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Wednesday Morning Session, October 29, 2008.
EXAMINER LYNN: We'll go back on the record, please. Hi everyone.
MR. STEWART: Good morning.
EXAMINER LYNN: Mr. Agranoff reminded me
that late yesterday when I had asked for a motion to have Exhibits 2, 2A, 3, and 3A admitted into evidence, that motion was made, Mr. Stewart did not object, and I
formally did not say that those are admitted into evidence. We got off to another issue before we wrapped it up for the day, so those will be admitted into evidence 2, 2A, 3, 3A, COI Exhibits.
(EXHIBITS ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE.) EXAMINER LYNN: Having said that, Mr. Stewart, I believe your first witness will be Mr. Hart.
MR. STEWART: Right. EXAMINER LYNN: Is there anything else to take care of before you have Mr. Hart take the stand?
MR. STEWART: I don't think so.
EXAMINER LYNN: Okay. Great. Mr. Hart, raise your tight hand, sir.
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[^0]A. Yes, they would.

MR. STEWART: I move the admission of
Embarq Exhibit 1 and make Mr. Hart available for cross-examination.

EXAMINER LYNN: Thank you.
Miss Bloomfield.

## CROSS-EXAMINATION

By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Good morning, Mr. Hart. How are you?
A. Good morning, Miss Bloomfield.
Q. I'm going to try to keep this fairly -I'm going to skip over the first five pages of your testimony and direct your attention to Page 5 where you have your discussion about Issue 2 and ask you whether you're aware of the fact that in the current ICA between Embarq and COI there is a provision that has 60 days after the bill is due before service areas -sorry, new service applications are suspended and 90 days before service is terminated; isn't that correct?
A. You said after the bill is due. I think it's 60 days after an invoice date.
Q. Sorry. You're right. Just for clarification, because I'm going to be - throughout this we'll be talking about an invoice date and a bill date, and for my purposes, they are the same, and the
reason I'm using bill date is because that's the way the new - the proposed ICA refers to the invoice date, and the bill date is the date that is stamped on the bill that gets issued to the customer; is that correct?
A. A bill date and invoice date for these purposes are the same. I'm thinking they are functionally equivalent for these purposes.

MR. STEWART: Excuse me. Can everybody hear Mr. Hart?

THE WTTNESS: I can crank it up, if we need to.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. You did answer my first question with a yes; is that correct?
A. It was 60 days after the invoice date as opposed to I think you said after the due date; so, yes, I'm aware that it is 60 days after the invoice date in the current, now expired - current operational, now expired interconnection agreement.
Q. And it's $\mathbf{9 0}$ days before the company would terminate, 90 days from the invoice date before the company would terminate services if payment isn't received; is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. Would you agree, then, that until this new

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| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | proposed ICA, Embarq believed that the 60-and 90-day | 1 are, if you want to say, two payment periods that we |
| 2 | intervals we've been talking about were appropriate; is | 2 agreed to after the mediation? The first payment |
| 3 | that correct? | 3 period was -- normally it would be 30 days. That's |
| 4 | A. Those were the terms we were operating | 4 what the proposed ICA says. Then there's an exception; |
| 5 | under, so, yes, we deemed them appropriate. | 5 correct? |
| 6 | Q. And in order to follow the sequence of how | 6 A. Well, there were a couple - and I don't |
| 7 | the suspension and termination proposals work together, | 7 know -- are we free to go into the mediation here? |
| 8 | I need to ask you some questions to confirm Embarq's | 8 Q. I'm just going into the results, where we |
| 9 | billing process, so I want to go through that first. | 9 stand today. |
| 10 | Embarq puts a bill date or an invoice date on the bills | 10 A. Right. As a result of those, there were a |
| 11 | before it issues the bills; isn't that correct? | 11 couple of section modifications that essentially gave |
| 12 | A. That's correct. | 12 you about 35 days, functionally speaking, is my |
| 13 | Q. And then according to the proposed ICA, | 13 recollection. |
| 14 | the due date is measured from the bill or the invoice | 14 Q. Well, if you would look at - would you |
| 15 | date; isn't that correct? | 15 accept, subject to check, so we don't have to be |
| 16 | A. The due date is measured from the invoice | 16 throwing around documents, that the proposed ICA before |
| 17 | date, that's correct. | 17 us right now has a proposal that if the bill is |
| 18 | Q. And isn't it true that in the proposed | 18 rendered to a customer, to COI in this case, through |
| 19 | ICA, the due date is $\mathbf{3 0}$ days from the invoice or bill | 19 the electronic process, that it - that COI would have |
| 20 | date? | $20 \mathbf{2 5}$ days, 25, not 35, but 25 days from the time that the |
| 21 | A. In the proposed ICA, the due date is 30 | 21 electronic file is actually delivered to COI ; isn't |
| 22 | days from the bill date. | 22 that - |
| 23 | (Discussion off the record.) | 23 A. That's my recollection of it, yes. |
| 24 | THE WITNESS: In the proposed ICA, the due | 24 Q. Okay. And maybe this is a lot to do about |
| 25 | date is 30 days from the invoice date or bill date. | 25 nothing. I just wanted to get the record straight, but |
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| 1 | By Ms. Bloomfield: | 1 if it were mailed, if the invoice were mailed, then the |
| 2 | Q. Isn't it true that originally, before the | $2 \mathbf{3 0}$ days applies, correct, from the due date? |
| 3 | mediation, one of the issues that was in contention was | 3 A. That's my recollection, also, yes. |
| 4 | the amount of time to pay the bills, the 30 days? That | 4 MR. STEWART: Excuse me. I think you said |
| 5 | was in contention; isn't that correct? | 5 from the due date. It's from the invoice date. |
| 6 | A. Define what time period you're talking | 6 By Ms. Bloomfield: |
| 7 | about there, please. | 7 Q. From the invoice date, I apologize. |
| 8 | Q. Thirty days from the -- | 8 That's correct? |
| 9 | A. No. You said at some point in the past, | 9 A. From the invoice date. |
| 10 | prior to this -- are you talking about during the | 10 Q. Right. Okay. Would you accept, just for |
| 11 | negotiations? | 11 purposes of this question, that it currently takes COI |
| 12 | Q. Yes, yes. Originally that - the 30-day | 12 personnel an average of $\mathbf{1 2 6}$ hours to review the Embarq |
| 13 | period was in contention, was it not, and then we had a | 13 bills? |
| 14 | mediation? | 14 A. I would accept that premise, yes. |
| 15 | A. So you mean in the context of the current | 15 Q. And the $\mathbf{1 2 6}$ hours is approximately three |
| 16 | negotiation was the 30 days at issue? | 16 man-hour weeks; is that not correct? |
| 17 | Q. At one time it was at issue, was it not? | 17 A. That's correct, a little bit over. |
| 18 | A. Yes, I believe that's correct. | 18 Q. And you had stated in your testimony that |
| 19 | Q. Then after mediation isn't it true that | 19 the internal benchmark used by Embarq's billing groups |
| 20 | COI agreed to the 30-day payment period, which is what | 20 is that the bills will be mailed from Embarq within |
| 21 | Embarq had originally proposed? | 21 seven days of the invoice or bill date; isn't that |
| 22 | A. COI agreed to, I believe, a modified as | 22 correct? |
| 23 | a -- if we're talking about as a result of that | 23 A. Yes. That is the provision in our tariff. |
| 24 | mediation? | 24 Q. Thus, if the billing date - thus, the |
| 25 | Q. Yes. Isn't it the case that there really | 25 billing date could say, could state the first day of |

the month, bat the procedure internal to the company is that the bills do not even leave Embarq's building for up to seven days; isn't that correct?
A. That is - according to our tariff and how we - how our internal benchmarks are set, yes. So using your example of the 1st being the invoice date, the 8th would be the date that it would be required to be mailed.
Q. Right, but I think your testimony didn't your testimony say that it takes up to the seven days to actually get it out the door?
A. Actually, my testimony states that in most cases COI has it in hand --
Q. Pardon me?
A. COI has the bill in hand, has the electronic version, the $C D$ version of the bill in hand an average of 7.6 days, so they're receiving it. That's not withstanding -- that's mailing time and everything included at that point. They have the bill in hand an average of 7.6 days and most months seven days or less.
Q. But your testimony on Page 6 says that your internal benchmark used by the billing groups is to make this mailing within seven days of the invoice date; isn't that correct?

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A. That's correct.
Q. And isn't it also your testimony that Embarq treats the CD in the same way that it treats mailing, that is, within the seven days?
A. With respect to - it's - it's agnostic, that seven days is agnostic with respect to billing media, CD, or paper. They're both - the benchmark is set at seven days.
Q. And it is also possible, is it not, for a customer to receive a hard copy?
A. It is.
Q. And then your testimony also references
the fact that a customer may receive bills via the File Transport Protocol; isn't that true?
A. That's one of the methods of receiving the bill, that's correct.
Q. Or it can receive it via CD ; correct?
A. ViaCD or -
Q. Or have a -
(Discussion off the record.)
THE WITNESS: A customer can receive it via CD. A customer can receive it via paper format. A customer can receive it via FTP. File Transport Protocol is what FTP stands for.

By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. And when the customer - when a customer receives a bill via the File Transport Protocol, your testimony indicated that it would receive that bill in an industry standard format; correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. And that history standard format is the BOS-45 format that we discussed yesterday; isn't that correct?
A. Well, you were talking a little bit about the BOS standards yesterday. BOS is a Billing Output Specification, B-O-S. The Billing Output Specification standards, that number after it, you folks were discussing 45 yesterday. I think we're currently on 47 BOS-47, and I think next week we're rolling out BOS-48, so that the -- the numeric, the number after there is just -- it's essentially a generation, my understanding is a generation or -- like Windows. 0 or BOS-47. It is a -- when significant enough changes are made to the standard, they roll out a new -- they increment the number by one.
Q. You were in the room, were you not, yesterday when we had that discussion about the BOS-45 and the fact that COI had engaged a programmer so that it could read the BOS-45 format; correct?

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A. I was.
Q. Okay. And did you understand that the discussions - discussions had ensued between COI and Embarq so that COI knew what software to tell its programmer to program for; correct?
A. I was in the room, yes.
Q. If it was the case that COI had been told that it was going to be a BOS-45 format then and it engaged its programmer and now in another week it's going to be another, like, BOS-47 or 48, does that mean that COI is going to have to have the programmer adjust the software so that it can read the $\mathrm{BOS}-48$ rather than the BOS-45?

MR. STEWART: Objection. I don't think there's sufficient foundation to show that Mr. Hart is familiar enough with any differences between BOS-45 and BOS-47 and what a programmer may or may not have to do in order to accommodate those changes.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I asked the witness about BOS-45. He's the one that told us about the new generations. I think it's a fair question. If he doesn't know, he can say he doesn't know, but I think it's a fair question for me to follow-up.
(Discussion off the record.)
EXAMINER LYNN: I'll overrule the
objection. Please go ahead and answer, to the best of your ability.

THE WITNESS: To the best of my knowledge, I don't think there would be substantive differences between BOS-45 and BOS-47 or BOS-48. I don't think -1 don't think COI would have the ability to engage someone to write to BOS-48 standards yet, given that BOS-48 is out next week. However, I don't think -- I think if they wrote to BOS-45, 46, 47, it would be substantially the same. They would be looking at substantially the same data.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. But it sounds as if -- assuming you're correct, and I have no reason to believe you're not, when you use the word substantial, there may still need to be some adjustments that the programmer might have to make to accommodate a later version of BOS; right?

MR. STEWART: Objection. Calls for speculation.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: No, Your Honor, it doesn't. He said substantial. I'm just investigating whether there may be some changes.

EXAMINER LYNN: I would say let Mr. Hart answer to the best of his ability there. If you don't know, you don't know.

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THE WITNESS: Will you repeat the question, please? By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Yes. You had indicated that you didn't believe that there would be substantial adjustments that would be needed for a BOS-48 program if you had software that would accommodate a BOS-45 program; correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. Okay. So when you said substantial, I am assuming that you are agreeing that there may be some adjustments, tinkering or whatever that would have to be made to the software program to accommodate a BOS-48 if one had a BOS-45 software program?
A. I think that it's reasonable to expect
that every iteration of the BOS standards would have a
slight change from the previous version, but -- a
slight to substantial change. 1 don't know -- I don't
know the width of that goal of one version to the next. However, putting these things in context, BOS-47 was the - was the standard we were looking at in the April time frame, in the March, April time frame when we discussed the electronic billing format; so had you engaged to the BOS-47 standards at that time, I think you would have been substantially up to date. You
would have been substantially current in engaging that BOS-47 standard at that point.
Q. And do you know whether there were discussions between COI and Embarq in which COI would have queried Embarq as to what the format was so that it could make arrangements with its proyrammer?
A. Although I wasn't part of those
discussions, I believe there may have been, yes.
Q. So Emibarq would have or should have told COI what BOS version to get a software program for; isn't that correct?
A. I don't know if -- I don't know what Embarq told COI to engage their programmer to program to.
Q. Your testimony indicated that even if COL , or any customer for that matter, had the - was able to use the File Transport Protocol with whatever version of BOS was going to be sent through it, that they could not expect to get access to that program, that electronic program -- I'm just going to - if I may refer to it just as the BOS program, we won't worry about the numbers - until four days after the bill date on the invoice; isn't that correct?

MR. STEWART: Excuse me. Are you asking did he testify to that effect?

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MS. BLOOMFIELD: Yes, he did.
MR. STEWART: Can you provide a reference?

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Yes, I will. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. If you will look at Page 7, Line 14.
A. I've got Line 15 on mine. I don't know if it's paginated slightly different or not. I'll read you what I have here, "This method results in the delivery of industry standard data to the customer within four days after the invoice date."
Q. Correct. That's your testimony; correct?
A. That is.
Q. And we had a discussion about Flle Transport Protocol on BOS yesterday, and do you agree that the File Transfer Protocol refers to the IP connection between a server at Embary and a server at COI?
A. Yes. File Transport Protocol is an Internet standard that is used for the delivery of data, the transfer of data back and forth. It's not just used -- in this context it's used across the Internet for the transport of data.
Q. And the BOS programs we were talking about would go through the File Transpert Protocol; correct?
A. Yes. The BOS is more the format.
Q. I'll call it the BOS bill.
A. Well, BOS stands for -- again, back to one of the touch points here, BOS stands for Billing Output Specification; so it's really talking about how a bill is laid out, how a bill is presented.
Q. Would you have a suggestion for how we refer to the invoice that is received -- that Embarq provides in that BOS format? And I'll be happy to use that term.
A. An electronic invoice would be fine.
Q. Electronic invoice?
A. Yes.
Q. So going forward, for purposes of the transcript, we'll talk about the electronic invoice, which means that it's going to be provided on that BOS standard, BOS format that you just discussed. Would that be agreeable with you?
A. That's fine.
Q. Isn't it true that currently Embarq uses the File Transport Protocol only for those electronic bills that we were just talking about? In other words, it does not use another media or another -- it does not provide other media through the File Transfer Protocol?
A. I don't know that to be the case.
Q. Are you aware --
A. Let me - if you'd like, I can explain there.
Q. Please.
A. As I've said, the FTP, or File Transport Protocol, is an Internet protocol. Embarq doesn't own the rights to it or doesn't have some sort of proprietary interest in it. It uses the FTP protocol in that environment and probably in dozens, if not hundreds or maybe thousands of other file transport applications every day, and the fact that the - that our invoices are electronic invoices utilize that protocol does not necessarily preclude other transfers of data that Embarq needs to do on a daily basis, regular basis from using that same protocol.
Q. So from your answer I am gleaning that Embarq could put PDF files through the File Transfer Protocol; is that correct?
A. I believe it could, yes.
Q. And do you know if that is the case, that they are doing that in some instances?
A. I don't know that to be the case in specific instances, but that would not surprise me if they are, if we are.
Q. When you were talking about the numerous,

I think you said hundreds of ways that the File
Transport Protocol could be used by Embarq, what did you have in mind?
A. Any exchange of a file between Embarq and another -a an Embarq server and another server or an Embarq user and another server out on the Internet anywhere that requires the use of the FTP protocol.
Q. So that could include a Word document?
A. My understanding is yes.
Q. It could include an Excel spreadsheet?
A. Absolutely.
Q. And it could include a PDF, just the three?
A. Yes. Not necessarily limited to those three, but certainly those three and likely more.
Q. Are you aware whether COI ever requested that its bills be placed in PDF format and sent to it through the File Transport Protocol?
A. I'm not aware that they've requested it -well, I take that back. I -- we may have discussed that in the mediation.
Q. And is it possible for a customer to receive a PDF of the bill through the FTP from Embarq?
A. My understanding is that it's not one of our standard format. In fact, my understanding is that

COI has - my understanding is that COI is receiving one or more of their bills in the PDF format, although I don't believe that that is our standard format.
Q. I'll drop that for the moment. You were in the room yesterday, I think we estahlished, when there was testimony by Mr. Vogelmeier concerning the PDF transfer and the software, correct, needed to accept the electronic version?
A. Yes. I was in the room yesterday for all of Mr. Vogelmeier's testimony.
Q. And he testified that it was - it was necessary for a customer to have certain software in order to, I'm going to say, decipher the electronic transmission; isn't that correct?
A. Yes, I believe he testified to that. (Discussion off the record.)
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Isn't it true that when you read your --a reader of your testimony, in talking about the ... when you give the different dates by which Embarq can deliver bills to customers varying from seven days, if you have a CD that's being sent to you or a paper bill sent to you, or four days if you use the File Transfer Protocol, that - and this -- and it is - it's an internal process of Embarg that it places the invoice
date or the bill date on the bills at whatever point it deems appropriate; is that correct? Let me start over again. In all cases, according to your testimony, the invoice date or the bill date is always sometime prior to the time that a customer receives its bill?
A. Yes. My understanding is that the receipt of the invoice would not take place before -- at a date prior to the date shown on the invoice, if that's responsive.
Q. Right. And is it not the case that Embarq doesn't send out the invoices in any form for some period of time after the invoice date?
A. At a minimum of three days, I would think, given that they're available the night of the third day after the invoice date, as I've testified, yes. Yes, so -- I would say that there's not a likelihood that you would ever receive an invoice prior to the invoice date.
Q. So isn't it the case that basically -- the position of Embarq is, basically, that even though the contract says you'll have 30 days to pay, you know from the get-go that a customer will never have the 30 days to pay because it's always sometime after the 30-day period starts to run that you push the invoice out of Embarq to the customer?
A. Will you repeat the question, please? (Question read back.)
MR. STEWART: I object. The question suggests that in reality the customer doesn't have as much time as the contract provides, but the contract provides 30 days from the invoice date, not 30 days from the date the invoice is received; so to suggest the customer doesn't get the 30 days the contract provides is simply incorrect. The customer may not
have 30 days from the date the customer receives the provides is simply incorrect. The customer may not
have 30 days from the date the customer receives the bill, but that's not what the contract says. So the question is improper.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I disagree, but I will restate the question.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Okay. Isn't it true, Mr. Hart, that the contract says that a customer will have to pay - the payment period shall be 30 days from the due date payment period shall be 30 days from the due date -
excuse me, 30 days from the bill date or what you and I have been calling the invoice date; isn't that correct?
A. Thirty days from the bill date or invoice date, that is correct.
Q. And isn't it true that Embarq never pushes, I'm going to say gets the bill out to the customer on the bill date? $\qquad$
A. When you construct your questions, you are constructing them all in an is not format. Im going to tell you that it is true that -- you're asking me is it not true. It is true that that -- that invoices are due 30 days from the bill date. You're asking is it not true, and I'm saying it is true. It is true that they're due 30 days from the bill date.
Q. Right, but that wasn't my question.
A. Will you repeat your question? Because I'm getting tripped up on is it not or is it.
Q. All right.
A. I don't know how to answer a question phrased is it not true.
Q. All right. I'll put that at the end.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Let's try it this way, the customer has, in actuality, less than 30 days from the date that they receive the bill to make payment?

