

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

<p>IN RE:</p> <p>U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC., n/k/a QWEST CORPORATION, AND MCLEODUSA TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC.</p>	<p>DOCKET NO. NIA-97-22</p>
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**ORDER APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 5 TO NEGOTIATED
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT**

(Issued December 19, 2000)

On November 5, 2000, U S WEST Communications, Inc., n/k/a Qwest Corporation, and McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc., filed a fifth amendment to their negotiated interconnection agreement to add terms, conditions, and rates for line sharing. The proceeding was identified as NIA-97-22. The Board on December 15, 1997, had approved the initial negotiated interconnection agreement. Review by the Board of this amendment is pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e). On November 21, 2000, the Board issued an order allowing any interested party the opportunity to submit written comments supporting approval or rejection of the agreement within 30 days of the filing. No comments were filed.

Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A), the Board may reject a negotiated interconnection agreement or amendment if it finds either (1) the agreement or amendment discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement, or (2) the implementation of the agreement or amendment is not

consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. Based upon the record made in this docket, the filed amendment does not discriminate against any other telecommunications carrier and is not inconsistent with the public purpose, and will be approved.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

Amendment No. 5 to the negotiated interconnection agreement filed on November 5, 2000, by U S West Communications, Inc., n/k/a Qwest Corporation, and McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc., is approved to be effective upon the issuance of this order.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Raymond K. Vawter, Jr. /s/ Diane Munns
Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 19th day of December, 2000.