 isn't that correct?
- 11 A. You'd have to be more specific than that.
- 12 I believe circuits are all housed in the system
- 13 that's called TIRKs. I don't know that -- there's
- 14 not two separate systems, as I understand it, one
- for, you know, two separate inventory systems, one
- 16 for UNEs and one for non-UNEs. It's the same. The
- 17 facility is identical in all cases. So the
- 18 facilities are -- the physical facilities where
- they're housed and what's out there is in a single
- 20 system, as I understand it.
- Q. Well, I'll put it this way: For UNEs,
- 22 Qwest has to access certain OSS systems for billing
- and provisioning that it does not have to access for
- 24 non-UNEs. The same for non-UNEs. It has to access
- certain billing and provisioning systems that are

- unique to non-UNEs; isn't that correct?
- 2 A. I mean, I disagree with that because
- 3 you're saying what Qwest has to do.
- 4 Q. Well, that's what Qwest does today.
- 5 A. Qwest does have separate ordering systems
- 6 for, you know, for access service requests, which
- 7 are, in some cases -- not all cases -- non-UNEs,
- 8 though some UNEs are ordered that way in a separate
- 9 system for local service requests.
- 10 Q. And the circuit ID number helps Qwest
- 11 determine which systems to access, because the
- 12 circuit ID contains information about whether it's a
- 13 UNE or a non-UNE and which systems it should go to;
- isn't that correct?
- 15 A. I mean, there's usually a code in the
- 16 circuit ID that identifies whether the circuit is --
- 17 you know, whether it's been classified as a UNE or a
- 18 non-UNE. I believe it's a single character in that
- 19 circuit ID. Otherwise, I do not believe there would
- 20 be any difference in the circuit ID.
- 21 Q. And going back to your proposals, if Qwest
- 22 were required to now begin altering its processes and
- 23 systems so that just one order could be submitted for
- 24 both the UNE component and the non-UNE component of a
- commingled EEL, that would require Qwest to incur

- 1 costs, wouldn't it?
- 2 A. No. I mean, where I disagree is what
- 3 Qwest is going to be required to do. The world we
- 4 came from was where there was a UNE EEL, a
- 5 single-order, single-circuit ID, single repair,
- 6 single bill. And the change that happened is one
- 7 component of that is no lower a UNE, which is going
- 8 to be priced at a higher rate.
- 9 To Eschelon's perspective, the change that
- 10 took place was a simple change in the rate and not,
- as in Qwest's perspective, that it needs, suddenly
- now, to break these apart and create separate circuit
- 13 IDs. So I disagree that this change is required, and
- I disagree that it would incur significant cost to do
- that because you do that already, today.
- 16 O. Well, we talked before about how rates,
- 17 terms and conditions differ from the UNE to the
- 18 non-UNE component, and that's what drives Owest's
- 19 need to tap into different systems through UNEs
- 20 versus non-UNEs. And if Owest were to provision
- 21 commingled EELs just through one order, through the
- 22 same circuit ID and issue just one bill, is it your
- 23 testimony that Qwest could do that without incurring
- any costs whatsoever?
- 25 A. Well, my testimony is that it would not

- 1 incur significant costs to do that. Qwest does have
- 2 the ability to do that with a single order. You can
- 3 place a single order for a UNE EEL today. You can
- 4 place a single order for a special-access channel
- 5 termination and transport combination. And certainly
- 6 this ability exists within Qwest. There's been
- 7 historical cases where Qwest has, you know, gone from
- 8 EEL circuits to a combination, say, of a private line
- 9 and EEL where Qwest did not require changes in
- 10 circuit IDs. We know Qwest has done this
- 11 historically.
- 12 Q. Mr. Denney, you've talked about how Qwest
- accepts an order for a UNE deal, but there's a
- 14 fundamental difference. A UNE deal is two UNEs.
- 15 It's not a combination of a UNE and a non-UNE; isn't
- 16 that right?
- 17 A. I agree with that a UNE EEL is -- a UNE
- 18 EEL is a combination of two UNEs. I agree with that,
- and I agree that a commingled EEL is a combination of
- 20 a UNE and a non-UNE.
- 21 Q. And you testified before that you're not
- an OSS expert, you have not designed or developed or,
- I think, modified OSS systems; is that correct?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. And as you sit here today and say that