THE WITNESS: The customer does have, in most instances, less than 30 days, in nearly all instances, that I would be aware of, less than 30 days from the receipt of bill date to pay the bill. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Are you aware of the - we'll move on. Are you aware of the weekly billing arrangements that Embarq has followed with respect to COI since about

## 2000, the year 2000?

A. I am aware of a weekly payment arrangement, not a weekly billing arrangement.
Q. And are you aware that that weekly payment arrangement has been going on for some many years, some number of years?
A. I'm aware that it was instituted in the context of the bankruptcy proceeding that adequate insurance payments are oftentimes made weekly during a bankruptcy proceeding.
Q. And are you aware that after bankruptcy, COI requested that it continue to make weekly payments to Embarq?
A. I have heard that, yes.
Q. And isn't it true that the policy reason

Embarq gave to COI for reducing the suspension period from 60 days to 45 days and the termination date from 90 days to 60 days is that Embarq - is the position that Embarq stated that it should not be exposed to lack of payment for that period of time, those periods of time?
A. Is the question am I aware that that was the policy?
Q. No, not if you're aware. Is that -
A. The reason given to COI?
Q. The reason given to COI for reducing those periods. Let me --
A. I'm not aware of that specifically, but it doesn't surprise me. That seems consistent with -with what reason would be given to COI or any other Competitive Local Exchange Carrier connecting with --
Q. Isn't --
(Discussion off the record.)
THE WITNESS: Any other Competitive Local Exchange Carrier interconnecting with us, with Embarq. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Doesn't your testimony in summary state that it's appropriate to have the periods that yon are suggesting because you need to reduce the risk of exposure?
A. My testimony states that we do want to limit our exposure, yes.
Q. But doesn't the fact that Embarq receives substantial payments each week indicate that Embarq is not at financial risk vis-a-vis COI ?
A. Will you repeat that question? Because I want to be sure that I get all of it here.
Q. Doesn't the fact that Embarq receives substantial weekly payments from COI indicate that Embarq is not at financial risk or the same kind of
financial risk from COI that it might be from other customers who pay monthly?
A. The fact that COI is paying a weekly amount due, something, that by the time its coming into our -- through our collection process is seven or eight weeks from the invoice date does not at all mitigate our risk.
Q. That's your opinion; correct?
A. It's -- well, I can give you some facts
around that if you'd like. We've got -- the last several weeks we've got more than $800,000-850,000$ due from COI on a fairly regular basis. 450,000 of that is past 30 days due.
Q. And that would be past 30 days due based upon the bill date on the one side and the - the bill date on the one side and the due date on the other side, correct, the $\mathbf{3 0}$ days we were discussing earlier?
A. To give you an example, if the --
Q. Is that correct?
A. Let's -- let's -- let me give you an example on it. If the invoice date was September 3rd, let's say, and -- so the nominal due date, the due date -- the 30-day due date would be October 3rd, and as of roughly, let's say, October 17 th it was not paid, then it would be past the 30 days.
Q. Regardless of when it was actually made available to COI; correct? It could have been made available to COI 15 or $\mathbf{2 0}$ days after the bill date; isn't that correct?
A. It could have been.
Q. Mr, Vogelmeier testified yesterday that there have been -- that there was at least one instance when Embarq did not pay invoices due to COI for some period of months, three or four months, and then -past the dispute period, and then later disputed the entire bills for those several months. Assuming that COI behaved in the same manner, would you consider this
appropriate conduct under the proposed language of the ICA?

MR. STEWART: Objection, for several reasons. First, when the question refers to Mr. Vogelmeier's testimony, whatever the testimony was, it was. It's in the transcript, so it -- it's
inappropriate to ask Mr. Hart if Mr. Vogelmeier so testified. Mr. Hart's testimony does not address Mr. Vogelmeier's testimony. It's also confusing if the question is did Mr. Vogelmeier say this. There's a difference between Mr. Vogelmeier's having said it and Mr. Hart's agreeing whether it's correct. Thirdly, at the end of the question is is this behavior appropriate
has nothing to do with Mr. Hart's testimony. So it's okay to ask, I think, Mr. Hart if something is true, but it's not okay to ask him whether Mr. Vogelmeier so testified. That's irrelevant.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I could restate it, but what I was saying was -- I was trying to avoid a lot of questions. Mr. Hart was obviously in the room when the testimony was going on yesterday and heard the discussion, so I was trying to shorten this. That's number one. I wanted to ask him if he believed it or not, so I can restate the question.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Assuming, as Mr. Vogelmeier testified yesterday, that Embarq did not pay COI for bills rendered to Embarq for a three- or four-month period and then, when pressed, disputed a hundred percent of the bills, assuming that Embarq used that behavior, do you believe that this kind of behavior is appropriate under the proposed ICA as Embarq has tendered it to COI?

MR. STEWART: Objection.
MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I believe that's a proper question.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Will Mr. Stewart give his basis?

MR. STEWART: Well, first of all, it's asking Mr. Hart to speculate on a hypothetical that he may not necessarily accept the premise of. Second, whether something Embarq does or did or is alleged to have done, whether that's appropriate behavior is not an issue in this arbitration, so I think the question is irrelevant.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I may have used the word behavior, but I am asking the witness whether or not this would be appropriate conduct, an appropriate response, an appropriate way to interpret the contract inasmuch as assuming that Embarq apparently has that type of interpretation for its -its business relationships with COI.

MR. STEWART: There's no evidence that Embarq so interprets the contract, as counsel has suggested, and asking Mr. Hart to speculate on how the contract ought to be interpreted is also inappropriate.
(Discussion off the record.)
EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Let's try it this way, Mr. Hart, do you believe that there should be reciprocal obligations with respect to the payment of invoices between Embarq and COI?

THE WITNESS: I believe - yes, but I believe there is reciprocal treatment with respect to
treatment of invoices.
EXAMINER AGRANOFF: I couldn't hear your response.

THE WITNESS: Your question is do I believe should there be reciprocal treatment on the payment and the treatment of invoices. My answer is yes, I believe, in fact, there is reciprocal
treatment.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Mr. Hart, you had stated, I think it's in your testimony on Page 5 , getting back there, on Line 10, that Embarq's position with respect to the $45 / 60$ day period for first suspension and then termination was applicable to the undispated charges on the Embarq invoices; is that correct?
A. I'm sorry, did you say Page 10 ?
Q. No. Page 5, Line 10.
A. Page 5, Line 10. Okay. Yes.
Q. And then you argued that effectively the disputed portion of the bills is not what Embarq intends to refer to when it enforces those provisions but rather the undisputed portions of the bill; is that correct?
A. That's correct. Our collection procedures apply to the undisputed portion of the bills.
Q. Have you reviewed the matrix on this issue and also looked at the proposed provision that Embarq -- that is currently on the -- that has currently been given to COI on this matter?
A. I have reviewed the matrix. I don't know that I could cite it verbatim here -
Q. And I could show it to you if you want --
A. -- but I'm definitely aware of it.
Q. -- but woald you accept, subject to check, that the word undisputed is not given as Embarq's language, but rather COI proposed that langeage and at that time Embarq said we will not agree to the term undisputed modifying the word invoice?

MR. STEWART: Objection. First, I'd like Mr. Hart to be able to look at the matrix.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Okay,
MR. STEWART: But there was another part to that question having to do with what Embarq said, and unless Mr. Hart said it, the question lacks foundation. How can he know who said what to whom?

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, we have a matrix here that's in the record. It was part of the arbitration package. I'd be happy to show it to Mr. Hart. I'm trying to save some time. I can also show him the proposed ICA. In neither of those provisions
does the word undisputed appear with respect to the proposal of language that Embarq is making, and in contrast, the column that shows what COI proposed shows the word undisputed. His testimony goes on about how he agrees that the word undisputed should be there, and I'm just trying to get closure on that; is it now the case that undisputed is an appropriate term to modify the word invoice as COI has proposed.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Why don't we go off the record for a moment?
(Discussion off the record.)
(Recess taken.)
EXAMINER LYNN: We're ready to resume. Thank you. Could you summarize, hopefully, the progress that you've made?

MR. STEWART: Well, I think it will be simpler just to allow the question to proceed and see if the answers get to where we both hope they do.

EXAMINER LYNN: Okay. Fine. Thank you. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Mr. Hart, you testified that it was appropriate that the undisputed portions of the contract were the portions that should trigger the suspension or termination charges; isn't that correct?
A. The undisputed portions of the invoice. is?
Q. Of the invoice.
A. Yes.
Q. And does - and having made the point that it's only the undisputed portions of the bill that should trigger these charges, isn't that the case this is a change of position of Embarq with respect to that term undispated?
A. It's not -- your - the construction of your question implies that there's a triggering of charges. There aren't a triggering of charges that are at issue here. It's the undisputed portion of the invoice that leads to the - the nonpayment of the undisputed portion of the invoice leads to the suspension of IRES.
Q. You have agreed in your testimony, have you not, that it should be only the undisputed portion of the bill that should lead to those particular consequences; isn't that correct?
A. I agree that the undisputed portion of the invoice is the correct measure to apply that against, and bouncing that concept off of the language found in 7.3.3 of the contract which speaks to the due date of the rest of the invoice, of the nondisputed portion, et cetera, is appropriate.
Q. So you would agree that that term
undisputed should appear in Section 7.2.3, I believe it
A. Yes. For the undisputed portion of the invoice, yes, I would.
Q. In your testimony, Mr. Hart, you made statements concerning the provision of telephone and other telecommunications services to the effect that because they happen continuously and the subscriber has the provider services for each day that the services are rendered and the bill is not paid, that essentially it does not make sense to extend the time for payment for such services; is that correct?

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Where were you reading --

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Pardon me?
EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Where were you reading from?

MS. BLOOMFIELD: I was trying to summarize
his testimony which appears on Page 5, at the bottom,
about 20 to 25, and then on Page 6, 1 to 9.
THE WITNESS: Yes. It is a time-based
service. It is a service that accrues with the passage
of time.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. To the extent that Embarg owes COI for
services that Embarq has rendered - excuse me, for services that COI has rendered to Embarg, does not this same rationale apply to COI's rendition of service without payment?
A. For any telecommunication services provided back and forth I would say that concept applies.
Q. Your testimony on Page 7, moving right along, refers to 16 CDs that were sent to COI from January to May of 2008; correct?
A. Correct.
Q. Okay. And it is true, isn't it, that -m first of all, it is true that there were then more than one CD rendered to COI in some of those months; correct?
A. I believe it was three per month; so, yes, that's correct.
Q. And when you talk about your calculation of days, you were referring to days of the week, not business days; is that correct?
A. I was referring to calendar days, not business days.
Q. Thank you. And you mentioned that in some months there were three CDs sent. Are you aware that for some of those months the $C D-$ the first $C D$ that
was sent could not be read and, therefore, another CD had to be sent that had the information on it?
A. I'm aware that - I believe that happened in the January cycle, and that was the - the one that took longest to deliver was actually a re-rendition of the January 3rd bill cycle, was my information.
Q. And you're not aware that it happened more than one month?
A. I'm not aware that it happened more than one month, no.
Q. Towards the bottom of your testimony on Page 7 you mention that -- you state that COI elected not to receive its bills, quote, "In the most time efficient manner," through the File Transport Protocol, and in that sentence are you not referring to the discussion we had about BOS, the electronic -- the BOS-45, 46, 47, whatever it is, the electronic bills; is that correct?
A. I don't want to split hairs with you, but BOS --
Q. But you will?
A. But I will. BOS-47, BOS-48, and BOS-45, what have you, can happen over any format. It is a -it's a Billing Output Specification. The delivery of the invoices happen over this FTP or - it's -- FTP is
the electronic delivery truck, if you will. The BOS-47 is the bill.
Q. I understand that. What I was asking you, however, was didn't your testimony say at the bottom of Page 7 that, "COI has elected not to receive its invoices in the most...efficient manner"?
A. I said that, yes.
Q. Wasn't that referring to the fact that, at the time you wrote your testimony at least, COI was not receiving its bills through the FTP protocol?
A. Yes, that's correct.
Q. And were you aware prior to yesterday that there is some cost, some would even call it a substantial cost, to a customer for preparing itself to receive the electronic -- the electronic bills through the FTP, the way Embarq uses that FTP?
A. I am aware that you would have to have some sort of interpretive software. COI -- the customer would have to have some interpretive software at his or her premise to read the output.
(Discussion off the record.)
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Mr. Hart, turning to Page 9 of your testimony, you made the statement, beginning at Page 4, that, "In numerous cases COI" -- I'm sorry. Line 4 of

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Page 9, you've indicated that, "In numerous cases COI alleges that Embarq's billing practices are deficient simply because COI does not desire to pay for services." Do you see that?
A. Yes.
Q. What is the basis for your stating that COI simply does not desire to pay for the services?
A. Well, I go on in that next line there, "An example is the DSI conditioning charge," and perhaps I'm imputing an intent onto them that I lack a foundation for. However, the fact that they're not paying it and it's allowed for under the contract --
(Discussion off the record.)
THE WITNESS: That fact that COI is not paying the charge and it's allowed for in the contract, perhaps I'm being speculative with that intent. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Do you understand that COl's position with respect to line conditioning charges is that the line conditioning charges are already being compensated for in the DS1 charge?
A. I heard Mr. Vogelmeier testify to that fact.
Q. So assuming for the moment that that's that's the COI position, isn't it true that COI's
position is not that Embarg isn't allowed to charge line conditioning charges, but merely that COI has already paid for those, line conditioning, and thus should not have to pay it twice?
A. So you're asking me what COI's position is on that?
Q. No, I don't think I did.
A. Will you read it back, please?
(Question read back.)
THE WITNESS: I think you were asking me about COI's position.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. You indicated that you understood from Mr, Vogelmeier's testimony yesterday that was the position, and I was really merely restating the position, that position -- let's - I'm happy to have -- to go onto the next question.

EXAMINER LYNN: All right.
Q. Isn't it true that there has been at least a ten-year relationship between -- a ten-year period of contracts between COI and Embarq with -- Embarq or its predecessor since about 1998 at least?
A. I understand that is true, yes.
Q. And isn't it also the case that during
that entire period, until the -- about October of 2007,

Embarq never made a specific line conditioning charge for the DS1s that Embarq rendered to COI?
A. I've heard that, yes.
Q. Do you know if it is also the case that Embarq's personnel informed COI in either late October or early November, after the first specific line conditioning charges were made, that Embarq had changed its policy with respect to interpreting the ICA and determined that it could and, therefore, would start charging line conditioning charges to - on the DS1s?

MR. STEWART: Objection, for two reasons. First, it is asking Mr. Hart to speculate about what someone else at Embarq may have told COI about an issue that Mr. Hart's testimony doesn't address. Mr. Hart is not the line conditioning witness and -- well, Mr. Hart is not the line conditioning witness, and although he mentions the phrase line conditioning in his testimony, to cross-examine him on the proper interpretation of an earlier interconnection agreement and what it may or may not provide with respect to line conditioning is outside the scope of his testimony. That's not what we're arguing about here. It's not - - in fact, that's not even germane to the new interconnection agreement.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, Mr. Hart can say whether he knows that or not. T've asked him a
number of questions concerning billing for -- between Embarq and COI, and he's been able to answer those questions, and I merely asked him another question, because this was within the billing context. It has nothing to do with the merits of line conditioning. I merely asked him if he was aware that this is what COI was told. He was able to say yes or no, he was aware or not on other questions similar. It has nothing to do with the merits, if you will, of the line conditioning itself, and it is a proper interpretation of his testimony. Im not asking him to defend line conditioning. Im just asking him as a matter of fact, in this billing relationship, does he know that this was said to COI as the reason for all of a sudden starting to charge for loop conditioning charges.

EXAMINER LYNN: Ill let the question stand, Mr. Hart.

THE WITNESS: So the question is am I aware that that communication took place between Embarq -
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. That's all the question is, yes.
A. I am not aware that that specific communication took place between Embarq and COI.
Q. Mr. Hart, turning to Page 9 of your
testimony, the second - the first full question on that page, beginning at Line 15 , in your answer you stated that - or you stated that the petition on Pages 8 and 9 ignores the fact that the contract language now under negotiation and arbitration calls for 30 -day payment terms from the date of the invoice. Do you see that?
A. Uh-huh.
Q. Okay. However, isn't it the case that the argument that COI has been making is - and you cite that COI argued that it has only had about 14 days to make the payment, and you take issue with the fact you take issue with the fact that the 30 days has always been -- has always been there, it's computed from the due date to the -- it's computed from the bill date or the invoice date to the due date; is that correct?
A. What is -- what is computed from the invoice date to the due date, the 30 -day payment interval?
Q. The 30 -day payment interval is between the bill date or the invoice date and the due date; correct?
A. That's my understanding, yes.
Q. And isn't it the case that COI has made
the point that it does not actually have the 30 days, but rather it has something more on the order of 14 days to actually make the payment from the time that it receives the bill?
A. That's my understanding, yes.
Q. Okay. Turning to Page 11 of your testimony, you state on Lines 4 and 5 -- actually, it's 5 and 6, "A carrier that does not pay its bills can reasonably be assumed to be going out of business." Do you see that?
A. Yes.
Q. Do you mean that - do you mean that a carrier who does not pay bills on time can be assumed to be going out of business?
A. Not necessarily. I wrote there, "A carrier that does not pay its bills can reasonably be assumed to be going out of business."
Q. Okay. But when you say "does not pay its bills," you mean ever or on time or -- I'm trying to get a parameter around that.
A. Almost certainly ever can be assumed to be going out of business, because they would be rather quickly out of business.
Q. Any other case?
A. What sort of - what sort of points along
the spectrum would you like me to illuminate on? Along the spectrum of possibilities, a carrier that pays its bills that has 30 -day net terms, that pays its bills at 32 days, that's probably a pretty good - probably a pretty good customer; 35 days, probably a pretty good customer; consistently 180 days, probably not.
Q. Probably not a good customer. And at 180 days would you assume that the carrier is going out of business?
A. Not necessarily. It depends why they weren't paying their bill.
Q. Well, the reason I asked the question was this sentence appears in the context of you're describing why it is necessary, when a carrier does not pay on time, to impose the suspension and termination provisions?
A. Yes.
Q. So you said - I think we could all agree that if somebody doesn't pay its bills, it's going to go out of business?
A. Yes.
Q. So that's why I asked whether or not you had in mind a - in the context of your testimony whether you had in mind there was $\mathbf{X}$ number of days before you would make that assumption?
A. I don't have a specific number of days in mind with respect to that, if that's your question.
Q. That's an absolute?
A. I don't have a specific number of days in mind, no.
Q. Turning to Page 12 of your testimony, do you know whether to date Embarq has invoked the security deposit language against COI, that is, has it asked COI for a security deposit in its current agreement or prior agreements?
A. My understanding is we don't currently hold a deposit for COI, if that's responsive to your question.

MR. STEWART: Actually, I think the question was whether one was asked for, not whether one was being held.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: That's right, whether -. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. You have a provision in your - there is a provision in the agreement that at your -- at your option, when I say "your," I mean Embarq's option, it can ask for a security deposit; is that correct?
A. I believe that's correct.
Q. And to date, Embarq has not asked for that security deposit of COI; isn't that correct?
A. To date, Embarq has not asked for a security deposit from COI.
Q. And --
A. Let me clarify that, also. With respect to the current, now expired interconnection agreement that COI is operating under, I don't know if that security deposit language is or not. My understanding is we're not -- that issue is not under arbitration here. What is under arbitration is the language for the new agreement.
Q. That's right.
A. So whether it exists or not in the -
Q. But if it exists, which is a matter of public record --
A. Correct.
Q. -- it has not been invoked; is that correct?
A. That's correct.
(Discussion off the record.)
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. You made reference in your testimony on Page 12 to the filing of bankruptcy by COI; correct?
A. Yes.
Q. And there was discussion on the record yesterday about some of the sequence of events
concerning that bankruptcy, was there not?
A. I recall there was, yes.
Q. And isn't it true that in that bankruptcy, Sprint filed a Proof of Claim of $\$ 448,339$, not the $\$ 685,000$ that you cited in your testimony?
A. I'm not aware of that figure from anywhere in Sprint's Proof of Claim.
Q. Where did you get your $\$ 685,000$ figure?
A. It was an entry on a -- on a memo of what funds were stipulated to between COI and Embarq, and it's a matter - as a result of that bankruptcy.
Q. So that was from a stipulation that was made in the bankruptcy case; correct?
A. I believe that's correct, yes.
Q. And did you ask about the basis for - and in that same stipulation, is it not the case that there was a reference to the fact that COI agreed to pay approximately $\$ 68,000$ over a five-year period?
A. Yes.
Q. And --
A. Yeah. That's where we come up with the six hundred sixty-eight five (sic.).
Q. Isn't it true - and you indicated earlier in your testimony that you, fortunately or unfortunately, had a lot of past experience with
bankruptcy due to dealing with other carriers; is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. Isn't it true that frequently in bankruptcy proceedings, parties, in settling, fix on a settlement figure, say, for example, the $\$ 68,000$, and then you work backwards in the settlement document to get a number that would give them the - whatever number they settled on, in this case the $\$ 68,000$ ?

