

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

<p>IN RE:</p> <p>QWEST CORPORATION,</p> <p style="padding-left: 100px;">Complainant,</p> <p style="padding-left: 100px;">vs.</p> <p>SOUTH SLOPE COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANY,</p> <p style="padding-left: 100px;">Respondent.</p>	<p style="text-align:center">DOCKET NO. ARB-08-1</p>
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**ORDER DOCKETING PETITION FOR ARBITRATION AND
SETTING TELEPHONE CONFERENCE**

(Issued February 11, 2008)

On February 7, 2008, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed a petition with the Utilities Board (Board) requesting the Board approve a proposed interconnection agreement between Qwest and South Slope Cooperative Telephone Company (South Slope). The petition was filed pursuant to the provisions of Board rules 199 IAC 38.4(3) and 38.7(3) and § 252(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 101-104, 110 Stat. 56 (1996) (hereinafter referred to as the "Act"). The petition has been identified as Docket No. ARB-08-1.

Paragraph 38.7(3)"f" of the Board's rules requires the Board to docket a petition for arbitration. Paragraph 38.7(3)"c" and 47 U.S.C. § 252(b)(3) provide 25

days for a non-petitioning party to the negotiation to file a response to the petition. Paragraph 38.7(3)"g" requires the Board to schedule a conference among the parties within 15 days of the Board's receipt of the petition and to hold that conference within 40 days of the filing of the petition. The purpose of the conference is to plan an arbitration hearing date, clarify the issues to be resolved, identify additional information needed to reach a decision on the issues, schedule production of documents and other information, discuss or rule on any other procedural matters, and consider any other matters that will expedite the arbitration process.

In compliance with the procedure established in the Board's rules, the Board is docketing Qwest's petition for arbitration. The Board will set an accelerated date for the telephone conference so as to ensure sufficient time for the Board to consider all of the issues identified by the parties. The purpose of the telephone conference will be to discuss the matters detailed above. The parties are directed to participate in the prehearing conference on Tuesday, February 12, 2008, at 10 a.m. by dialing 1-866-685-1580. After dialing, there will be a prompt to enter the conference code, which is 2815420, followed by the # sign. After the code is entered, follow any additional operator directions to be connected. In the event you have problems accessing the prehearing conference by telephone, please call Jennifer Ludwig at (515) 281-3448.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The petition for arbitration filed by Qwest Corporation, on February 7, 2008, is docketed for consideration by the Board.
2. A telephone conference call is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Tuesday, February 12, 2008. The parties are directed to follow the instructions for participation as described in this order.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ John R. Norris

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Darrell Hanson

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 11th day of February, 2008.