- 1 Qwest could suddenly begin receiving one order
- 2 issuing one bill and using one circuit ID, you're not
- 3 saying that as an OSS expert, are you?
- 4 A. I'm saying it because that's what we've
- 5 seen Qwest had. Qwest has historically placed single
- 6 orders for combinations of these circuits, and
- 7 there's no -- I haven't seen any reason why Qwest
- 8 would not continue to do that.
- 9 Q. And you've not conducted any analysis of
- 10 Qwest systems to determine what it would take for
- 11 Qwest to begin changing its systems or processes to
- 12 accommodate Eschelon's demands in this case; is that
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. I disagree that there's changes that are
- 15 necessary. So, I mean, I disagree with that. I have
- 16 to say no to that question because you put too many
- assumptions in there that I already disagree with.
- 18 O. So your bottom line is that Owest could
- 19 begin accepting one order, using one circuit ID,
- 20 issuing one bill without making any changes to its
- 21 systems; is that right?
- 22 A. I didn't say there wouldn't be any
- changes, but what I said is it should not be a
- 24 significant cost. There's certain billing changes
- 25 that are going to have to occur because one of the

- 1 components of the circuit is no longer going to be
- 2 priced at a TELRIC rate. We know that Qwest can
- 3 raise rates. We've seen that.
- 4 Q. And have you analyzed what costs would be
- 5 incurred? Have you been able to quantify that in any
- 6 way?
- 7 A. No, I have not quantified those costs.
- 8 Q. And would Eschelon, as you sit here today,
- 9 be willing to agree to this Commission that whatever
- 10 reasonable costs Qwest incurs to respond to these
- demands, that Eschelon will compensate Qwest by
- 12 paying them a reasonable rate?
- 13 A. Section 5.1.6 of the contract already
- 14 accounts for that, and so I don't believe there's
- 15 anything additional Eschelon needs to agree to.
- 16 O. And we've had a discussion on that
- 17 section. That section allows Owest to seek to
- 18 recover its costs, correct?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 O. And my question for you is: If these
- 21 obligations were being imposed on us, we'd like more
- than an ability to seek our costs. We'd like a
- commitment from Eschelon that you will compensate us
- for costs you incurred to make these changes. Is
- 25 that something that Eschelon is willing to give?

- 1 A. It's clear that there's a disagreement
- 2 about what those costs are, so I'm going to hand over
- 3 to Qwest a blank check and say I'm going to pay
- 4 whatever you claim the costs are. "Seek cost
- 5 recovery" basically means that you would come either
- 6 to Eschelon or you would come to the Commission and
- 7 say, Here are the costs, and that would be
- 8 investigated as to whether those costs were
- 9 reasonable, whether that was the most efficient way
- 10 to incur those costs, and what would be appropriate
- 11 for cost recovery.
- 12 Q. It's actually conceptual, then. Is
- 13 Eschelon willing to agree to reasonable costs of the
- changes it's asking Qwest to make?
- 15 A. Eschelon has already agreed to section
- 16 5.1.6 of the contract.
- Q. And just answer my question.
- 18 A. What we've agreed to is that Qwest
- 19 believes that there were costs that it needs to
- 20 recover; that Owest has the right to come, seek, you
- 21 know, it says "its costs and expenses, if any, that
- 22 it may incur complying with and implementing its
- obligations under this agreement, the Act, and rules,
- 24 regulations and orders of the FCC and Commission."
- That's what's referring to this. That

- 1 would fall -- that falls under this category, the
- 2 section we've been discussing with commingled.
- 3 Q. One last try. This section says that
- 4 Qwest can seek to recover its costs and expenses that
- 5 it incurs by going to the Commission. And I'm asking
- 6 if Eschelon is willing to agree to contract language
- 7 that says, in addition to this, that says if our
- 8 changes for coding are accepted, that is if Qwest has
- 9 to provide one order, provide just one circuit ID and
- submit and issue just one bill, will Eschelon agree
- 11 to pay for the reasonable costs Qwest incurs to make
- 12 those processing systems changes?
- 13 A. First, we've never seen any language like
- that from Qwest, so there hasn't been consideration
- of that from the Eschelon negotiating team. But I
- 16 would recommend against that, because I believe
- 17 section 5.1.6 allows Owest to recover -- seek to
- 18 recover those costs if they're reasonable. That
- 19 would be my position.
- 20 MR. DEVANEY: Thank you. Nothing further.
- THE COURT: Mr. Denney, just to revisit on
- issue 9-53, proposal number 3, the question
- 23 Mr. Devaney was asking you about the phrase "in the
- 24 cases of conflict." I just want to try to understand
- 25 that a little bit better, because this is proposed