MR. STEWART: Objection, for two reasons. It's asking Mr. Hart whether he knows as a general rule what parties do in bankuptcies in terms of negotiating a figure. What parties generally do is irrelevant. If Mr. Hart knows what the parties did in this case, that may be relevant, but that's the only appropriate question. What other parties may or may not generally do, I repeat, I think is totally irrelevant.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I would disagree, of course. He indicated that he's very familiar with bankruptcy proceedings. He's obviously taken the time and trouble to go back to a stipulated document of his predecessor company, Sprint, to look to see what happened, and he has some knowledge about how these bankruptcy things work. I am merely asking him if he's aware as one possibility for why there would
have been the $\$ 68,000$, that this is a derived number because that's the way parties settle in bankruptcies, and if he doesn't know, that's fine. I'm just asking him, and that's a perfectly proper question in the context of his testimony, what he's testified about and the fact that he has indicated experience with bankruptcy matters.
(Discussion off the record.)
EXAMINER LYNN: We'll let the witness continue answering the question to the extent of the knowledge that he has about it.

THE WITNESS: To the extent of the knowledge I have of bankruptcies in general, the amounts arrived at in settlements, the bankruptcy amounts I know can be various and sundry. They can be -- they can be wide-ranging. In this particular case, I did not work with the COI matter. However, what Mr. Vogelmeier pointed out yesterday was that ten cents on the dollar was the ultimate payout. I don't know that number to be true or not, but assuming that it is true and for purposes of this discussion a $\$ 68,500$ payment was ultimately made to Sprint, slash -Embarq's predecessor company, then Embarq, if a $\$ 68,500$ payment was made, if that's a dime on the dollar, then that goes -- supports right up to my $\$ 685,000$ number.

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It's a very reasonable construction that at least that $\$ 685,000$ amount was, in fact, owed and perhaps more. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. But you just said that parties were that Mr. Vogelmeier did testify that it was ten cents on the dollar in the ultimate settlement yesterday. However, if the parties had agreed to a figure in advance, wouldn't they have to work backwards to have the records show that the amount owed was $\$ 685,000$ ?

MR. STEWART: Objection.
MS. BLOOMFIELD: That's what my question was.

MR. STEWART: I object to the question. It's asking Mr. Hart to speculate if the parties did thus and so, and he just got through saying he wasn't part of these negotiations; so there's no foundation by the answer he gave to the immediately prior question.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, Ill skip
that and ask another question instead.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Do you know, Mr. Hart, that indeed the Proof of Claim and the amount that Sprint at that time was pursuing from Embarq - excuse me, from COI was the $\$ 685,000$ ?
A. I do not know that.
Q. Thank you. Excuse me, Your Honor. (Discussion off the record.)
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Mr. Hart, if you would turn to Page 14 of your testimony, on Lines 12 and 13, you suggest that COI, in terms of -- if -- let me start over again. If Embarq were to impose a security deposit on COI, you indicated that COI had an option beyond cash to use for the security deposit; is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. And one of those -- and you indicated that COI could get a non-cash security deposit in the form of a Letter of Credit; is that correct?
A. Correct.
Q. Is it true that a Letter of Credit is typically issued by a bank or another financial institution?
A. It is true.
Q. Do you know whether, in this time of, I'm going to call it, national bank crisis or national financial crisis, what terms might be for a Letter of Credit of the amount that COI would have to get, which in your testimony you indicate would be twice $\$ 400,000$, or $\$ 800,000$, assuming it was even possible in these
days to get a line of credit?
A. Do I know what today's current rates are ona--
Q. Any of the terms, what would be required on-
A. Let me --
Q. I won't hold you to a rate.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: One at a time. You're crossing over each other.

THE WITNESS: It's not unusual for a Letter of Credit to be written against a borrower's borrowing capacity. For instance, say Company A had a borrowing security agreement for borrowing up to $\$ 3$ million and they wanted to access a half a million dollars of that in the form of a Letter of Credit. They would -- that $\$ 500,000$ would be - would be posted against - it wouldn't be considered direct cash borrowing, but it would be considered a utilization of their credit facility. Can and do those happen today? Even in these times of credit contraction, I find it difficult to believe that letters of credit are not even today quite typical in the - in commercial transactions across the country and around the world. For international trade they almost have to be functioning today.

By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. So you say -- if I understood your response correctly, you basically indicated that Letters of Credit were still possible to get today; isn't that correct?
A. Yes.
Q. But do you have any knowledge or opinion about what the terms would be?
A. What the interest rates, et cetera, would be on such a thing?
Q. Any other terms, how much you have to put up to secure, do you have to put three times as much to secure what you're looking for or what?
A. Well, as it's written generally against your existing borrowing capacity, it would be a function of what your existing borrowing capacity or security agreement would be. For instance, I gave the example that you have a $\$ 3$ million borrowing facility. Whatever collateral and security the bank requires to secure that $\$ 3$ million borrowing capacity, and then you could use that borrowing capacity either in the form of an LC, Letter of Credit, or direct to cash borrowing, but -- but the utilization of that facility would not -- would not necessarily change the terms of it.
Q. I understand. Are you aware whether

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Embarq has any Letters of Credit?
A. I'm not directly aware of it, no.
Q. Assuming for purposes of this question
that Embarq consistently owes COI payments for various
services each month, isn't it the case that your rationale for a security deposit to be paid to Embarq by COI equally applies to COI's request -- a request by COI that a security deposit be given to it from Embarq?
A. I would say the rationale is not
necessarily reciprocal.
MR. STEWART: I'm sorry, I didn't hear the very end of that answer.

THE WITNESS: The rationale is not
necessarily reciprocal. COI is going to have a
completely different credit, credit profile than
Embarq.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Are you basically saying that because Embarq is such a big company, it has -- the financial risk to COI is less because it's not dealing with a smaller company?
A. I'm saying the credit profile and the creditworthiness, et cetera, of Embarq would be a different animal than COI's.
Q. Are you saying that Embarq has a better
credit - is more creditworthy than COI?
A. I don't know anything about COI's specific financial position, so I don't know that I could -
Q. How can you say it shouldn't be reciprocal?
A. Embarq is a publicly traded company, has a certain amount of debt and enterprise value, and much of that is -- is visible in the marketplace. COI being a private enterprise, much, most, perhaps all of that is not visible in the marketplace.
Q. Okay. But with respect to -- you're saying the security deposit mathematics, if you will, where Embarq is asking COI for two months' worth of payments - let's assume that two months' worth of payments would be on the order of $\$ 800,000$, and let's further assume that Embarq owes COI on the order of $\$ 5,000$ to $\$ 10,000$ a month, and let's just use the higher figure, so that -- so that it would be $\$ 20,000$ that COI would be seeking from Embarq as a security deposit. Are you saying that because Embarq is a publicly traded company, it should not have to make a security deposit to COI for the services that it receives from COI, because it has a higher public visibility?
A. Well, let's put those couple of numbers in
context. If we have an $\$ 800,000$ security deposit on one hand and a -- let's call it $\$ 20,000$, for lack of better numbers on the other hand, might we agree to a net credit against the security deposit of lowering the seven hundred -- lowering the $\$ 800,000$ down to $\$ 780,000$ ? Yeah, that's a possibility.
Q. I'm talking in addition to that, though. I think my question went to the policy. If Embarq is purchasing services from COI and it asks for a security deposit because on the - the policy -- based on the same policy for a security deposit that Embarq is requesting COI to give it a security deposit, why wouldn't that - why didn't that make sense - if the two are doing business together, why shouldn't it be reciprocal? I haven't seen -- what's your policy reason?
A. Well, a couple of things. One, Embarq is substantially exposed to the CLEC environment, of which COI is an operator with them. There have been numerous CLEC bankruptcies in the last eight years, let's call it, resulting in millions of dollars in losses to Embarq directly, billions of dollars of losses to ' investors within the CLEC market. A CLEC profile is a completely different credit risk than an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier. when you're taking on a new customer, and typically isn't it the case that a security deposit - the principle behind a security deposit is to make sure that the entity you're dealing with can establish -can establish credit with the other party? It's a way to establish credit? You can seek a security deposit in order to --
A. That's not necessarily the establishment of credit. It's more the - the backstopping of potential losses, is what the security deposit is for. The establishment of credit can go on without a security deposit.
Q. Right, but isn't a security - isn't a security deposit part and parcel of or in agreement or a component of establishing credit?
A. It can be.
Q. In this case isn't it the case that the dealings that Embarq has had or Embarq or its predecessor has had with COI have gone on for more than ten years?
A. My understanding is, according to Mr.

Vogelmeier's testimony yesterday, that he began dealing
with United Telephone Company in 1991, I think was his date, so that would be -

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Q. Twenty years?
A. Seventeen years, correct.
Q. Right.
A. So is your question have they established credit with us?
Q. Yes.
A. Yes, they have.
Q. Also, I believe the security deposit
language as proposed - it stays in place until the -until the relationship with COI ends; is that correct?
A. That's my understanding, that's correct.
Q. And are you aware in other instances, in the regulatory framework, that security deposits are requested for a period of time, and after that period of time, they are returned to the customer?
A. I've seen that as a feature of some security deposits, yes.
Q. Are you aware that indeed that concept is in the Commission's telecom rules?
A. Yes, I believe that's correct.
Q. And you - Embarq also takes the position that it should hold $\$ 800,000$ of COI's money indefinitely without interest; isn't that the case?
A. That's correct. If they want to avoid the interest --
Q. What did you --
A. If they want to capture the interest on that, they can keep the cash and provide an LC, provide Letter of Credit, excuse me.
Q. But if they, for whatever reasons, do not elect to get a Letter of Credit, they would have to fork over $\$ 800,000$ or - which would be held by Embarq for as long as the relationship between COI and Embarq exists?
A. I find it difficult to believe that if they had $\$ 800,000$ in cash, that they would not be able to secure a Letter of Credit for $\$ 800,000$.
Q. That wasn't my question.
A. I understand that, but my point is if they've got 800,000 in cash, they've got 800,000 in a Letter of Credit capacity. They can keep the cash and give us the LC.
Q. But they will be paying something for the Letter of Credit; isn't that correct?
A. Likely something to utilize as borrowing facility, yes.
Q. And during that time they would be receiving -- if there was cash on the table, they would be receiving no interest, is that correct, on the security deposit?
A. That's correct.
Q. And you believe that's appropriate?
A. Yes.
Q. And you also believe that it's appropriate that on the other hand, on the reciprocal side, it is not appropriate for COI to request a like amount or an amount based on the same formula from Embarq for the services that COI renders to Embarq on a monthly basis?
A. I believe an appropriate way of handling that would be to offset a certain amount of that against the security deposit we would be requesting of COI .
Q. And are you aware of whether or not Embarg has proposed even in this contract that there be such an offset?
A. No, I don't believe we have.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: No further questions, Your Honor.

EXAMINER LYNN: Mr. Stewart.
MR. STEWART: I'm sorry, did she say she was done?

EXAMINER LYNN: She said no other questions.

MR. STEWART: I'm sorry. Can we take a break?

EXAMINER LYNN: That works. We can do that, then. Thank you. Come back in about ten minutes or so, ten after eleven.
(Recess taken.)
EXAMINER LYNN: Thank you. Back on the record, please.

Mr. Stewart, further questions, redirect. MR. STEWART: Thank you, Your Honor. REDIRECT EXAMINATION
By Mr. Stewart:
Q. Mr. Hart, you were asked some questions regarding the timing of the delivery of invoices to COI, and if you would look at Page 6, starting at Line 17 of your testimony -- actually, the sentence starts on Line 18 there. You refer to an "internal benchmark." The seven days referred to in that sentence, is that an outer limit of the date by which Embarq distributes, mails its bills?
A. The seven days, yes, refers to -- we try and be within that seven-day benchmark for the mailing of all invoices.
Q. Okay. So is it the case that the bill is mailed or sent via overnight delivery in fewer than seven days after the invoice date?
A. In most cases, yes. In fact, in the
specific statistics I gave for the delivery of CD s to COI, many of those CDs were delivered on the sixth and seventh day after the invoice date. They were delivered. They were signed by - signed for by COI on the sixth and seventh day. So those were clearly dropped off at the overnight carrier on the -- in those cases where they were delivered in six days, they were at the overnight carrier on the fifth day after the invoice date.
Q. You were asked a number of questions where you were asked whether you were present and heard certain testimony and whether you understood COI's position to be a certain way, and in answering a number of those questions you said yes, you understood COI's position to be whatever counsel was describing it as?
A. Yes.
Q. Does that mean you agree with COI's position?
A. No, not -- almost certainly not in these - in these matters that are at issue here, Embarq and COI are not in agreement. Even though I may understand their position, it does not mean that I necessarily want to adhere to it or acquiesce to it in this case.
Q. Moving to the security deposit and whether
it is appropriate that there be reciprocal security deposits, are there quantitative financial reasons why Embarq differs from COI that make it less appropriate to require a security deposit from Embarq?
A. We've heard today and yesterday how COI has been in business 17 to 18 years and conducting business with Embarq for -- or some portions of Embarq and/or Sprint for the past 17 years perhaps. Embarg's been in business for over 100 years in its earliest iterations, has been publicly traded for, I believe, since the 1950s or '60s, is a company with much greater, deeper financial resources than what we know about COI; so, yes, there are reasons why the - why wanting to get a security deposit from Embarq would be not necessarily appropriate, would be -- you wouldn't be looking at matching the same type of risks that you're matching as to COI .
Q. How does the amount of money that COI owes Embarq on average as a portion of COI's total assets compare to the amount of money Embarq on average owes COI as a portion of Embarq's assets?
A. I don't -- I don't know COI's total assets, but what -- I've testified earlier that they in a recent week and not a typical week owed us an amount of 850,000 plus, and I wouldn't expect that their
balance sheet would -- that $\$ 850,000$ against their balance sheet would be a substantial portion of their -- I would expect that $\$ 850,000$ against their balance sheet would be a substantial, large portion of the liabilities on their balance sheet versus, let's say, the $\$ 20,000$ that Embarq may owe to COI at any given time would be a very small, relative amount of the liabilities that Enbarq would have outstanding.
Q. Did you read --
A. Infinitesimally small.
Q. Did you read Dr. Ankum's testimony where he described COI as a small CLEC and suggested that it would be a financial hardship for COI to participate in a TELRIC proceeding?
A. I did.
Q. Is that consistent with what you just said regarding the relative asset proportions, ratio of debt to the assets?
A. Yes. Although I don't know anything about their financial statements specifically, their financial condition or results of operations, I would expect that they would be a small CLEC and have the asset base of a small CLEC.
Q. I think you mentioned that Embarq was a publicly traded company previously. Is Embarg's debt
rated?
A. It is. I don't know that I could tell you the rating of it today.
Q. Do you know whether it's investment grade?
A. I believe it is investment grade, yes.
Q. There was some discussion on your cross-examination regarding the number of years that COI has done business with Embarq. Is there any part of that business history that Embarq looks at in concluding that it ought to get a security deposit?
A. A little history on the security deposit, why we gather security deposits is probably in order, and beginning in about 2002, we included that contract language, that security deposit contract language because of the amount of losses that we were experiencing from the CLEC industry, and that -- the period from 2000, 2001, 2002 through today has been marked by dozens of failures, business failures, bankruptcies of Competitive Local Exchange Carriers. That period is not a - - that's not an inconsequential formation of why we - why we ask for the security deposit now.
Q. You were also asked regarding the Commission's policy with respect to the return of security deposits after a certain period of time for

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residential customers of Embarq. Do you recall that?
A. Yes.
Q. Do you perceive any differences between the situation - well, between the relationship of the residential customer to Embarq and COI's relationship to Embarq with respect to security deposits and their return?
A. Just putting them in orders of magnitude, let's say that a residential customer has an average monthly bill of $\$ 50$ and by the end of the third month we haven't received payment from them for three months' worth of service. We're at $\$ 150$, and we've got, let's say, $\$ 100$ deposit -- either we've got $\$ 100$ deposit or we don't have $\$ 100$ deposit, so we've got either a loss of $\$ 50$ or $\$ 150$, versus in this case we're looking at let's call it $\$ 400,000$ average monthly billing. By the time the 60th day rolls around, again, the contract language we're proposing for the suspension of service, by the time that 60 -day after invoice date rolls around, we're at three months' billing. There's a million two outstanding from -- from COI in that case. It's just -- the order of magnitude is completely different, different size.
Q. No further questions.

EXAMINER LYNN: Miss Bloomfield.

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MS. BLOOMFIELD: Just a couple, Your Honor.

## RECROSS-EXAMINATION

By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. You cited an instance of an $\mathbf{\$ 8 5 0 , 0 0 0}$ owing from COI to Embarq; is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. And are you saying all that is past due?
A. No. I'm saying by four hundred -- my recollection is that there was $\$ 856,000$ on the account receivable aging. 453,000 of that was past 30 days.
Q. And your account receivable aging, does that start with a bill or invoice date?
A. It does.
Q. And so part of that -- it's only half of that that you said was owed at that time, correct, that is outstanding, but only a part of that was actually due?
A. It was past the 30 -day after invoice date period, so it was considered past due. The 453,000 was past due.
Q. Was that a single instance?
A. That was -- I believe that was an October 17th aging, but I believe I saw one for the week after that that had very similar data.
Q. When you say October 17th, you mean October 17th, 2008?
A. That's correct.
Q. It would appear to me that, from the questioning that Mr. Stewart just gave you, really your security deposit principle, argument or whatever, comes down to the fact that Embarq is publicly traded, is much bigger, blah-blah, and so, therefore, it is in a different league from COI, and, therefore, it is appropriate for Embarq to ask for a security deposit from COI because of the disparity in size, et cetera; is that correct?
A. That's not the only --

MR. STEWART: Objection.
MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I didn't even get the question out. I said is that correct, and he can say yes or no.

MR. STEWART: I'm objecting to the question, because it mischaracterizes what I had said. For example, it's not only the disparity in the size of the company. It's the disparity in the amounts that one party owes the other, which is as significant as the disparity in the companies two sizes. So it incorrectly states -- the question incorrectly stated the nature of my questions and what I established on
redirect by omitting the disparity in the amounts owed.

EXAMINER LYNN: So you're stating the disparity in the amounts owed as well as the size of the companies?

MR. STEWART: That's what's on the record certainly.

