Decision No. C04-1339

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

DOCKET NO. 03T-506

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN QWEST CORPORATION AND GRANITE TELECOMMUNICATIONS, LLC.

DECISION GRANTING JOINT MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO THE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

Mailed Date: November 16, 2004 Adopted Date: November 10, 2004

I. <u>BY THE COMMISSION</u>

A. Statement

1. This matter comes before the Commission on the joint motion of Qwest Corporation (Qwest) and Granite Telecommunications, LLC (Granite) for approval of an Amendment to their Interconnection Agreement (Agreement). The Agreement was initially approved in Decision No. C03-1391, issued December 12, 2003.

2. The Parties filed this negotiated Amendment on August 31, 2004. The Parties have decided to amend the Agreement to add rates, terms, and conditions for Elimination of UNE-P and Implementation of Batch Hot Cut Process and Discounts. Under the terms of 47 U.S.C. § 252(i) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Granite may at some future date opt into the terms and conditions of Commission approved and currently effective agreements:

[a] local exchange carrier shall make available any interconnection, service, or network element provided under an agreement approved under this section to which it is a party to any other requesting telecommunications carrier upon the same terms and conditions as those provided in the agreement. Decision No. C04-1339

3. Section 47 U.S.C. § 251 *et seq.* of the Act requires that the Commission review and approve or reject interconnection agreements involving incumbent local exchange carriers like Qwest. To comply with the Act, rates in negotiated agreements must be just and reasonable, nondiscriminatory, and based on the cost of providing the interconnection or network element. 47 U.S.C. § 252(e). In reviewing agreements (or portions thereof) the Commission, generally, is guided by 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2), requiring that interconnection agreements not discriminate against non-parties and be consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

4. The proposed rates and conditions have not been previously approved but are supported by cost studies on file in Docket No. 99A-577T. We therefore find it consistent with the directives of the Act, and our own interconnection agreement rules to approve the present amended terms and conditions subject to our own rules and general ratemaking proceedings.

II. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

1. The joint motion of Qwest Corporation and Granite Telecommunications, LLC, to amend their Interconnection Agreement is granted.

2. This Order is effective upon its Mailed Date.

B. ADOPTED IN COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING November 10, 2004.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

Commissioners

G:\ORDER\C04-1339_03T-506.doc