- 1 language. Does that phrase mean in the event of a
- dispute between CLEC and Qwest? Is that what we're
- 3 getting at there? I'm not asking for any legal
- 4 conclusion, just is that your understanding of that
- 5 language?
- 6 THE WITNESS: It is. I'm glad you're not
- 7 asking for a legal concluding. I don't know if
- 8 Mr. Devaney asked me that, but I am not a lawyer.
- 9 And I actually haven't had a question specifically on
- 10 that phrase before, but as I read that, that was in
- 11 proposal number?
- 12 THE COURT: Three.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Proposal number 3. I mean,
- as I read that, "in cases of conflict," between --
- 15 really between parties in terms of how a product
- 16 would be removed, there's no reason to either go to
- section 2.2 and 1.7.3, if there's agreement among
- 18 parties in terms of how to remove products from the
- 19 contract. So what we're really -- I believe what
- this language was attempting to point to there was
- 21 where to go, you know, under these various situations
- 22 when Owest seeks to remove something from the
- contract where there is disagreement as to how that's
- 24 going to happen.
- THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Merz?

- 1 MR. MERZ: I think maybe just one
- 2 question.
- 3 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 4 BY MR. MERZ:
- 5 Q. Do you recall that Mr. Devaney asked you
- 6 some questions about your review of the design change
- 7 costs study?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And he asked you about whether there was
- 10 engineering and technician time. And you started to
- 11 say something about how that impacted your
- 12 conclusions regarding the application of that cost
- 13 study to CFA changes. Do you recall that?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And I think that Mr. Denney kind of cut
- off your answer, so I just wanted to make sure you
- 17 had a chance to explain the relationship between
- 18 those two things.
- 19 A. Well, I mean, what Qwest has testified to
- and that I agree with, that a CFA change takes some
- 21 technician activity, but basically what -- I think of
- it in simple terms of where the loop, or actually
- where the interconnection tie pair is plugged into,
- so it knows where to go on the Eschelon colocation.
- And sometimes the CFA doesn't work, so we have to

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- 1 unplug it and plug it into a new CFA. That's where
- 2 the technician would be involved.
- 3 Qwest's position is that these are covered
- 4 in this design change cost that was ordered
- 5 previously by the Commission, but there is no
- 6 technician time in that cost study. The cost study's
- 7 included with Ms. Million's testimony, and you can
- 8 look. There is no averaging of different activities
- 9 together in that cost study. It's just one generic
- 10 activity, which is the basis for -- in part, the
- 11 basis for why we believe that just applies to -- this
- 12 cost just applied to transport design changes.
- 13 Also the fact that that's the way Owest
- charged it to us for a number of years, and we were
- 15 surprised when they started charging it to us for
- design changes for loops and CFA changes.
- 17 MR. MERZ: Nothing further. Thank you.
- 18 THE COURT: Mr. Devaney?
- MR. DEVANEY: Thank you.
- 20 RECROSS-EXAMINATION
- 21 BY MR. DEVANEY:
- 22 Q. With respect to the answers you just gave
- 23 concerning the engineering and technician time, the
- 24 central office for CFA changes, are you aware of
- Ms. Million's testimony reporting that the costs for

- that time are included in the installation change,
- 2 not in the CFA or design change charge?
- 3 A. I believe that Ms. Million has said that,
- 4 but I believe the depositions of, I think it was
- 5 Mr. Jeppson in Minnesota said that there is cost in
- 6 those studies for the single -- for connecting the
- 7 circuit to the CFA, but that the cost, that in his
- 8 time -- and he's the one who did the time estimates
- 9 for those cost studies, if they had to do a CFA
- 10 change, that additional cost he did not include.
- 11 Q. What's Mr. Jeppson's title?
- 12 A. Let me see if I've got the right person
- 13 there.
- Q. Mr. Denney, he's a central office
- 15 technician, right?
- 16 A. Yes, he's one who supported the loop
- 17 installation times in -- at least in Minnesota, but
- 18 those times haven't changed for the last some-odd
- 19 years, so presumably he's done that for a number of
- 20 years.
- 21 Q. Do you know if he was involved in
- 22 preparing the design change cost study that this
- 23 Commission used to set a rate? Do you know that?
- 24 A. No, I don't believe that he did. What I
- 25 believe he was involved with is doing the cost