EXAMINER LYNN: Miss Bloomfield.
MS. BLOOMFIELD: That can be my question, Your Honor.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Disparity in size of the company and amounts owed, that's the - did I understand that those, in a nutshell, were the reasons that you believe that the security deposit should not be reciprocal?
A. The size of the companies and their capital structure and publicly traded aspects and such lend in -- feed into their -- into the credit risk associated with them. So it's really -- it's an amount at issue. It is the credit risk at issue, and then the security deposit is to - is to mitigate some, perhaps all, but looking at the numbers in this case, I don't think all, but to mitigate most perhaps of the credit risk associated with it.
Q. You had said to Mr. Stewart and you had
said in earlier testimony that -- you mentioned that
as -- as a feature, if you will, of the
substantialness, I guess I would call it, of Embarq, the fact that it was publicly traded; is that correct?
A. Yes.
Q. Isn't it true that Enron was publicly traded?
A. Yes, it was, yes.
Q. Isn't it true that AIG was publicly traded?
A. It was, yes.
Q. Isn't it true that --
(Discussion off the record.)
EXAMINER LYNN: One at a time.
(Question and answer read back.)
THE WITNESS: AIG may still be publicly
traded. I'm not aware that they've been D-listed.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Is Enron still publicly traded?
A. Not that I'm aware of.
Q. And currently GM, Ford, and Chrysler are publicly traded, are they not?
A. That's correct.
Q. Okay. And would you consider the fact that they are publicly traded an index of their
creditworthiness?
A. Allow me to clarify. I don't know that Chrysler is publicly traded.
Q. Okay. Take them off the list.
A. They may be owned by a hedge fund. Cerberus Partners, I believe, is not public traded.
Q. Take them off the list.
A. Okay. So what does our list consist of now?
Q. Our list is GM - did you say GM or Chrysler?
A. GM, I believe, is.
Q. GM, Ford?
A. Ford.
Q. Okay. And they are publicly traded; correct?
A. Correct.
Q. The fact that they are publicly traded, does that make them a better risk than COI?
A. I can't evaluate them against COI because I don't see - I don't know what COI's risk looks like.
Q. You had indicated earlier that -a feature of Embarq and the fact that it shouldn't have to pay a reciprocal security deposit was the fact that it was publicly traded, as if that gave them --
A. Well -
Q. -- some financial heft?
A. That's one.

MR. STEWART: Let her finish the question. EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Let's go off the record again.
(Discussion off the record.)
(Question and answer read back.)
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Please go ahead. That's one?
A. That's one feature that makes the profile different. It's really a matter of credit risk.
(Discussion off the record.)
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. How does the fact that you are publicly traded improve Embarq's credit standing?
A. Generally, companies that are publicly traded have a larger capital base, larger asset base, larger net asset base.
Q. How is it that an asset base, a large asset base makes a company more creditworthy?
A. The ownership of assets and the - and the profits that result from the operations, using those assets, makes a company -- it gives a company scale and size, the ability to produce profits on a larger basis. base than Embarq?
A. I would.
Q. Pardon me?
A. I would.
Q. And would you say that the credit risk of

GM is approximately the same or better than Embarq?
A. I would not.
Q. No further questions, Your Honor.

EXAMINER LYNN: Questions of the Panel.
Miss Russell, any questions for the witness?
MS. RUSSELL: Yes.
EXAMINATION
By Ms. Russell:
Q. On Page 6 of your testimony you make
reference to a tariff, more specifically the PUCO General Exchange Tariff No. 5?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay. Does that tariff apply to COI as a carrier in that context?
A. It does not apply to COI. The
interconnection agreement operates generally outside of the realm of the tariff. There are certain services effectuated under the interconnection agreement that look to the tariff for terms at times, but the reason I
cited the tariff there was to give a -- give a context around how our billing practices are -- are designed and effectuated.
Q. In regard to security deposits, if COI cannot come up with the $\$ 800,000$ security deposit through cash or Letter of Credit, what is going to be the -- what's going to happen with the relationship between COI and Embarq with regard to doing - can it continue to do business?
A. I don't know.
Q. I have no further questions.

EXAMINER LYNN: Any questions, Miss
Green?
MS. GREEN: I have no questions, sir. EXAMINER LYNN: Mr. Agranoff. EXAMINATION
By Examiner Agranoff:
Q. Good morning, Mr. Hart.
A. Good morning.
Q. To your knowledge, has Embarq invoked the suspension mechanism relative to COI for failure to make payments within the 30 -day time frame?
A. The suspension of the IRES?
Q. Suspending processing any new orders.
A. That would be the IRES system. To my
A. Nothing that can't be overcome. However, the - - the thing that we do have control over and consistent and -- the thing that you can always count on is that the thing is going to be dated, and in this case, I think they're on a 3rd of the month bill cycle; so we can always peg that 3rd of the month bill cycle. Now, the discussions we had in March and April were around the fact that if we got the bill to them by the morning of the 4th day in the electronic format, then we would work backwards from that to a 25 day after that receipt of - after that receipt of electronic information as the due date of it. That attempted to keep both of those concepts that it's essentially a 30-day after invoice collection period that we try to maintain, if nothing else, an acknowledgment that 30 , 60,90-day invoice terms are standard. Not necessarily in the telcom industry alone, but across industries, 30 days is a standard payment term. If you start -- if you start loading it up with $36,37,38$ days, you're going to end up with a mishmash of junk in trying to collect.
Q. With respect to industry standards as you were just speaking of, if you look on Page 7 of your prefiled testimony, Line 22 , you reference industry

| 273 | 275 |
| :---: | :---: |
| standards in that particular response. Can you | billing? |
| 2 elaborate a little more as to specifically what these | A. Yes. If there were - if they went from |
| 3 industry standards are? | 3 one T1 line or one DS1 line to two DS1 lines, that |
| A. Part of that is the -- I'm going to have | would have been effectuated by some initiation of new |
| to mention the BOS standards again. Part of that is an | servis |
| 6 acknowledgment that we do -- it's a Billing Output | Q. If you could turn to Page 9 of your |
| 7 Specification standards are -- are agreed to among the | 7 prefiled testimony, and on Line 8 you have a discussion |
| 8 telephone companies, this is how we're going to render | about disputes that COI may raise with respect to |
| our bills, this is how we're going to submit our | conditioning |
| 10 bills. There are numerous intercompany expert groups | 10 A. Corre |
| 11 that attempt to standardize billing among companies and | 11 Q. Do such disputes with respect to |
| 12 follow guidelines that everyone believes they can live | 12 conditioning charges automatically trigger the stopping |
| 13 within. | 13 of the clock for the purposes of determining whether or |
| Q. And these are national standards? | 14 not payment is delinquent? |
| A. Yes. Embarq participates in those, and we | 15 A. It is my understanding that they do, yes |
| 16 send -- our billing folks come back from those with | 16 Q. And on that same page, on Page 9, Line 21, |
| 17 what the new sets of standards will be, et cetera. | 17 you indicate the fact that, "The contract language |
| Q. Do you know whether the CLECs participate | under negotiation and now arbitration cals for 30-day |
| 19 in those industry discussions as well? | 19 payment terms from the date of invoice." Isn't it true |
| 20 A. Generally -- I think they're welco | 20 that that's actually the previous terms and conditions |
| I don't know if they generally do, and that may - that | 21 |
| 22 may vary specific working group to specific working | A. Yes. Yeah. What I was getting at there |
| 23 group; so I couldn't say that in all cases they are. | 23 is I -- that the 14-day payment interval seems to come |
| 4 However, Ithink in those cases they generally | 24 out of nowhere, that the 14-day payment interval is a |
| 25 publish -- those working groups generally publish these | 25 piece of invisible programming with respect to what |
| 274 | 276 |
| are the standards we're going to be working within. | e seen. |
| Q. And the requirement of payment 30 days | Q. With respect to the proposed 60-day |
| 3 subsequent to the invoice date is what is utilized with | uspension period and then the 90 -day termination |
| your other CLEC customers currently? | period, there is no correlation between when those |
| A. Yes. | particular mechanisms trigger and the level of |
| Q. If you could turn to Page 8 of your | arrearage; is that correct? |
| testimony, please, on Line 11 you make a statement | A. The absolute dollar amount, you mean? |
| about the fact that the monthly recurring charges | Q. Correct. |
| 9 should look exactly like the previous months' recurring | A. No. No, there's not, not that I'm aware |
| 10 charges? | 10 of. I believe it's -- isn't it 60 days suspension -- |
| 11 A. In that -- in the -- yes, taken in the | you may have said 60 days. |
| 2 context of the sentence above it, "Unless something | Q. Sixty days suspension, 90-day |
| 13 changes in the services being provided each month, each | 13 terminatio |
| 14 successive month's invoice should not look much | 14 A. Isn't that going to 45 suspension by |
| 15 different than the prior month's," and that speaks to | 15 IRES? |
| 16 the fact that if Customer A is on service in January, | 16 Q. You're right. You're correct. |
| 17 makes no changes to his or her service, that service is | 17 A. Sixty on termination? |
| 18 going to look the same in February, so -- February, | 18 Q. Yes. |
| 19 March until that service changes. So if you run | 19 A. That's what we're proposing anyway. |
| 20 across -- if you're validating January's service and | 2 Q. But with respect to those particular |
| 21 you know that there haven't been changes to that | 21 triggers, there is no correlation between the amount of |
| 22 service in subsequent months, there's really not a | 22 arrearage and when those particular triggers would |
| 23 reason to go back and revalidate that. | 23 actually commence? |
| 24 Q. But if the quantity of lines was to | 24 A. There's not a contractual piece th |
| 25 deviate, then there would be a change in terms of the | 25 speaks to that. However, to one of your earlier |

questions, tying some of those together, we've been in operation for at least 10 years, have not suspended IRES even though they've - likely they've probably technically been over the 60 day perhaps a time or two in that 10 years. We would not -- if they're $\$ 2$ late on a $\$ 70,000$ invoice, $\$ 2$ past Day 60 , we're not going to ratchet down service for a picayune problem. We're not going to make a small problem a large problem. That's just an operational characteristic. You've got to operate within the bands of reason.
Q. Has Embarq ever utilized a late payment fee with any other CLEC customers?
A. We have from time to time in the past. I don't believe we're doing it right now.
Q. That's all I have. Thank you. EXAMINER LYNN: Thank you. EXAMINATION
By Examiner Lynn:
Q. Mr. Hart, I have a few questions for you. Thankfully, because of all the other questions, I have a few less than I intended to ask. You'll be pleased to know that. I'll be focusing on the security deposit issue, and the language that's proposed in the interconnection agreement certainly differs from the language in the current agreement, I guess it's

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expired, but currently still operating under. The proposed language would make the security deposits mandatory, whereas in the current agreement there's -Embarq would have the right to request a deposit unless there's been credit established through payment for 12 consecutive months, and, you know, you've indicated some of the reasons that you believe a security deposit is needed. I'm wondering, though, based on the current language that is present, that you're still currently operating under, do you have reason to believe that COI's ability to pay will be worsening? I mean, that is -- now you have -- the proposed language will say that a security deposit is mandatory, it wouldn't matter whether somebody established credit by paying for 12 months and so on. Under the current language, of course, where they have the deposit required unless there's been payment made for 12 months, and you also indicated that you actually hadn't invoked the current security deposit language. So do you have reason to believe that COI's ability to pay in the future is going to be more questionable than it is now?
A. The difference in that language construction would not have come about for that reason even if that was the reason; one, it's not the reason, and, two, we have attempted to tighten up our security
deposit language --
Q. Go ahead.
A. - to make it more enforceable, to make it more certain we're going to get a security deposit in the cases where we need it.
Q. And would that be true for -- the language that you're proposing with COI, was that being proposed with other carriers as well?
A. Yes.
Q. I see. Also, you had on Page 13 of your testimony, and that was in Lines 10 through 13, you were commenting on sometimes the length of time that COI takes to pay undisputed amounts. That's especially on Line 11, Page 13. The testimony that Mr. Vogelmeier had given both in prefiled and here yesterday indicated that sometimes COI has to invoke quite a few hours to determining whether a bill it receives is actually, you know, accurate or not. I wondered if you had any thoughts about that. I mean, you stated that COI can take quite a while to pay an undisputed amount, but given what Mr. Vogelmeier has said, do you have any thoughts that it may be taking them a while, COI, to determine what amount is disputed or not? Would that - could that factor into why it's late paying something that ultimately is undisputed, because it
takes a while for it to determine whether the bill was accurate in the first place?
A. I understand that it's difficult to m it can be time consuming and difficult, complex to validate all of the charges on a bill, and in that case, I can understand that it can take 20,30 , maybe even 40 days to validate it, but let's take a standard case where you have your standard business processes in place that would say if Im operating in this business, I ought to be able to validate my payables, figure out if I'm going to pay the guy in 30 days. It seems to me one would bill one's business processes, payable validation systems, et cetera, internal to your own company, one would bill those systems in such a way to meet or substantially meet those benchmarks. One of the reasons why I used the 35 day -- the 35-day mark in a portion of my testimony is that if a company is paying its bills 32 days after the invoice date, 33 days after the invoice date, we receive it on Day 35, Day 36, Day 37, they're never going to hear from us and we're not going to call. If that stretches out to -it's a different characteristic when you get out past 45,50, 55 days, because you're now - you've now got these stacked receivables. I understand that the validation of bills is a difficult - - can be a complex
process. The -- my point would be that the customer's internal systems ought to be constructed in such a way, particularly if they've been in business for 17,18 years, have been doing business with us for 10 years, I don't know why you would let an invoice that used to be this tall grow to an invoice that's this tall
(indicating) without substantial electronic manual mitigation efforts going on. Did I answer your question?
Q. Yes, I think you did. Thank you. And, let's see, I guess this would also -- this next question would go to some of what you had already discussed about whether there should be reciprocal language, that is, whether COI was justified in having language in the interconnection agreement that would require a security deposit from Embarq. There was a statement made by Mr. Vogelmeier yesterday, and this was in his prefiled testimony as well as on the witness stand, there was a period of time where Embarq was late paying its own bills. You know, that occurred - I can't recall during what years he stated now, but, you know, in light of something like that coming up, again, do you see -- would you still be opposed to COI having reciprocal provision that requires a security deposit of Embarq? There apparently is at least an instance
where Embarq was late paying its bills as well.
A. As far as the -- as far as the department that pays those bills that COI sends in, I'm not intimately familiar with the COI situation, but I know how that department operates, and generally they are -generally and specifically, they are -- they pay their bills in a fairly -- fairly quickly.

MR. STEWART: I'm sorry, Ted, I can't hear you.

THE WITNESS: Generally they pay their bills very promptly, within the 30 -day time frames. They will not pay a bill if they've asked a question about it and there's no -- there's no information forthcoming from the other side that's going to answer that question, and typically those questions involve along the lines of we're seeing this type of traffic in your -- in your profile and we think there's 30,40 , 50,60 percent of your traffic profile contains this type of traffic that's not required to be paid under the interconnection agreement, so you have to arrive at what's the correct percentage. Well, we can't just -we don't want to unilaterally pay 100 percent if there's going to be 30 percent due, and usually it's a matter of looking at the numbers, figuring out what the correct -- what the correct percentage to pay in that
case is and then making payments based on that percentage.
By Examiner Lynn:
Q. So, again, you said that department would typically pay a bill unless it had a question within, you mentioned, 30 days?
A. Yes.
Q. The situation, then, that Mr. Vogemeier was mentioning about Embarq being late in payment, even that's a situation you're unfamiliar with Embarq as far as payments to COI?
A. I'm not familiar intimately with that one. I'm generally familiar with it. I believe that our department that pays those bills had a valid dispute filed and was requesting certain information with respect to those bills, but as to the inner workings of that, I don't have the intimate details.
Q. Thank you.

Would counsel for either party have any
further questions based upon the questions that were asked by the Panel?

Miss Bloomfield, do you have any questions?

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Yes, I do, just three, Your Honor.

## EXAMINER LYNN: All right.

 RECROSS-EXAMINATIONBy Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. There was some discussion -o the response that you gave to Attorney Examiner Agranoff with respect to the 14 day - I forgot what page it was it was on our petition, Pages $8-7$ and 8, I believe, and your understanding of what the petition said apparently was that we claimed that the -- COI claimed it only had $\mathbf{1 4}$ days from the bill date to pay; is that correct?
A. Will you repeat the question? I'm sorry.
Q. I'll make it better. On Page 9 of your testimony, Lines 19 and 20 --
A. Yes.
Q. - you said, "COI refers to a 14-day payment interval," on our petition, on the petition, and Attorney Examiner Agranoff asked you about that. You basically said I don't know where they got that from. Isn't it the case that the petition said that's the actual number of -- the actual average number of days that COI has to pay based on when it is actually -- when the bill is actaally delivered to it?
A. That may have been COI's petition construction. I don't know the -- but my point for
putting it in here is I don't know where they came up -- where COI came up with a 14 day -- 14 days in the contract.
Q. Correct. They were saying they actually had only 14 days of the $\mathbf{3 0}$ days to pay because of the delivery of the bill. They didn't get it for a number of days, so they had fewer than that. They had 14 instead of $\mathbf{3 0}$ days to pay the bill.
A. That's what they've asserted.
Q. That's what they've asserted and that's what was in the petition.
A. I understand that that's --
Q. That's not invisible, is it? I mean, you said you didn't know --
A. With respect to --

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: One moment. We're going back to talking over each other.

THE WITNESS: With respect to where -some contractual 14-day payment interval, yes, it is invisible. I don't know where you're getting the 14-day payment interval.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. The 14-day payment interval referred to the actual number of days that COI had from the date of receipt of the invoice to the date - the due date on
the invoice. That's what the petition said.
A. Okay.
(Discussion off the record.)
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. You were - I only think I have one other question. You were asked a question about -- from, I think it was, Attorney Examiner Lynn concerning the testimony of Mr. Vogeimeier that there -- that there were instances, particularly one instance when Embarq failed to pay COI for a period of three or four months, and you indicate -- then you gave us an explanation of how the billing payment cycle is supposed to work within -- within Embarq, but are you denying that after that period of time -- are you - on the one band you said you weren't intimately familiar with that particular instance; is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. Are you familiar at all with that instance?
A. I'm vaguely familiar with it, yes.
Q. What is "vaguely familiar"?
A. Well, let me explain that. I've seen the settlement agreement with respect to that.
Q. So there was -- that was - that blew into a dispute that required a settlement agreement;

## correct?

A. Correct.
Q. All right. And isn't it the case that in that situation there were three or four months that passed, and Embarq did not even dispute any of those prior invoices, but waited about three or four months and then disputed all three or four invoices at one time?
A. 1 don't know that to be the case.
Q. You know other parts, but you don't know -
A. As I said, I've seen the settlement agreement. I don't believe that was delineated in the settlement agreement.
Q. Actually, I think that I do have one more. You also indicated, and I think this was in response to one of the questions, that vendors should set up their own internal payment procedures - excuse me. Your customer should set up their own internal payment procedures, so that if they have agreed to $a$, for example, a 30-day period for payment of bills to a particular vendor, they can actually make the payments within that period of time; isn't that the case?
A. Yes.
Q. Doesn't that assumption assume or
doesn't - let me go back. Let me rephrase that. A customer would set up an internal payment procedure to meet the $\mathbf{3 0}$ days on the assumption that that customer is going to be rendered accurate bills, would it not?

MR. STEWART: I'm going to object, because it asks for him to speculate upon what basis a customer would set up its accounts payable system.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: He already said that in his question, Your Honor - his answer to your question said that's what a vendor would do, so 1 think I'm entitled to ask him when the vendor was setting up the internal payment process, as Mr. Hart talked about, wouldn't the assumption be that he was going to be receiving accurate bills from the particular vendor.

MR. STEWART: And my objection is Mr. Hart has no basis for making -- he has no basis for speculating on whether the vendor makes that assumption - or the customer makes that assumption.
(Discussion off the record.)
EXAMINER AGRANOFF: The witness - I think we're good. The witness can respond in the context of what he assumed at the time that you made the statement when you were being cross-examined.

THE WITNESS: In the validation of bills -- in the processes a customer designs to
validate one's bills, generally you have a context, you have a -- this bill is going to be 20 -percent accurate, it's going to be 50 -percent accurate, it's going to be 80 -percent accurate or 100 maybe or maybe you just operate it's going to be nearly all right or nearly all wrong, and your payment systems would be -- would be formed and informed by those -- by those -- it's almost like the medical concept of triage. You have a bunch of patients coming in. The ones that are going to die, you let die. The ones that are going to live, you expend your medical resources on. If you've got bills coming in the door that are largely junk, then you're not going to pay them in 30 days. If they're largely junk, you're not going to pay them in 180 days; the point here being we've rendered something like 50 to $\$ 55$ million of bills to COI in the last 10 years as we've -- as we were calculating out over the past couple of days. There is some error rate in those bills. I won't -- I won't fail to acknowledge that, but we're not talking about -- we're not talking about bills that are 80,100 percent junk, 80,100 percent bogus.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. You seem to indicate that an error rate was just like a -- you saw the -- you know that there
is a significant amount of billing material that COI receives every month; correct?
A. I know that.
Q. And so even if there were one or two errors, just the volume of going through those bills would take some amount of time; correct?
A. Yes.
Q. And are you -- when a vendor sets up its system to process bills that it gets, a customer sets up a process to pay bills, especially if the customer is a new customer and he sees a 30 -day payment term, he agrees to it. At the beginning he has no idea, does he, about the quality of the bills that he's going to be getting from the other party?

MR. STEWART: Objection. It calls for speculation. Even though a customer may never have received a bill from a vendor, it might know from a fellow customer in the industry what sorts of quality bills that particular vendor issued. In any event, it's pure speculation.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, that's exactly my point. I think it was pure speculation, his answer to you was pure speculation on what he -- how he thought people would set up their payment centers.

MR. STEWART: I object to counsel
characterizing or offering an opinion about the witness' testimony. It's inappropriate.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: I'll withdraw it, Your Honor.

EXAMINER LYNN: You'll not pursue the question further?

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Correct.
EXAMINER LYNN: All right. Any further questions? Did you have any further questions?

MS. BLOOMFIELD: No, Your Honor, I don't.
EXAMINER LYNN: Mr. Stewart.
MR. STEWART: Thanks. REDIRECT EXAMINATION
By Mr. Stewart:
Q. Mr. Hart, do you know whether COI has ever been advised by Embarq that payments were overdue and that unless payment is received within a certain amount of time, IRES will be suspended?
A. It is my understanding that we have advised them of that, yes.
Q. You were asked some questions regarding using the actual receipt date of the invoice as the starting period to trigger certain actions. Do you recall that?
A. Yes.
Q. Do you know whether that creates any difficulties because Embarq uses automated systems to take certain steps with respect to billing and collection?
A. Not that I'm aware of.
Q. Now, there was some discussion regarding industry standards with respect to when bills are due -- how soon bills are due after they're invoiced. Bills that you receive for credit cards and other utility services, for example, are those typically due in fewer than 30 days from the invoice date?
A. Most credit cards have a 25 -day payment interval, and a few of them, American Express for one, not to cast aspersions here, but I think American Express has, like, a 17 or 18 day; so an under 30 day -- even though a 30 day might be a commercial standard recognized the world over for decades and/or centuries, it seems to be winding -- the cycle seems to be quickening. The number of days seem to be decreasing as time progresses.
Q. Are utility bills you receive from your utility suppliers due sooner than $\mathbf{3 0}$ days from the date of the invoice?
A. For my home utility service?
Q. Yes.
A. I think they almost always are, yes.
Q. Based on your examination of the time that it takes Embarg to deliver the invoice to COI , do you have an opinion on whether COI has, on average, more than 14 days to pay the invoice?
A. I think calculating based on numbers that I have in my testimony and what we've heard here over the past day or two, we have -- if they're receiving a day -- an invoice 15 days, let's call it, after the invoice date - I don't think that's generally the case. I think those are the outliers. I'm not saying that it's never happened. I'm saying that it seldom happens, but let's say that at that seldom occurrence that they receive it 15 days after the invoice date. If they take 35 days to validate it past that point, they'll be paying it at Day 50, and at Day 50 , we will have sent a -- we will have sent a letter that -- a 45-day notice letter stating that they -- that further action -- or please pay your bill or further action will be taken on our part if you don't pay it. I don't think that's a -- I don't think the 45-day letter and even a 55 -day letter is an uncommon occurrence in this instance.
Q. You were asked a question regarding an assumption a customer might make in setting up its bill
validation system and more specifically whether the customer would assume that it was receiving an accurate bill. Do you recall that?
A. Yes.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, may I stop for a moment? You asked questions. I asked some questions. I think he was getting to my questions, not your questions.

EXAMINER LYNN: I think that's a
legitimate objection. Mr. Stewart, if you have
follow-up based on what I had asked, that's fine, but you were asking about something Miss Bloomfield had raised or not - in the words that she had raised it.

MR. STEWART: So she can do redirect -- or recross, and I can't do redirect on her recross? Is that what you're saying?

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Let's go off the record for a minute.
(Discussion off the record.)
MR. STEWART: I'm done.
EXAMINER LYNN: Do you have --
EXAMINER AGRANOFF: I just had one other question.

## By Examiner Agranoff:

Q. This had to do with the security deposit issue. Is there any contemplation to reduce the requested security deposit level after a probationary period of some period of time?
A. We have not discussed that. I'm not saying that we would be entirely opposed to it, but we have not discussed that.

EXAMINER LYNN: I have one other question as well.

## REEXAMINATION

## By Examiner Lym:

Q. Going back to what we discussed earlier on the security deposit, you had indicated that, if I understood you correctly, the language that you were proposing under the interconnection agreement for security deposits is similar, if not identical, to the language you are using in interconnection agreements with other carriers currently; am I correct about that?
A. That's correct.
Q. Okay. Is that because - and this ties in with what some of your testimony was -
(Discussion off the record.)
Q. Are you doing so because, and this ties
with some of your testimony on Page 12, because of the difficulties of -- financial difficulties of competitive local carriers in general, that is, you're tightening up on security deposit language because not just in your mind, not just COI, but other competitive carriers are also failing and having financial problems and so forth?
A. That is my understanding of why we are -we are tightening up the security deposit conditions, because of the general nature of the competitive carrier market.
Q. Thank you. That does clarify it in my mind.

Finally, Mr. Stewart early on had asked -or made a motion that Mr. Hart's testimony be admitted into evidence way back, several hours ago.

Miss Bloomfield --
MR. STEWART: I would have forgotten by now otherwise.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: No objection, Your Honor.

EXAMINER LYNN: Well admit Embarq Exhibit 1, which is Mr. Hart's testimony, into evidence, and we'll take a break now for lunchtime. We will be back at $1: 30$. That will give us an hour.

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| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | (Witness excused.) | 1 well, Lines 1 through 6 on Page 4 and then Lines 14 |
| 2 | (EXHIBIT ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE.) | 2 through 17 on Page 4. Does everyone have that? |
| 3 | (EXHIBIT HEREBY MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION | 3 By Mr. Stewart: |
| 4 | PURPOSES.) | 4 Q. Now, Ms. Londerholm, would you look at |
| 5 | EXAMINER LYNN: Let's go back on the | 5 Page 4 and provide your answer to the question that is |
| 6 | record, Valerie. Thank you. We're down to Embarq's | 6 on Line 13 of Page 4, "Have you testified before any |
| 7 | final witness, and, Ms. Londerholm, if you'll raise | 7 regulatory commissions?" |
| 8 | your right hand, please. | 8 A. Yes. I have previously testified before |
| 9 | CHRISTY V. LONDERHOLM, | 9 state regulatory commissions in Texas, Nevada, Florida, |
| 10 | being by Examiner Lynn first duly sworn, as hereinafter | 10 and Georgia. |
| 11 | certified, testifies and says as follows: | 11 Q. Thank you. Are there any other changes or |
| 12 | EXAMINER LYNN: Thank you. Mr. Stewart, | 12 corrections that you wish to make to Embarq Exhibit 2? |
| 13 | there was some discussion between Ms. Londerholm and | 13 A. No. |
| 14 | Mr. Agranoff right before we started. Do you intend to | 14 Q. If I were to ask you today the questions |
| 15 | start with Mr. Maples' testimony, which Miss Londerholm | 15 that appear in Embarq Exhibit 2, would your answers be |
| 16 | will be adopting? | 16 the same as shown in Embary Exhibit 2? |
| 17 | MR. STEWART: Correct. | 17 A. Yes, they would. |
| 18 | EXAMINER LYNN: That will be public record | 18 MR. STEWART: I move the admission of |
|  | totally, because there's nothing in his testimony that | 19 Embarq Exhibit 2 and make Miss Londerholm available for |
| 20 | confidential, so - | 20 cross. |
| 21 | MR. STEWART: Correct. | 21 EXAMINER LYNN: Miss Bloomfield. |
| 22 | EXAMINER LYNN: Please go ahead. | 22 CROSS-EXAMINATION |
| 23 | DIRECT EXAMINATION | 23 By Ms. Bloomfield: |
| 24 | By Mr. Stewart: | 24 Q. Good afternoon. |
| 25 | Q. Please state your name and spell your last | 25 A. Good afternoon. |
|  | 298 | 300 |
|  | me. | 1 Q. I'm going to start directly with Page 5 of |
| 2 | A. Christy V. Londerholm, | 2 the testimony. Is it your understanding that COI |
| 3 | L-o-n-d-e-r-h-o-l-m. | 3 disputes Embarq's right to recover the conditioning of |
| 4 | Q. And what is your business address and | 4 copper -- conditioning of copper loops? |
| 5 | where are you employed? | 5 A. No, that's not my understanding. It's my |
| 6 | A. 5454 West 110th Street, Overland Park, | 6 understanding that COI believes that those rates are |
| 7 | Kansas 66211. I'm employed as Costing Manager for | 7 recovered elsewhere. |
| 8 | Embarq. | 8 Q. They are recovered - |
| 9 | Q. Do you have before you what's been marked | 9 A. Elsewhere. |
| 10 | as Embarq Exhibit 2? | 10 Q. Looking at line - or rather at Page 6, if |
| 11 | A. Yes, I do. | 11 the Arbitration Panel would find that Embarq is already |
| 12 | Q. Can you identify that document? | 12 recovering compensation in the price of the DS1 for |
| 13 | A. It's the Direct Testimony of James M. | 13 loop conditioning costs, would you agree that the |
| 14 | Maples on behalf of United Telephone Company of Ohio. | 14 language suggestion made by COI adding the phrase, |
| 15 | Q. And are you going to adopt that testimony | 15 quote, "Because included in line conditioning," in the |
| 16 | as your own today? | 16 definition of DS1 loop would be accurate? |
| 17 | A. Yes, I am. | 17 MR. STEWART: I object. It calls for the |
| 18 | Q. Let's make the necessary corrections based | 18 witness to speculate on what the Panel might do. |
| 19 | on the fact that you're not Mr. Maples initially. | 19 MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, it's a |
| 20 | We would propose deleting, starting on | 20 hypothetical, and I'm just -- I'm just merely saying if |
| 21 | Page 2, Line 4 through Page 4, Line 6, then also on | 21 the Arbitration Panel would conclude that we are |
| 22 | Page 4, Line 14 through Line 17. | 22 correct and that the loop conditioning charges are |
| 23 | MS. BLOOMFIELD: Would you give me those | 23 already in the DS1 charges, isn't it - wouldn't it |
| 24 | again? On Page 4 what? | 24 be -- wouldn't the language that COI proposed that |
| 25 | MR. STEWART: Sure. The continuation -- | 25 says, "Because included in line conditioning," be |

appropriate. I think that's a fair question. The testimony has set out what their position is, what our position is, and I'm just saying -- I gave her a what-if question. There is nothing improper about that question.
(Discussion off the record.)
EXAMINER LYNN: We'll let the opinion -excuse me. We'll let the witness answer if she has an opinion on that question.

THE WITNESS: Embarq follows the guidelines and what's -- what we're given and ordered by this Commission in operating a business, so if this Arbitration Panel and the Commission says that DS1 loop conditioning is recovered elsewhere, then Embarq will follow the guidelines and rules as they're proposed to it.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Looking at Page 7, Line 17, is it your position that the definition of a DS1 loop in Embarq's proposed ICA must, as a matter of either law or regulation, conform exactly to the FCC definition?
A. I'm not an attomey, so I don't know that I can answer it from -- and I won't answer it from an attorney's perspective. I'll answer from a business perspective which says the FCC has established many
rules, and it's best for a business proposition and as business partners to follow the FCC guidelines and the definitions that they put forth, and so that's why I think it's a wise decision to follow what the FCC has in terminology.
Q. Do you know whether the definitions in the proposed ICA, to the extent that the FCC also defines the same terms, are also identical to the FCC definitions?
A. That question seems rather broad to me, so Im not sure -- if you could rephrase it to me.
Q. You made the point here that -- your testimony made the point here that the definition of that the DS1 definition conformed to the FCC definition, and 1 'm merely asking you to the extent that there are other definitions in the proposed ICA, are they likewise identical to the FCC definitions to the extent that the FCC defines those same terms?
A. I do not know. I do not know the ICA agreement in detail. I don't work with it that closely.
Q. Okay.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Just so we're clear, Miss Bloomfield, when you spoke of the ICA agreement, you're speaking of the one that's being proposed in
this proceeding?
MS. BLOOMFIELD: Yes. Yes, Your Honor. I think I mentioned that the first time, but not the second time, yes, the proposed ICA. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. If you'll turn to Page 14 of that testimony, Exhibit 2, the question was asked whether or not all of DS1 loops have to be conditioned, and the short answer there on Line 2 was "absolutely not"; is that correct?
A. That's -- that's correct. That's the way that reads.
Q. So isn't it true that some DSL loops may require some conditioning or maybe others may require no conditioning?
A. Let me -- let me first be clear about when we're talking about DS1 loops. When COI orders a DS1 loop, it's also possible that the DSl service is already working at that location; so, in that case, there is no conditioning that needs to take place. The loop is simply handed off as a DS1 because it's already functioning as so. So when we're talking about loop conditioning actually happening, we're talking about the population in which the service there is not a DS1, and Embarq must take a look at the facilities to see
whether or not what kind of construction needs to happen in order to hand off those facilities as a DS1 service.
Q. Thank you for clarifying that, but even in the case where you don't have an existing DS1 or, you know, that's not already in use, is it always the case that if a customer orders a DS1 to a new location, that that line would have to be conditioned? You said Embarq was going to take a look at it --
A. Correct.
Q. - to see whether or not it required loop conditioning?
A. Loop make-up will typically be ordered so that we can take a look to see what's on that particular piece of copper, see what needs to be removed in order for it to function as a DS1, if there's anything on there that does need to be removed.
Q. So it is possible that there might be something -- that there would be nothing on there that would need to be removed; is that correct?
A. That would be correct.
Q. To date, isn't it true that Embarq has required COI, since October of 2007, to pay loop conditioning on all DS1 loops that it has ordered?
A. I'm not aware of that.
Q. Isn't it true that Embarg has a policy to require loop conditioning on 100 percent of the cases where a DS1 line is ordered?
A. Again, to the extent the DS1 service is already working, then, no, we would not have any line conditioning at all, and to the extent that there's not any facilities along there that need to be removed, then there would need to be line conditioning. Outside of that, for non-HDSL DS1s, I understand that bridge taps are all removed as well as all repeaters, but for HDSL technolagy, it's my understanding that bridge taps are all removed, but repeaters can stay on. So when we're talking loop conditioning, it can encompass both bridge taps and repeater removal.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I think we're at COI Exhibit 4, are we? I would ask that this exhibit be marked as Exhibit 4, and that's the one that I have placed in front of Ms. Londerholm. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. I have handed you an e-mail that says it is from Pam Zeigler, Ms. Londerholm, and that's been marked as Exhibit 4. Is Ms. Zeigler the account representative to COI?
A. Yes, she is.
Q. Okay. And this e-mail is dated Wednesday,

June 4th, 2008; correct?
A. Yes, it is.
Q. Okay. And would you agree that this e-mail that was sent to Mr. Vogelmeier basically states that Embarq requires 100 percent conditioning for its own T1 loops, and, therefore, it requires 100 percent T1 conditioning for every loop that COI would order?
A. That is what the document says, and, again, I would -- I would like to explain that there's 100 percent of the bridge taps, which is a portion of conditioning, that are removed. Our own internal documentation speak to that, but repeaters can also be on there, and repeaters are conditioning, also, and they do not all have to be removed. And I have a document here from our own internal CLEC conditioning, and it speaks specifically to the fact that, "Additional bridge taps and repeaters for DS1 provisioned through HDSL technology will be identified as optional in the loop make-up information. A DSI loop that is not provisioned using HDSL technology must be conditioned to remove all field repeaters and bridge taps. This conditioning will be identified as required in the loop make-up information."
Q. So if COI would order a DS1 that is that uses the HDSL, it wouldn't -- it shouldn't expect
to see conditioning for bridge taps; is that correct?
A. No. If they've ordered a DS1 and Embarq is able to provide it as HDSL, then Embarq will remove all bridge taps, and it will be an HDSL service then that is handed off to COI.
Q. And they won't have to pay a second time to get those removed; right?
A. For that particular loop, they should not. If they -- it's handed off as a DS1. It's functioning as a DS1 because all the bridge taps have been removed when they hand off the service to COI .
Q. When COI orders a DS1 from Embarq, does Embarq indicate whether it's HDSL or not?
A. I do not know how the loop make-up sheet is handed off to COI. They would have a piece of paper, and it may say that this is going to be HDSL service or it may say it's going to be traditional Tl type service, but it depends on the copper facilities that we have in the plant as to what kind of technology we would use in order to service the T1.
Q. You had indicated earlier that if the DS1 line is already in service, it would not require -- it would not require additional conditioning; correct?
A. Yes.
Q. Do you have any idea of approximately the
percentage of time that a DS1 is in service and would be ordered by another carrier, another customer?
A. I do not.
Q. How does a customer verify that Embarq is actually performing the conditioning after it's been told that a line needs to be conditioned?
A. I'm not sure that it would be possible to physically go out and check it, but, obviously, the DS1 service has been ordered. The discussion has been made with the CLEC, with COI, because they've ordered a loop make-up and we said these particular things need to happen in order for that service to be turned up and working, and then we would turn the service over to COI. Now, it would be by the opposite of checking in that if the service wasn't working, if COI then had a complaint from their customer saying I'm sorry, my DS1 service is not working, then they would know that the bridge taps had not been removed, but DS1 customers for both Embarq and for COI, I'm sure, they're very highly valued customers. In our entire network where we have -- and in my model we have approximately 467,000 two-wire lines, we have less than 10,000 DS1s. The revenue generation for DS1 is high, and so they are a valued customer, that removal of all those bridge taps is right in line with Embarg's own engineering
standards for offering DS1 service to our own customers, and we have a requirement to have parity with our customers with our CLEC customers.
Q. And how is it determined that bridge conditioning is needed? Does Embarq go to its business records? Does it do a site survey? How does it determine that?
A. When the - my understanding is the
service would be ordered, and it goes to our engineering department, who then look into our records to determine what - what is along the path of that particular copper loop to the customer to determine where along that path any services need to take place in order to turn up the service.
Q. If the records say that there is something along the path that needs to be removed, is that when the conditioning charge gets placed to the customer? I mean, that's when the customer is charged, because the records say so?
A. I'm not sure how that process works. Now, I know that then the CLEC has the opportunity to decide whether they want to pursue that particular customer, whether their business plan allows for them to incorporate the additional cost of conditioning the loop or whether they need to pass on that particular
customer because it's not going to be economic for them to go ahead and serve them. Embarq would be doing the same sort of thing.
Q. So Embarq would check the records to say there's X here, we've got a condition there that's going to cost you $Y$, and at that point the customer decides whether or not they want to go ahead and order it, but there is no verification of that, that there's really something that needs -- that there is conditioning required other than the look at the business record?
A. I believe that to be -- I believe that to be so.
Q. I'm now turning to Issue 10 on Page 14, and there is a discussion there on dedicated transport that begins on Page 14 and I think ends on Page 17 of the testimony, and within that there is a reference to the FCC's ruling in the Triennial Review Remand Order, which I think is located on page -- or line - Page 15, Line 7 to -- 7 to 17; is that correct?
A. Yes. Yes, the question being, "What is the relevant FCC regulation?"
Q. Yes.
A. Then the answer starts on Line 8.
Q. Right. Okay. Did you review that
particular order in adopting this testimony?
A. Yes, I did.
Q. And did you specifically review Footnote

358 which showed the factual basis upon which the FCC concluded that 10 was -- 10 DS1 lines was the appropriate number before the crossover to a DS3 line?
A. Did you say Footnote 10 ?
Q. No. I said Footnote 358.