- 1 studies which Ms. Million was referring to for --
- 2 that this rate was recovered in another study. I'm
- 3 saying that other study is the one that he did, and
- 4 he said it's not there.
- 5 Q. And you're saying that Mr. Jensen did the
- 6 cost study for installation rates used here in Utah;
- 7 is that correct?
- 8 A. I don't know. Owest didn't have that
- 9 documentation. But I believe he testified that he's
- 10 been doing the input to those studies for a number of
- 11 years. And this is in -- I put the transcript, part
- of the transcripts from the Minnesota deposition is
- 13 attached to my testimony, as well as the, you know,
- 14 kind of the relevant things that he said under the
- 15 design change.
- 16 Q. So your testimony is that Ms. Million is
- incorrect in stating that engineer time for CFA
- 18 changes is included in the installation change and
- 19 not a design change charge; is that correct?
- 20 A. I do not see it there in the installation
- 21 charges. Actually, I should just clarify, as I think
- about that answer, that there's no explicit recovery
- of that cost in installation, and oftentimes
- 24 activities that routinely occur are not covered
- explicitly, but are covered implicitly through cost

- 1 factors. That would take a further investigation in
- 2 both Utah and in Minnesota to determine whether those
- 3 are being recovered in cost factors. But there's not
- 4 an explicit charge within that study.
- 5 Q. You've answered my question.
- 6 A. Okay.
- 7 THE COURT: Anything further for Mr.
- 8 Denney?
- 9 MR. MERZ: Nothing further.
- 10 MR. DEVANEY: Nothing, Your Honor.
- 11 THE COURT: Thank you. Anything further,
- 12 Mr. Merz?
- 13 MR. MERZ: No, Your Honor. That concludes
- 14 Eschelon's case.
- 15 THE COURT: Do the parties desire any sort
- of closing or anything?
- 17 MR. MERZ: I'm sorry?
- 18 THE COURT: Any sort of closing that you'd
- 19 like to make?
- MR. MERZ: No.
- MR. DEVANEY: No.
- 22 THE COURT: I just wanted to check real
- 23 quick with counsel. The Division of Public Utilities
- 24 has filed on August 27th the issue matrix dated
- 25 August 16, 2007. And I know we've had some issues

- 1 close and so forth. I just want to make sure that
- 2 the parties are in agreement that this latest issue
- 3 matrix fairly encompasses and reflects all the issues
- 4 that are still open in this matter.
- MR. MERZ: I believe that's the case.
- 6 MR. DEVANEY: As do we. And if we could
- 7 throw in just the caveat, probably for both parties,
- 8 that we'll do one more review after this hearing, and
- 9 if we see any issues that have closed that are on
- 10 there or otherwise not accurately set forth, we will
- 11 let you know promptly.
- 12 THE COURT: Okay, good. Anything further
- we need to take up today, then?
- MR. MERZ: We should -- and we don't
- 15 necessarily need to be on the record to do this, but
- we should talk about a briefing schedule.
- 17 THE COURT: Let's go ahead and go off the
- 18 record for a minute and maybe come back on to state
- 19 that.
- 20 (Brief discussion held off the record.)
- 21 THE COURT: Back on the record. While we
- 22 were off the record just briefly we discussed the
- 23 briefing schedule for this docket, and the parties
- 24 agreed that we'll have one round of briefing, briefs
- 25 to be due November 16th. And I indicated that the

1	Commission will remain open to the parties if they
2	desire at that time to request any further briefing
3	on this issue. Otherwise, I think we can adjourn.
4	Okay, thank you.
5	MR. DEVANEY: Thank you, Your Honor.
6	MR. MERZ: Thank you, Your Honor.
7	(Whereupon, the proceedings were
8	<pre>concluded at 3:21 p.m.)</pre>
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2	CERTIFICATE
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4	
	STATE OF UTAH )
5	) ss.
	COUNTY OF SALT LAKE)
6	
7	This is to certify that the foregoing Public
	Service Commission hearing held before Administrative
8	Law Judge Steven Goodwill was held in the State of
	Utah;
9	
	That the above-named proceedings were taken
10	by me in stenotype, and thereafter caused by me to be
	transcribed into typewriting, and that a full, true,
11	and correct transcription of said testimony so taken
	and transcribed is set forth in the foregoing pages.
12	
	I further certify that I am not of kin or
13	otherwise associated with any of the parties to said
	cause of action, and that I am not interested in the
14	event thereof.
15	Witness my hand and official seal at Salt
	Lake City, Utah, this 19th day of September, 2007.
16	
	My commission expires:
17	May 24, 2011
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20	Kathy H. Morgan, CSR, RPR
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