If we can go off the record?
EXAMINER LYNN: Sure.
(Discussion off the record.)
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. So you've had an opportunity to look at Footnote 358?
A. Yes, I have reviewed that footnote.
Q. Okay. And after reading the footnote, would you not agree that the FCC based its 10 DS1 circuit cap on the basis of the carrier information that it had before it?

MR. STEWART: I'm going to object. The FCC's order speaks for itself. It's apparently 137 pages in length, and whether this footnote constitutes the only rationale that supports any decision the FCC made regarding this crossover point would need to rely upon a review of the entire order to see what, if
anything, else they may have said about it; so it's inappropriate to ask this witness whether that footnote is the only basis for the conclusion, apart from which the order speaks for itself. It's improper to characterize the FCC's opinion in terms of what all their rationales were.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor -- pardon me?
EXAMINER LYNN: Do you have a response to that?

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Yes, Your Honor. I think it's appropriate to ask the question. She cited the order. This is a footnote. I didn't say it was the only one. I didn't say it was the only thing in the order that talked about this relationship between 10 DS1s and a DS3, but I am asking her to look at Footnote 358 which contains information about -- where -- to the point in the FCC's order where it concludes that it's appropriate to have a cap on 10 DS1s at the place before a customer would have to order a DS3.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Why don't we try it this way, ask the witness whether or not this was -this footnote was the basis on which she included it in her testimony or that it's included in the testimony.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: That's a good question as far as I'm concerned.

By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Do you know whether -- did you conclude that the 10 -- the cap on 10 DS1s quoted by the FCC was explained in Footnote 358 ?
A. No. The -- the reference in the testimony starting on Page 15 , Lines 10 through 13 , speak just explicitly to Paragraph 128 and reach the actual finality of result that 10 is the final number. It nowhere says that it's a guideline that every negotiation should look at what the crossover point is for those particular negotiations. It says the cap is 10, and this Commission has found the same cap to be true in Case No. 05-887-TP-UNC with SBC, and, in fact, this Commission wrote, "We agree with the FCC's reasoning and the record for an efficient carrier who aggregates sufficient traffic on DS1 facilities, which the FCC record reveals is approximately 10 DSI transport facilities. That carrier" -- and in this case we'd be talking about COI -- "should have generated enough revenue to be economically capable of deploying a DS3 facility or lease a DS3 facility from an alternative provider." I also recall Mr. Vogelmeier telling us yesterday that he has alternative providers on the routes that he's looking at. And so that portion of the testimony is referring explicitly to a
final number that the FCC found and a final number that the PUCO found.
Q. Right, but doesn't your testimony specifically cite to Paragraph 128 and in that -- in Paragraph 128 in the FCC's order is the paragraph that has a further explanation of what they concluded in 148, which is Footnote 358; correct?

MR. STEWART: Objection for a second. I think there was a reference to 148.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: 128 you heard or you should have heard. I apologize.

MR. STEWART: Well, I think the record will --

EXAMINER LYNN: Yes, but I think you're referring to 128 , Paragraph 128 .

MR. STEWART: Again, my objection is the FCC order says what it says.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Then should we move to strike this portion of the testimony? Because you all have cited the testimony, I believe I'm entitled to cross her. Now, if you want to take it out of the testimony, that's fine with me.

MR. STEWART: No, I don't want to take it out of the testimony. I don't think it's appropriate to strike it. What I think is inappropriate is to ask
her -- well, first of all, she's already said she relied on Paragraph 128 and didn't rely on what Footnote 358 says, but the point is -- my point is asking her to characterize the FCC's rationale and imply that, well, this is the only basis for she's - she can't do that. The FCC did say what it said both in the footnote and the paragraph, but Ms. Londerholm's characterization is immaterial.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF; I think this is an issue that potentially could be addressed on brief.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I just do want to clarify the record somewhat, and I think this is what she said and I know that Mr. Stewart reported it - or repeated it, if it was true that Ms.
Londerholm said that she did not rely on Footnote 358. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Is that correct?
A. That is correct.
Q. Thank you. Isn't it true that the
proposed price for a DS1 from the Mansfield Wire Center
to Wooster currently, the wire center, is $\$ 131.25$ ?
That's for one DSL.
EXAMINER LYNN: Where are you looking in the testimony?

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Pardon me?

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Where in the testimony are you looking?

MS. BLOOMFIELD: That was the price list that we had before, and that's -- it came right out of the price list, so I assume that Mr. Maples would have been familiar with it, but I don't know. If she's not, that's fine and we'll move on.

THE WITNESS: Mr. Maples nor myself are the transport cost experts at Embarq. Because the rates were never brought up as an arbitration issue, we didn't bring forward any transport cost experts.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. If I had taken the word transport out,
would you be able to reply to the question, for DS1?
MR. STEWART: Excuse me. Is the question
does she know whether the rate from Mansfield to
Wooster is $\$ 125$, whatever odd cents?
MS. BLOOMFIELD: \$131.25, yes.
MR. STEWART: I'm sorty.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Under the proposed ICA.
A. I have not reviewed any of those. Because they are transport routes, taking the word out does not -- doesn't disqualify the fact that that's what it is.
Q. Looking at Page 18 of the testimony, Line - actually, it appears several places, but I'm focusing on the term excessive. COI proposed to strike the word excessive from Section 54.3.1, and Embarg resisted that deletion, and then there is - then there is testimony about the disagreement beginning with the question that begins on Line 16 of Page 18. Do you see that?
A. Yes, I do.
Q. Okay. Do you agree that the term excessive is a term that's subject to subjective interpretation?
A. I would agree in a broad context it would be, but I think in the context of what we're discussing here, which is bridge taps, excessive means that we would remove any excess that causes the loop to not function for the particular service over which -- for which it's been ordered.
Q. In your interpretation of that section, do you see "excessive" modifying bridge taps, load coils, low-pass filters, range extenders, and similar devices, or do you see it just modifying bridge taps?
A. I would believe it would be excessive for any of that list.
Q. And if I heard you correctly, you were
saying your definition -- the definition of excessive as applied in this particular section means that it would be enough of bridge taps, et al., that would keep the line from functioning as a DS1 line; is that correct?
A. No, because we're actually talking about DSL lines and DS1 lines. These are all conditioned loops, not just DS1s.
Q. Okay. Well, then instead of the -whatever line we're talking about.
A. Okay.
Q. That would mean that excessive means enough to - enough of these items that without taking them off, the line couldn't function the way it was supposed to function; is that correct?
A. That would be correct. So if there were ten and we only needed to remove one, then that one was the excessive count.
Q. If that were the case, rather than the word excessive, would you have an objection to an explanation along the lines that you just gave, in other words, to remove the bridge taps, et cetera, which would interfere with the use of the line for which it is being provisioned?

MR. STEWART: I'm going to object. There
are two competing versions of the language, and the Commission needs to decide which one of those is more appropriate, and I don't think it's proper at a hearing to pick an unrelated set of language out and say would you agree to this one instead of the one you proposed. That's in the nature of a settlement discussion and not really directed to the two sets that we have before us.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I asked her what her definition of excessive was. I had no idea what she was going to tell me before her answer, and she gave me an answer, which is -- which is one you would not find in Webster's Dictionary, and it applies specific to this - to this particular context, and that definition sounds a whole lot more reasonable than the generic term "excessive," so I was just testing as to whether or not that would be an appropriate -- that would be an appropriate alternative. I don't -- I think that's a fair question and - so that's exactly why I asked the question. I don't understand the objection. We were continuing along the lines of excessive is inappropriate because it's too broad.
(Discussion off the record.)
EXAMINER LYNN: We'll let the witness answer to the extent you have an opinion on this.

## THE WITNESS: I would not make a change.

I am not, as I said, overly familiar with the ICA itself, but it would not surprise me that a paragraph before, a paragraph after makes some more understanding around the types of service and how the loop is supposed to be provisioned once we hand it off, what are the technical requirements once we hand the loop off, and so it wouldn't surprise me to find out that somewhere within the context of this area it describes that; so the "excessive" that is in here is meant to tie into the contract as a whole. I also, not being an attorney, would not feel comfortable making changes to a contract without getting advice from counsel. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Did I understand that you do not know what the paragraphs above or below or whether there's any context that has been provided in this proposed ICA for the term excessive; isn't that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. Okay. If you were a purchaser of subject to the -- purchaser of DS1 subject to this provision, how would you determine whether there are excessive bridge taps, load coils, et cetera? Would you have to rely exclusively on Embarq?
A. If I was a purchaser and I was purchasing

1 the two sets of language. The issue would exist under their language.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, we put the language -- we put the whole loop conditioning issue in, and we put the language, specifically the term excessive in dispute, and I was questioning her about what does excessive mean and how does a customer who is subject to this provision determine whether or not Embarq is following its own rule. A standard should be something that you can measure and verify, and I don't believe that, as written, the standard that Embarq has put forward is something that's verifiable. I was merely asking the witness how would you verify that if that's your standard. I think that's appropriate. The only person who mentioned cheating was Mr. Stewart.
(Discussion off the record.)
EXAMINER LYNN: Again, I'll let the witness answer to the extent that she can do so.

THE WITNESS: First I want to be clear.
When we're talking about these loops, we're talking about DSIs and DSL loops. So by asking Embarq to remove every single one of these things for DSL loops, they're creating lots of extra costs, because you do not have to remove all of these, the bridge taps, load coils, low-pass filters, et cetera, that are listed in
from Embarq, then I would rely on Embarq, and I
would -- would want from Embarq for them to be running
an efficient company, so I would not want them to be removing too many bridge taps. I would want them to be removing the right number of bridge taps in order to get me the service that I need, and we, as a partnership, then can move forward in an efficient manner.
Q. How do you assure that that's -- I'm sure that's what any customer would want. How would you assure yourself that indeed that was happening, that they were only removing the appropriate amount?

MR. STEWART: I'm going to object. It is not an issue in this arbitration whether Embarq is cheating COI by charging for the removal of bridge taps which, in fact, it doesn't remove, and, in fact, adopting the language that COI has proposed here, which deletes the word excessive, would not assist on that dimension. COI would still have the same issue of verifying whether Embarq was charging for something that it actually did, so whether Embarq is cheating or not has nothing to do with which of these languages is more appropriate, apart from not being an issue. I mean, the issue isn't Embarq is lying and cheating, we gotta know how we can prevent that. It's irrelevant to

MS. BLOOM HLD. Your Honor, we put he omething that you can measure and verify, and 1 dos $\longrightarrow$.
the testimony in order for the DSL loop to function.
But if I were in the marketplace and partnering with a company that I'm purchasing the services from and I wanted to verify that the work was being done, then I would have my loop make-up and it would tell me what's going to happen on a particular loop, and I would do an audit. I think that's a reasonable way to go about it, and I would pick ten orders and I would say to Pam Zeigler, who is my account manager, I would like to ride along with the technician as they're performing these functions and see if indeed what is happening out in the field is matching up to the loop make-up as it was given to me, and then I would at least know, and if I had an issue, then I could take it back to my account manager and say we need to be discussing something that might possibly be happening.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. You do agree, do you not, that there is not a definition of the term excessive in this provision?
A. I have not read the entire ICA. I believe there's a definition section. I don't know if excessive is defined within there.
Q. Well, subject to check, I'm telling you it's not in the definition section, so assuming it is
1
not in the definition section and it appears in this section, as a standard, there is no definition for excessive; isn't that correct?

MR. STEWART: I'm going to object. The language in 54.3 .1 speaks for itself. Whether the language in there enables one to put a gloss on excessive should be determined by reading that language. It says what it says.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: I believe we've already established it's not a defined term.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Thank you. I will move on.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: The Commission will, at its own discretion, make the determination --

MS. BLOOMFIELD: I will -appropriateness of the term and as to what it would, therefore, mean if it remains. MS. BLOOMFIELD; Thank you, Your Honor. I will move on. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. On Page 19, also talking about appropriate level of conditioning, which relates back to the provision, the testimony says that, "Embarq will provide the CLEC the appropriate level of

> EXAMINER AGRANOFF: - as to the
conditioning," and then it goes on. Then it goes on to say, "Providing more conditioning than needed benefits neither party." It also says, on Line 18, that Embarq basically provides "CLECs the same level of service that Embarq provides itself." How can COI verify that Embarq is providing the same service to COI that it provides to itself?

MR. STEWART: Objection. Verification of the provision of services is not an issue that's subject to this arbitration. If there were competing language regarding rights of audit, rights of inspection, then perhaps this would be relevant, but because it's not an issue, I don't think it's relevant.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Mr. Stewart, it's in the statements in the testimony, and counsel is entitled to ask questions with respect to that testimony.

MR. STEWART: There's no statement in the testimony about the ability to verify, and that's what she's asking about, how can we verify.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: No. I am -- the testimony says that as a fact Embarq provides the same level of service to itself as it provides to everybody else, and I am entitled to ask her about that
statement, exactly as the Examiner said. That's what I'm doing.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Please proceed.
THE WITNESS: The language says that Embarq understands its obligations. Embarq has methods and procedures that are internal to the company that apply to Embarq's own retail customers and -- but also apply to CLEC customers in provisioning service to them, and so I can look at the M\&Ps, methods and procedures, for both CLEC and for Embarq as a whole and see that those methods and procedures are written to be the same.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. They're written to be the same?
A. (Witness nods head.)
Q. And that's as far as you could go; right?
A. If $\mathrm{COI}-\mathrm{I}$ would answer the same as before. If COI thinks that something is wrong, then they should call Pam and perform the same sort - ask for the same sort of audit, we would like to see 10 DS1s that are provisioned to Embarq's customers, we would like to see the loop make-up information associated with those, and then we'd like to be able to verify what services are actually performed. I believe that Embarg's employees in Ohio have a high level of
integrity. I would stand by them and their Midwest values very strongly. I look at our company across all 18 states, and I can assure you that our Ohio property is run very well.
Q. And I'm not - I didn't question how the company is being run. I have another question in that same area which has to do with the statement, "Providing more conditioning than needed benefits neither party." Would you explain that statement, please?
A. There's costs associated with conditioning, and it's the reason why that excessive word is in there. By creating a situation in which we remove more than needs to be removed to provide the service, we drive additional costs to the CLEC by charging them to have all of those removed. We take up additional time of our technicians that might be better used doing something else, when, in fact, it creates no additional benefit because the service would have worked if we would have stopped at the point we needed to for the conditioning.
Q. I couldn't disagree with you there, but in that case, in the hypothetical that you just went through, isn't it the case that Embarq would have been compensated for removing the extra loop coils or
whatever? Even though it's not necessary, they still would have been compensated for it; correct?
A. The -- that's correct, and the sentence says neither party benefits, and so COI doesn't benefit by paying the extra dollars, and Embarq, running as an efficient company, does not want to be performing extra work that doesn't need to take place in the network.
Q. You're just merely saying that because, in your opinion, Embarq is efficient, Embarq would not want to charge more for a service that maybe isn't -or charge for a service that maybe isn't needed, but, nonetheless, Embarq would be receiving compensation for whatever it did - it actually performed, needed or not; correct?
A. No. If an Embarq technician or construction worker is having to do work for COI that's not necessary, then they're not doing other work that they also need to provide doing something else, and so - perhaps there's a backup order somewhere else that they've had to set aside because they have to do this extra work for COI .
Q. Right. But they're still getting compensation for removing the excess or the extra?
A. They're delaying another order, and they could - in that case, they could have a customer
that's upset because they're having to be delayed, and, therefore, it doesn't benefit Embarq or Embarq's customers.
Q. Moving on to Page 22 and looking at the top, Lines 3 to 5 , which is COI's proposed language for this section, 54.3.2, if it were determined at the end of this arbitration that the DS1 price already included recovery of compensation for loop conditioning, isn't it the case that the language proposed by COI would be appropriate? The language I'm referring to is that the waiver applies exclusively to the DS1 loops.
A. I don't believe this is the only way to solve that, and, in fact, I would -- I would suggest that adding additional language to a standard contract can create additional administrative issues. I think the way that something like that could be addressed, if this arbitration Panel were to decide that the DS1 loop make-up was indeed being overrecovered, then the price list itself could say loop make-up for non-DS1s, and it could be addressed in a simple manner like that.
Q. Instead of in the rule here, it would be over in the price list that would make it clear that loop conditioning does not -- charges would not apply?
A. Embarq will follow the guidelines and what they're ordered by the Commission in what they can
charge, and we would find a method to make it clear within the company that those are the guidelines, regulatory guidelines, and we would follow them.
Q. No further questions, Your Honor.

EXAMINER LYNN: Mr. Stewart, amy redirect?

MR. STEWART: Yes. May I have a few minutes?

EXAMINER LYNN: Certainly.
(Recess taken.)
EXAMINER LYNN: Back on the record, please. Thank you. You were going to do redirect on Miss Londerholm.

MR. STEWART: I have some very brief redirect.

EXAMINER LYNN: Fine. REDIRECT EXAMINATION
By Mr. Stewart:
Q. Ms. Londerholm, you were asked whether the
word excessive was a defined term in the agreement, and
I think it was represented that it was not. That's
fine. You were also asked whether excessive is a
subjective term, and you agreed that it was. Do you recall that?
A. Yes, Ido.
Q. Is there any language in Section 54.3.1 that puts any additional gloss or meaning on the word excessive?
A. Yes, and I tried to be clear about that earlier, but specifically what that section says as it identifies excessive bridge taps, load coils, low-pass filters, range extenders, et cetera, have been removed to unable the delivery of high-speed switched wire line telecommunication capabilities including DSL. So the excessive is there and is defined such that once it's taken care of, the delivery of these high-speed switched wire line telecommunication capabilities are there.
Q. So the excessive bridge tabs, et cetera, are those that one needs to remove to unable the delivery of the services and excluding those that do not need to be removed to unable those services to be delivered?
A. Yes. That would be correct.
Q. That's all.

EXAMINER LYNN: Miss Bloomfield, no more questions on your behalf?

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Pardon?
EXAMINER LYNN: You're through with your questioning?

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Yes, Your Honor.
EXAMINER LYNN: Thank you. Our Panel,
Miss Russell, you indicated you had a question?
MS. RUSSELL: Yes.

## EXAMINATION

By Ms. Russell:
Q. Is Embarq proposing to increase line conditioning or loop make-up information charges in the proposed interconnection agreement?
A. No. COI has agreed to the rates that were offered to them in July of this year, and they are the same rates that are in the Cincinnati Bell interconnection agreement that have been approved by the Commission.
Q. Okay.

No questions.
EXAMINER LYNN: Ms. Green, you had a question?

MS. GREEN: Yes. EXAMINATION
By Ms. Green:
Q. Did Embarq submit a loop cost study for the proposed loop conditioning charges in this arbitration?
A. No, because the loop -- the rates for loop
conditioning were not part of the arbitration. The rates themselves were not part of the arbitration.
Q. No further questions. EXAMINER LYNN: No further questions. Thank you.

## Mr. Agranoff. <br> EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Yes. EXAMINATION

By Examiner Agranoff:
Q. Good afternoon.
A. Good afternoon.
Q. The FCC citations that you provide relative to the right of the ILEC to charge for loop conditioning, those all occurred from 1996 to what time frame, do you know?
A. I believe it would be 2004 with the TRRO.
Q. And yet the company made its decision to begin charging for loop conditioning when?
A. I believe it's been in our interconnection agreements, as far as I know, all along.
Q. When you say "all along"-
A. Well, from the 1996 Act, but --
Q. With respect to COI, was it in the interconnection agreement that they are currently operating under?
A. Yes, it is.
Q. What precipitated the change in the company's policy as to pursuing loop conditioning since it appears as though the company is alleging that they were not charged some period of time and then there was a change in that policy?
A. And l've heard that throughout the day yesterday and today, and I am not aware of it, but I'm sure we can track it down and get back to the Commission with an answer as to how that came about. MR. STEWART: I'm sorry, you'll need to speak up.

THE WITNESS: I said that I've heard over the last two days that we have now started charging for what we could have rightfully been charging all along for loop conditioning, and I was asked what precipitated us to start charging that, and I was suggesting that we can get back with the Commission to explain to them what precipitated that, but I do not know. By Examiner Agranoff:
Q. You may have already stated when the commencement of the charge of loop conditioning began, but in case you haven't given a date for when that began, can you please identify the specific date?
A. I think I understood here today that it was November of 2007.

MS. ZEIGLER: October.
THE WITNESS: And I do not believe that we retroactively billed for any of the loop conditioning that we could have.
By Examiner Agranoff:
Q. Do you know whether Embarq charges itself when loop conditioning is necessary?
A. Embarq would obviously incur a cost to condition a loop, and I would believe that as part of the business case that's developed for that customer to provide that service, it would be a cost that would be included in the business case. I am not aware that we have a separately identifiable charge that we would specifically charge to a customer and identify it as loop conditioning, but in developing a business case for a new customer that we're going to bring into our system as a DS1, we would look at all the costs associated with starting up the DS1, maintenance, all the additional costs that would be ongoing for that customer and the revenue stream you would expect to receive from that customer in order to determine whether it was a customer that we could serve economically.
Q. Is there a loop conditioning charge that would be assessed to that retail customer?
A. I am not -- I am not sure we have a separate identifiable charge.
Q. On Page 23 of your testimony or Mr. Maples' testimony, on Line 17, you identify the "loop make-up information as an unbundled network element"?
A. Yes.
Q. Is that a separate UNE by itself or --
A. Yes.
Q. - is that part of the OSS?
A. It is a separate UNE, and the reason that it's a separate UNE is that it doesn't have to be ordered. The CLEC has the opportunity to order the service and just verify with their customer that it works without doing the loop make-up, without paying for that; so it's at the option of the CLEC as to whether or not they want to first look at the loop to see if it's there. So, for example, as I said with a DS1 customer, if COI goes out there and they happen to know that they're already a DSI customer, then they don't have to order loop make-up because they're already aware of the fact that the DS1 service works at that location; so it's at the discretion of the CLEC.
Q. Thank you.

EXAMINER LYNN: Questions again by counsel based on what has been asked by the Panel.

Mr. Stewart.
MR. STEWART: I'm sorry, you're not having any questions?

EXAMINER LYNN: I don't have any myself. Thank you for asking.

MR. STEWART: All right.
REDIRECT EXAMINATION
By Mr. Stewart:
Q. Attorney Examiner Agranoff asked you about the commencement of charging COI for loop conditioning. Do you recall that?
A. Yes.
Q. And is it your understanding that that was a policy change as opposed to a billing oversight?
A. My understanding it would be a billing oversight.
Q. So, in other words, there wasn't a policy change? Embarq just figured out that it had been failing to bill for this function?
A. That would be my understanding.
Q. Okay. Nothing further.

EXAMINER LYNN: Miss Bloomfield. MS. BLOOMFIELD: Yes, Your Honor, I have
just one clarification.

## RECROSS-EXAMINATION

By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. You were asked a question about the rate for loop make-up and whether it increased or not, and you indicated it has not increased over the rate that is in the Cincinnati Bell most current ICA; is that correct?
A. Yes.
Q. Is it the case that the rate has increased from the rate that is currently effective in the ICA? EXAMINER AGRANOFF: ICA? MS. BLOOMFIELD: The current - I guess we've been referring to it as the expired ICA which is still being used today, until we go on to a new one.

THE WITNESS: I have not looked at those rates specifically. I don't know.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Thank you. That's it.
EXAMINER LYNN: All right. Now, as far as admission of exhibits into evidence, again Mr. Stewart had made a motion sometime ago about Embarq Exhibit 2, which is the testimony by Mr. Maples that Ms.
Londerholm had adopted. He moved that that be admitted into evidence.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: No objection.

EXAMINER LYNN: There being no objection, Exhibit 2 will be admitted into evidence for Embarq.
(EXHIBIT ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE.)
EXAMINER LYNN: Miss Bloomfield, you had introduced COI Exhibit 4.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Yes, Your Honor, and I would move that for admission at this point.

EXAMINER LYNN: That's the e-mail from Pam Zeigler to Steve Vogelmeier. That's being moved into evidence.

Mr. Stewart, you're indicating you have no objection?

MR. STEWART: I have no objection to it or COI 5.

EXAMINER LYNN: Okay. Actually --
MS. BLOOMFIELD: We don't have a COI 5
yet.
MR. STEWART: Oh, I thought -
MS. BLOOMFIELD: No. I said I wasn't - I did not make that an exhibit.

MR. STEWART: You have three exhibits, then, whatever it is.

EXAMINER LYNN: We'll admit COI Exhibit 4 into evidence.
(EXHIBIT ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE.)

EXAMINER LYNN: With that, we'll move on to Ms. Londerholm testimony of her own, and she had -there was both a confidential and a public version of that. Based on how we had numbered things in the past in this hearing, I'll assume that her confidential testimony, well indicate that as being Embarq Exhibit 3 and then 3 A as far as her testimony, prefiled testimony that's available to the public.

MR. STEWART: That's fine with me, but I
thought we did it the reverse for COI, that we marked
the confidential as A.
MS. BLOOMFIELD: No.
EXAMINER LYNN: It's the other way.
MR. STEWART: Okay. All right. So the direct is 3 , the confidential is 3A.
(EXHIBITS HEREBY MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION
PURPOSES.)
REDIRECT EXAMINATION
By Mr. Stewart:
Q. I'm going to hand you what's been marked as Embarq Exhibit 3, captioned Confidential Direct Testimony of Christy V. Londerholm, and also what's been marked as Embarq Exhibit 3A, captioned Direct Testimony of Christy V. Londerholm. Can you identify those documents?
making again, please.
THE WITNESS: Page 36, Line 12.
EXAMINER LYNN: And the change is?
THE WITNESS: The confidential number (redacted) percent should read (redacted) percent.

EXAMINER LYNN: Thank you.
By Mr. Stewart:
Q. Are there any others?
A. I have one correction to a document on the $C D$, but we haven't introduced that yet.
Q. Why don't we go ahead and describe it, because we do not have hard copies of what's on the
CD. I had discussed that previously, and that will be provided both to the court reporter and to counsel if they want a hard copy. So if you can describe that change, it will be fine.
A. On Page 16 of the Document titled Loop Input Definitions.doc, the second paragraph reads, "To allow for two pairs," and it should read to allow for (redacted) pairs. The first paragraph of the next page reads the (redacted) pairs and the actual input is a (redacted), but this particular citation was missed when updating.
Q. Could you give the location of that again? I'm not sure we all heard it. can resume your seat, but this will be similar to yesterday where we'll be entering a closed record and, therefore, anyone who is not -- has not gone along with the Confidentiality Agreement will be asked to leave the room. I don't believe there are such persons here, but at any rate, Mr. Stewart, please, now if you can continue. By Mr. Stewart:
Q. Miss Londerholm, can you identify Embarq Exhibit 3 and Embarq Exhibit 3A?
A. Yes, Embarq Exhibit 3 is the - is my Confidential Direct Testimony of Christy V. Londerholm on behalf of United Telephone Company of Ohio. Exhibit 3A would be the nonconfidential version of the same.
Q. Were these testimonies prepared by you or under your supervision?
A. Yes, they were.
Q. Do you have any corrections or changes to make to either of the testimonies?
A. Yes, I do. To the confidential version, on Page 36, Line 12, the confidential number (redacted) percent should be (redacted).

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Repeat that, please.
EXAMINER LYNN: The line and change you're
A. Page 16 of the document titled Loop Inputs Definitions. It's in the second paragraph.
Q. Can you briefly explain why you made the first change, the percentage on Page 36 of your confidential?
A. It was a simple mathematical error. Rather than moving back to the source document, it was a mathematical error. It doesn't change any of the inputs into the cost model itself. It doesn't change any of the results.
Q. Okay. And can you explain the basis for the change you just described on the document that's part of the cost study?
A. It was a citation that was missed. There was additional -- there's an additional paragraph on the next page that does read the (redacted) pairs and the input value into the model is (redacted), but the specific location on Page 16 of that document did not get updated.
Q. Try to speak up a little more loudly, if you could. I know it's late. If I were to ask you the same questions that are set forth in Embarq Exhibits 3 and 3A, would your answers be the same as appear in those two exhibits?
A. But for the corrections, yes.

MR. STEWART: I move exhibits -- Embarq Exhibits 3 and 3A and make Ms. Londerholm available for cross-examination.

EXAMINER LYNN: Okay. Ms. Bloomfield. RECROSS-EXAMINATION
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Good afternoon again. Your testimony on

Page 3 stated that you had graduated from the University of Missouri in 1990 and began employment with Sprint in 1998; is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. Were you employed prior to the time that you started with Sprint?
A. Yes.
Q. And by whom were you employed?
A. I was employed by Humana Healthcare Plan as Manager of Financial Analysis.
Q. Did you work -- did you have any other employes -- employment before working for Sprint, after - did you work for Humana for the eight years before you went to Sprint?
A. I worked for Humana from 1994 to 1998. From 1990 to 1994 I worked for a large medical clinic as the accounting manager.
Q. Turning to your testimony on the model, 1

|  | 345 |  | 347 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | have a few general questions to ask you. In what |  | nd up model, |
| 2 | computer language was your model written? | 2 | Q. The ground up began in 2003, and then |
| 3 | A. The algorithms are all written in | 3 | you've been working with it since? |
| 4 | Microsoft Excel. | 4 | A. It was finished in 2003. It was started |
| 5 | Q. Microsoft? | 5 | 2002, if I understand your question correctly. |
| 6 | A. Excel. It also relies on Microsoft Access | 6 | (Discussion off the record.) |
| 7 | as part of the processing of the model, but the | 7 | By Ms. Bloomfield: |
| 8 | language itself and the processing is all in Microsoft | 8 | Q. Do you know how long it took to build the |
| 9 | Excel. Microsoft Excel has a macro application that's | 9 | odel in the first place, from 2002 to |
| 10 | very common in it, and that application has Visual | 10 | A. I would estimate eight months. |
| 11 | Basic for Applications that sits behind it, and most | 11 | Q. And did a number of peopl |
| 12 | robust Excel users generally have experience in | 12 | when it was being developed? |
| 13 | macros. The individuals that I hire in to work for me | 13 | A. I would estimate that there |
| 14 | all have extensive experience in Microsoft Access, | 14 | imary people working |
| 15 | Microsoft Excel, and, frankly, I find that most | 15 | Q. Mr. Dunbar was one? |
| 16 | graduates from college going back ten years even have | 16 | A. That's correct. |
| 17 | experience in Microsoft Access and Microsoft Excel. | 17 | Q. Who was the other? |
| 18 | Q. How much of the algorithm portion is in | 18 | A. Richard Rousselot, R-o-u-s |
| 19 | Microsoft Excel? | 19 | Q. And what were your responsibilities with |
| 20 | A. One hundred percent of it | 20 | respect to Sprint's Loop Costing Module and Expense |
| 21 | Q. And how much -- and so - what is the | 21 | Modules that are part of the model? |
| 22 | portion that's in the Visual Basic? | 22 | A. My current responsibilities include input |
| 23 | A. The Visual Basic for Applica | 23 | velopment for both of those modules. The Expense |
| 2 | opens the Excel Workbook, copies information from | 24 | Modules themselves, which encompass the Annual Charge |
| 25 | Access into Excel. There's -- the algorithms and the | 25 | Factor Module and Other Direct Cost Module, I have |
|  | 346 |  | 348 |
|  | formulas are in the top row of the Excel Workbook, and |  | sponsibility for the algorithms that sit in those two |
|  | then it all gets copied down. Then the output results | 2 | dules |
| 3 | are copied from Excel over to Microsoft Access, and | 3 | Q. Who developed them? |
| 4 | then the next workbook opens and the same process | 4 | A. They would have been Embarq developed, at |
| 5 | happens. It's very iterative in what it does. Visual |  | the time Sprint. I am not aware who actually authored |
| 6 | Basic for Applications and macros in general are | 6 | those. |
| 7 | wonderful to use because it will do a process |  | Q. Do you know how old they are? |
| 8 | repeatedly, so that a person doesn't have to do the | 8 | A. I'm |
| 9 | same process over and over again. | 9 | MR. STEWART: Excuse me. Just to clarify, |
| 10 | Q. Did you do the programming yourself in |  | these the two algorithms that were the subject of |
| 11 | this computer model? |  | e question before last? I'm not sure what it |
| 12 | A. I've done some of the Visual Basic for | 12 |  |
| 13 | Applications. I have staff that works for me that | 13 | MS. BLOOMFIELD: Yes. |
| 14 | wrote a great deal of it, also; so it's been under my | 14 | THE WITNESS: I don't believe they're |
| 15 | supervision. |  | algorithms. I think they're modules, and I'm |
| 16 | Q. Who constructed the model in the first |  | addressing the Annual Charge Factor Module and Other |
| 17 | ace? |  | Direct Cost Price Module. They would have come about |
| 18 | A. It's an Embarq model in-house to us. The |  | a result of the 1996 Act and the necessity to be |
| 19 | tual individual that did most of the algorithms was a | 19 | to cost out TELRIC rates. |
| 20 | gentleman named Jim Dunbar. | 20 | MS. BLOOMFIELD: Now Exhibit |
| 27 | Q. How old is the model? | 21 | EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Yes. |
| 22 | A. We have been using it since 2003 . | 22 | THE WITNESS: I would like to make sure |
| 23 | Q. Was the model in 2003 developed from |  | everybody knows this is confidential and actually -- |
| 24 | predecessor models? | 24 | By Ms. Bloomfield: |
| 25 | A. No. The model that is presented today is | $25$ | Q. Yes. We will take care of that. The |

entire transcript is confidential
A. Thank you.
Q. We're going to make sure that the exhibits are the same. I have handed you what has been marked as COI Exhibit 5; correct? Would you be kind enough to mark your own copy as COI Exhibit 5 ?
A. Yes.
Q. At the top of the exhibit it is headed LCM

Master Price List; is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. Do you recognize this price list as a copy of the document which was in - was presented on the CD that was attached to your testimony?
A. I cannot confirm that every single number on here is accurate, but I do know that we have --
Q. I will proffer for the record that --
A. - an Excel file.
Q. - this came off the disk, that disk that

Embarq had supplied to COI. Doesn't this list display a description of all the inputs that you used in the Cost Model?
A. This would be a more comprehensive list than what actually would end up in the Cost Module.
Q. Doesn't this list give all the costs of the various items that would have been used in the Cost

## Model?

A. No. This would -- this list encompasses non-loop costs for material, but it excludes -- for the items on this particular list, it excludes installation costs.
Q. If I use the word hard costs, would that make your answer -- would your answer be yes?
A. No. This list is for electronics only, and it's electronics that would be for our transport network. It would also include electronics for our switching network. We use one comprehensive list for materials.
Q. Isn't it true that the pricing represented on this exhibit is as of -- well, what year is the pricing? I'll ask you that question. What year is the pricing for this list?
A. It would have been updated to current prices, but there could be contracts that were signed two years ago, so those prices may be -- may have been in place for two years or they could be contracts that are more recent than that one. When we are talking about dates, I just want to be clear.
Q. So to the extent there's a contract, they represent the contract price as it exists today regardless of when the contract was entered into?

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A. Correct.
Q. I'm a little confused about the date. What would be the cutoff date that a price -- where you just went out and got pricing that was not subject to a contract, what would that date be, 2007, 2008, a particular month or year or what?
A. 2008. I have an individual that works for me that updates all of our price lists, and we attempt to do that once a year. Unless we know of some major price change, we attempt to do that once a year.
Q. She would have done that at the beginning of the year?
A. Yes.
Q. Thank you. What's the name of the individual who does the updating?
A. For the loop portion, it's Sandra McKinney. Sandra McKinny, S-a-n-d-r-a M-c-K-i-n-n-e-y.
Q. And do you know approximately how many items are represented on this Master Price List, approximately? I'll save some time. Would you accept, subject to check, that the Excel spreadsheet or whatever spreadsheet it was listed 391 items? It didn't print that way, but that's what it showed on the screen.
A. I would believe that could be a very close
approximation.
Q. Okay. Have you conducted any type of verification to authenticate the accuracy of the pricing of any of the items listed on this price sheet?
A. I have not personally gone through to verify any of the prices on the price sheet.
(Discussion off the record.)
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Did you have your staff do the verification that you yourself did not do?
A. Sandra McKinney, that I mentioned, would have performed this work. She has an undergraduate degree in accounting and a Master's Degree in Business Administration.
Q. And what would she have done to authenticate the prices?
A. We have a system, Supply Chain Management System where she can enter in part numbers and it gives her the prices.
Q. Are these the prices that Embarq has paid for a particular item?
A. They're the contract rates. And, again, I'm speaking specifically to the subset that's loop, because we do include switching and transport, also. We would have different processes for listing those.

THE WITNESS: They were not handed off as part of the working documents on the CD. But had a DR come through and asked us to provide those contracts, which does happen in some docketed proceedings, then we can go to the vendor themselves and let them know that we've been asked in a docketed proceeding to hand off these third-party proprietary documents and notify them of such. EXAMINER AGRANOFF: And "DR" is?

THE WITNESS: Data request. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Just to be clear, so your staff did or did not look at the proprietary -- third-party proprietary contracts to verify -- in putting this list together, where there were proprietary contracts?
A. Sandra McKinney would have worked with them.
Q. She just doesn't have them on hand, so to speak?
A. No, she would not just have them around.
Q. Okay. Turning to Page 5 of your
Q. Okay. Turning to Page 5 of your
testimony, you referred on Line 19 to $F C C$ and the Commission costing standards. Which costing standards were you referring to?
Q. Do you know whether you had -- where these items were the subject of a contract, did she review the contracts?
A. Yes, she would have.
Q. And would she have checked to see if Embarq was eligible for any discounts pursuant to the contracts or any other pricing?
A. Yeah. These prices on here would be net of a discount.
Q. Do you know if she reviewed any backup to the contracts with the vendors on the items?
A. No. I wouldn't -- I wouldn't expect her to do so.
Q. Turning to Page 5 of your testimony - I'm sorry. Before we get there, were any of the underlying contracts provided in the documentation to the price
list or was it -- I think you had indicated a lot of the pricing came from some sort of program that Embarq has.
A. The contracts are -- they require us --
they're third-party proprietary contracts, so we can't just routinely hand them off in any proceeding; so they were not -- they were not handed off as part of this proceeding.

MR. STEWART: I'm sorry, I can't hear

## you.

A. The FCC rules - on Page 7 I speak of the basic rules that are adopted for rates from the FCC 47 C.F.R. Paragraph 51.505, and then Ohio has its own carrier-to-carrier rules that has definitions around --
Q. So you were talking about the -- in Ohio, you were talking about the carrier-to-carrier rules?
A. That's correct.
Q. Has this - has the identical Cost Model that you presented in this proceeding ever been approved by any state Commission?
A. Yes.
Q. Which state Commissions has it been approved by?
A. The model itself was approved in a Nevada UNE docket in 2007, I think was the final.
Q. And that was for a docket that specifically approved the model?
A. UNE rates using the model, that's correct.
Q. The UNE rates that were used in the model, was that a result of a stipulated case or a Commission determined -a Commission decision on that, those rates?
A. I believe both, subject to check. I think some rates were stipulated, but some were the result of the processing of the inputs into the model itself and

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then the resulting UNE rates.
Q. And then the Commission in that case, where they were still -- the Commission in that case would have approved certain rates and then the other rates were stipulated, is that what you're saying?
A. That's -- that's the best of my recollection.
Q. I'm sorry, which state did you say this was?
A. Nevada.
Q. Nevada. How recent was this?
A. 2007.
Q. Is that one of the cases in which you testified in Nevada?
A. Yes.
Q. Is this -- has any TELRIC study -- is this a TELRIC study that Embarq -- that Nevada approved? Has Nevada approved a TELRIC study of Embarq's?
A. The Nevada Commission approved the Unbundled Network Elements that were developed using the TELRIC model that we're speaking of today, if that's responsive to your question, but we used the model -- we used the model for proceedings like this in developing Unbundled Network Elements. We use this exact same model to understand internally what our
costs for UNE DS1s. The same DS1 rates that we are discussing today here would be the same DS1 rates that my Costing Group would give to our Business Market Groups for them to understand where the DS1 cost is in Ohio specific to a wire center, specific to a location. It's the same costing methodology and cost that we would give to our upper level management. It's the same model and the same inputs that we are using in an Ohio pay phone docketed proceeding that's open today. It's not a model that we have tailored specifically to get to -- just to work with CLEC for unbundled networks. We're genuinely trying to understand what the true costs of our business is, and so the model itself is used quite broadly.
Q. Just to sort of get a visual understanding here, the model was constructed, and then there are various inputs, and you indicated, for example, that the -- when we talked about the price list, that the price list is updated. So the model is like the bones of the output, if you will, and then you have to - and then update the inputs that go into that?
A. Yes, and I appreciate the opportunity to explain that, because a model typically is just that. They're algorithms themselves that are accepting inputs into those algorithms, which then come into outputs,

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and it's - throughout this process with COI, the very first price list that we presented to them January 2nd of 2007 had its own set of inputs. Negotiations then with CBT took place, and those negotiated rates were then offered to COI in July of 2007, and then the -through those negotiations, COI accepted 140 of the rates coming out of the model and that had been negotiated with CBT, but rejected just the 15 rates, the DS1s and the four-wires that we're arbitrating today, and so as we explained to COI , we would be updating our inputs in order to bring our best evidence forward at the time that we would actually go to arbitration. So, yes, it's all about the model itself being algorithms ready to accept inputs and then get updated, which results in different rates themselves.
Q. I'm going to flip through to Page 14 of your testimony, and you have a -- discussion begins on Page 14 about customer density; is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. And you cite household density statistics for Embarq and AT\&T when saying that customer density affects the per-line cost; is that correct? Down at the bottom, beginning around Line 21, you refer to AT\&T's density.
A. Yes. I refer to AT\&T's density, which is
four and a half times greater than Embarg's.
Q. Is your point here that because of lower the customer density -- because of lower customer density, Embarq cannot realize the same economies of scale as AT\&T, for example?
A. Embarq cannot enjoy the same unit cost as a result because there's a -- there's a great deal of fixed costs within a telephone network, and so that fixed cost can't be divided by the same large number of customers like AT\&T has. Embarq can only divide by the smaller number of customers that Embarg has for serving those, so the unit cost is much greater for Embarq than AT\&T.
Q. Is it correct that Embarq's model designs the outside plant using not only the residential lines or households, but also business lines and special access lines?
A. Yes. Embarq's model encompasses all the lines. We pick -- choose high-capacity lines. We do everything that we can to grab as many customers as possible to put them on the map in order to share the costs of the entire network. It's really one of the beauties of our model in that we share the cost of building the cable out from the central office across our transport network with our high-capacity customers
and then with our voice-grade customers and our DSI customers. So the model has the ability to track, to track all that as it heads out of the central office, and so the cost then, as it gets further out into the network, gets shared.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I appreciate the witness being able to explain her answer, but 1 think we're getting pretty far afield in a narrative that I never asked for, and we're going to be here all night, if you can just - she did answer yes. That's all I asked, and I understand, but she went on way beyond the confines of my question, and I think we ought to limit the answers as much as possible to yes or no with a - with the opportunity to explain the yes or no if that's necessary. I would ask that that be done.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: All right.
MS. BLOOMFIELD: I have handed to each of you an exhibit that I would like to have marked as COI
Exhibit 6. I think that's where we are.
(EXHIBIT HEREBY MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES.)
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Exhibit 6 that I just - COI Exhibit 6
that I just handed you at the top states, "FCC Report

43-08, the ARMIS Operating Data Report"; is that not correct?
A. That is what it's titled.
Q. Okay. And isn't it correct that Embarq reports to the FCC the annual voice-grade equivalents in Ohio each year, which is then put on what is called an ARMIS report?
A. I have limited understanding of what our reporting requirements are for ARMIS, but I do believe we have some reporting requirements.
Q. And would you accept, subject to check, that this information was pulled from an ARMIS report, the data of which came from Embarq for the Embarq lines?
A. No. I struggle with that. This column called "fl" for the line United Telephone Company of Ohio that shows 2.3 million, that is way outside the range of anything that I would believe to be accurate.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I would be happy at a later time to -- we can get the entire report, but for purposes of this question, may we go ahead, assuming that this is accurate as the report, as the FCC report has listed it?

THE WITNESS: I have a USAC report in front of me, and it doesn't show numbers anywhere close
to it, but --
EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Why don't we go off the record for a minute?
(Discussion off the record.)
(Question read back.)
EXAMINER LYNN: Back on now. Okay. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Let me reask that question. The ARMIS data that is reflected here has a line that says United Telephone Company of Ohio, on the last line, as a matter of fact, and I used the term Embarq, but for purposes of this proceeding, I'm only referring to Embarq in Ohio, and the data that I have provided in the ARMIS report is exclusive to Ohio. So isn't it correct that this report - that the reporting to the FCC is on the actual voice-grade equivalents in Ohio or do you know?
A. I do not know. I have heard in this room that it appears that that is what happens.
Q. Assuming for the moment that that is true, isn't it true that the household density statistics here do not properly capture Embarq's total line density?
A. I'm sorry, where do you see density on this report? d
Q. I don't see it on - are you looking on -no. Density, the term density is not mentioned on this report, on Exhibit 6.
A. Were you asking me about density from Exhibit 6?
Q. No.
A. Okay.
Q. I was asking you a general question. Isn't it true that household density statistics do not capture Embarq's total line density? There's other types of lines besides households; isn't that correct?
A. That would be correct.
Q. And isn't it also true, in turn, that household density do not capture the scale economies for a DS1?
A. It would be true that most households do not have a DS1 to them. A DS1, of course, is just a single line, so a single household would be equivalent to a single DS1 from a density perspective.
Q. Who are the primary customers for DS1 lines?
A. If you mean residential versus business, it would be more business lines.
Q. Right. Okay. Would you agree, looking at Exhibit 6, that based on the ARMIS data listed here for

2007, that 87 percent of Embarq Ohio's total access lines are nonresidential lines, that is, they are business lines, private lines, and special access lines? And I should say line equivalents.
A. The column there does say line. It doesn't say line equivalent, and so I would not agree with this report that 87 percent in any way represents our percent of nonresidential lines.
Q. If the column said nonresidential line equivalents, would you agree with the 87 percent?

MR. STEWART: I'm going to object on the basis that the witness ... there's no foundation to show that she knows our number of line equivalents in Ohio. It's a twofold problem, a lack of foundation of her knowledge and then asking her to agree to this document, for which she - there's no foundation for her to know that this document is right.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I thought we had a ruling on that, that we are going to assume that it was a FCC document and that it says what it says. She could agree or not with it, but that's what the -that's what was provided by Embarq Ohio to the FCC.
(Discussion off the record.)
EXAMINER LYNN: Well let the witness answer to the extent she has knowledge of this.

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THE WITNESS: First, the column header is wrong. The column header says percent of nonresidential lines, and I don't believe that's correct. If the percent of nonresidential lines is to be 87 percent, that is completely -By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. I'm sorry?
A. It's erroneous. Embarq does not have 87 percent of its lines that are nonresidential.
Q. Does it have 87 percent of line equivalents that are nouresidential?

MR. STEWART: Your Honor, I'd like to make another objection. I apologize, I don't want to delay this proceeding, but we're proceeding perhaps on the basis that this is an FCC report, and perhaps it is. The stuff on the far right is titled "COI's Analysis." That's nothing to do with the FCC. There's no -- if COI wanted to put on evidence about what an FCC report might show and how you manipulate these calculations, it had every opportunity to do so. Trying to do it through Miss Londerholm is just not right.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, Miss Londerholm said something in her testimony about density. We wanted to test that density. We found an FCC ARMIS report which I'm trying to ask her about. It

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was a report that was authored by United of Ohio, United Telephone Company of Ohio, and I'm trying to make it clear that we have a distinction between lines and line equivalents, and I'm asking questions -- I think it's absolutely fair to test her comments about the densities in Ohio and whether the density is more -- more - what's the word -- whether household densities are more relevant or business densities are more relevant. I think this document would indicate that nonresidential line equivalents are - there is a greater density of nonresidential line equivalents than there is of household density, and that takes issue with what she said in her testimony.

MR. STEWART: Well, another objection is that this notion of line equivalents, voice-grade equivalents is nowhere on this document. It's nowhere, I don't believe, in Ms. Londerholm's testimony. It hasn't been defined. Density is not mentioned on this document, so I -- I object for all those reasons.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I may be able to get away from the density and just ask a couple of questions about the calculations, and then later we can provide the ARMIS report and what the explanations are, which I think says very clearly what the equivalency --voice-grade equivalencies are, and that is the way that

1 United is asked - United Telephone Company of Ohio/Embarq is asked to report. That's the way all of the companies are asked to report, so that you have apples to apples. I'll be happy to do that.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Proceed, and we'll see where it goes.
(Discussion off the record.)
MS. BLOOMFIELD: I'm going to put this aside for the moment. We'll go forward.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: All right. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Would you agree that business and special access lines tend to be more clustered or more densely located compared with residential lines?
A. I would believe that in highly dense areas that would be true, but in many of Embarq's wire centers we do not find that to be the case. Our rural wire centers can have businesses spread throughout the wire centers. We may only have 600 lines of wire center. We may only have one DS1, maybe only two DS1s. They may be a ways out from the central office, so that the demographics of a rural wire center are much different than you see in an AT\&T urban wire center.
Q. How about urban zones, have you made -
would you agree that business access lines tend to be more densely clustered in an urban zone compared with residential?
A. I don't understand the definition of an urban zone, and I don't think I used that in my --
Q. According to what you just said, you said an urban zone, and I'm picking up --
A. I said in an urban wire center.
Q. Yes.
A. So an urban wire center would be one where the density for the wire center is much higher. For instance, in many models, and Embarq is included, we break up our density into 9 different density zones, starting with 0 to 5 customers within a mile, and then 6 to 100 , all the way up to density zones that have 10,000 plus, and so in a -- for an ILEC like SBC or AT\&T, they're going to have many more wire centers in those higher level density zones than Embarq finds in its rural territories and in places like Ohio. But to your point .-
(Discussion off the record.)
THE WITNESS: I would expect, like in one of the more -- what would be considered more urban for Embarq, we do find that our business customers will tend to be closer into the central office. That
doesn't mean that they're more dense, but the distance associated with those customers do tend to be closer to the central office.
(Discussion off the record.)
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Have you compared Embarq's and AT\&T's customer density measures for nonresidential lines at all?
A. I don't have that proprietary data for AT\&T; so, no.
Q. Isn't it true that with high-capacity lines, such as DS3s, there are even greater scale economies, for example, six hundred and -- the equivalent of $\mathbf{6 7 2}$ lines located in the same place?
A. No. In building a loop model, when I'm coming out of the central office with my cable and wire, a fiber, as you say, going to a high-capacity customer or if the fiber is going to the DLC, it's still fiber, and they're going to share that path together as it goes out; so what we're talking about is allocation of the construction as we're building out to the customers. And you're absolutely right, there's an allocation that takes place there. It's the problem with the starting point of Dr. Ankum's numbers that he's put forward in his testimony, and as I explained
to Mr. Vogelmeier on two occasions, it's the problem with the DS1 rates that underlie his current ICA. There's absolutely an allocation that takes place, and so between voice grade and DS1, we will be allocating 24 voice-grade equivalents of that cost over to a DS1, and so it's the reason why, in the current ICA, the two-wire -- the current expired ICA and the rates that Mr. Vogelmeier is paying today, and as I explained to him, it doesn't include the circuit equipment. That's shared, that should have been allocated to that DS1, and so when you talk about seale economies, there are certain common equipment that gets shared, and, therefore, that cost will be moved over to a greater extent to some of those high-capacity customers, but it's not everything across-the-board.
Q. I didn't ask you if it was everything across-the-board. I don't think you responded to the question, which was that with the high-capacity line, such as DS3, there are greater scale economies; is that not correct?
A. No. There's not greater scale economies around a high-capacity customer for every piece of the loop. We're going to put in optical --

MS, BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I'm happy -she said no. We'll move on.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Your counsel can follow-up if further clarification is needed on redirect.
(Discussion off the record.)
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Ms. Londerholm, looking at Page 23, at the top it begins with some information about cable sheaths. You say here that Embarg's model defines less cable footage or the sheath cable than Embarq Ohio's actual embedded cable footage and explained that, "Embarq's embedded cable footage has been built over many years of recurring forecasts of locations and customer demand for services." Could you explain in further detail how this reduction in cable footage is achieved?
A. Yes. Our geographic module starts with all of the customer locations that include every customer that requires a loop, including the high-capacity customers that we just discussed, and it places them on actual road networks. We also know where our actual central office is, so the geographic module follows an iterative process to follow the road network back to the central office, finding the shortest distance, which is the reason why we end up with 30 percent less in cable sheath feet than what we
have in our embedded network, because an engineer is looking out to figure out where do I need to go with my cable. They don't know where the customers are, and it's also possible that roads have been built past the point in time, too, when those customers were initially out there; so we're able, within the forward-looking model, to come up with the shortest distance route to reach the customers, and the beauty is we know where the customers are and the services that they require today.
Q. And so when you looked at your actual plants, there would be, for example, instances where the embedded cable goes to now abandoned locations; is that correct? They were built sometime ago and maybe there are no more customers there. That's a possibility, isn't it?
A. Yes.
Q. But by using where the customer locations are today, you would see which customers are there and which customers are not there anymore; correct?
A. I just look at what customers are buying services from me today. I do not look at customers that are no longer on our network.
Q. And so the 30 percent that you discounted or reduced the number by could also - could it also be
that the embedded cable was inefficiently routed, say, to a detour instead of going to a customer directly? I'm trying to find the reasons why.
A. The reasons why are that an engineer, when they're first engineering the plant, doesn't always know where the customers are going to be located, so they have to look in their crystal ball and decide, well, what's the best route for me to take to my customers, versus the forward-looking technology that says I know where all my customers are now, I get the benefit of 20/20 hindsight, I know exactly where my customers are, and I can build the shortest route possible to reach all of those customers.
Q. Is it correct that in some cases such as aerial cable, additional sheath cable may have been added later to existing sheath cable?
A. Not in the model, no.
Q. Not in the model, but in actuality that may be the truth? I mean, actually that may be the case?
A. Our embedded network does not match the model, and it's possible that my embedded network -- it could happen, but we haven't made any -
(Discussion off the record.)
THE WITNESS: We are not attempting to

By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Miss Londerholm, was this document found on the CD that you just referred to?
A. Yes, it is.
Q. And if you'd be kind enough to turn to

## Page 28 of this document.

A. I'm there.
Q. I'm looking under -- I'm looking at the second sentence under the heading "Percentages" that begins, "Cable sizing should be the actual fill (or utilization) a company experiences." Do you see that?
A. Yes. It's my third sentence rather than second.
Q. Third sentence. That's right. Does your model follow this Loop Module Methodology?
A. Not explicitly as defined here. The loop inputs for copper feeder, which were the fill factors that Dr. Ankum was excited about yesterday, are the only actual fill factors that are used in the model. If you'd refer to my testimony on the Page 13 , you'll see the diagram for the DS1 UNE loops. The Embarq central office is over on the left side, and there's a lower line coming out of that which represents copper feeder. It's that small portion of the loop that uses
model our embedded network.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. If you turn to Page 26 of your testimony, you have a discussion on fill factors. Is it true that fill factors relate to cable sizing or the amount of spare capacity designed in the model -- by the model, I should say?
A. Yes. Fill factors are used in our model in several different places, and we have several different inputs for fill factors.
Q. Am I correct that the specific levels of fill factors used by the model are not given in your testimony as you presented it?
A. No. I would understand my exhibits to be part of my testimony, and they are input values into the model and they're included in the exhibit.
Q. You're saying that the CD is part and parcel of your testimony?
A. That would be my understanding.
Q. Okay.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I'm handing out a document, which I think we're at COI Exhibit 7.

EXAMINER LYNN: Seven, correct. MS. BLOOMFIELD: It is entitled Loop Model Methodology, and I have given the witness a copy.
those particular copper feeder fills. The other thing that's important to understand, of course, are the algorithms that use those inputs, so that you can understand what the actual cost development then looks like. So what takes place in our model, which is often different than other models, is that we do a sizing routine. So these are input values, and then the model goes through -- again, for this copper feeder that we're talking about, it selects a cable size, and if -then it checks to say, okay, well, I've selected a cable size. Obviously, cable sizes come in fixed amounts, and it checks then to see, well, what actual fill took place for this copper feeder, and it makes an adjustment. So if, for example, the input value was 50 percent, and once it selected the copper feeder size, the fill turned out to be 40 percent, it takes 50 percent minus 40 percent, sees that it's 10 percent, and it adds that 10 percent back to the 50 percent to come up with 60 percent as my adjusted fill factor, and then that's the amount that it actually moves forward for costing the network out. So where SBC's numbers and my understanding in working with their models to some degree, those are just basic input numbers, so they don't go back and do this adjusting. That's how I got comfortable with using these actual fill factors
for my copper feeder, knowing that my numbers were going to come up higher and likely closer to what those SBC numbers would look like.
Q. So you're basically saying that your model started with the actual, but that is not what is reflected in the Cost Study Output?
A. Correct. It actually applies a cost to -well, when it actually selects the cable size and then determines the cost for that cable size.
(Discussion off the record.)
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Are you aware whether there are any routes, feeder routes that are -- where the fill is ten percent or lower?
A. No.
Q. Do you know that for a fact?

MR. STEWART: Objection. She asked if she was aware. She said she's not aware. That's not saying there are or aren't.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: That's correct. That's why I'm going back and asking her as a fact does she know that.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: It's a clarifying question.

THE WITNESS: No, I don't know that as a
fact. It could --. it could potentially happen. Copper
cables come in very fixed sizes, and so to the extent
that I only have perhaps two customers to share 12-pair
copper cable, that fill on that particular piece is
going to be very low, but it's a function of the cable
size, not a function of the actual fill, input value
for the fill.
(Discussion off the record.)
(EXHIBIT HEREBY MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES.)
EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Why don't we go off
the record for a minute?
(Discussion off the record.)
EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Let's go back on the
record.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. I have handed you COI Exhibit 8 which at the top says "Loop Module Inputs"; correct?
A. Correct.
Q. This was from your CD as well. Do you recognize it?
A. Yes.
Q. If you would, please turn to Page 16 of this exhibit -
A. I'm there.

## Q. Pardon me?

A. I'm there on Page 16.
Q. On Page 16, on the last two lines of the first partial paragraph it says, "The modeled cable utilization in LM is equivalent to the utilization seen in reality." Do you see that? It's the part of the last sentence on that partial paragraph at the top of Page 16.
A. I see that.
Q. I think you may have alluded to this or stated something earlier that the copper - is it the case that the copper feeder fills in your model are based on the actual embedded fills?
A. Yes. We do start with the -- we take a look at our actual embedded fills to get an understanding of what kind of fill factors should be in the model.
Q. And do you reference in your testimony, not -- or where are the specific numerical values for the copper feeder fills used in the model?
A. They're in the loop --
Q. Pardon me?
A. They're in the loop inputs.
Q. Do you know what the specific numerical values are?
A. For copper feeder fill?
Q. Yes.
A. For copper feeder fill, for Density Zone
$0,54.76$ percent; for the Density Zone 6, and that
would be for 6 to 100 , is 52.53 percent; for 100 to 200
lines per square mile, 53.93 percent; for 201 to 650 ,
the percent would be 55.65 percent; for 651 to 850 , the percent would be 55.55 percent.
Q. Miss Londerholm, may I interrupt yon? I do have that on - are you reading from the actual the Ohio actual copper fill from your CD , a document that has - I'm looking at a document that has the same, the same percentages, and I'm happy to supply them to everybody to save a little time.
A. Oh, sure, sure.
Q. Okay.

May we mark this as Exhibit 9, COI
Exhibit 9?
EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Sure.
(EXHIBIT HEREBY MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION
PURPOSES.)
MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I interrupted
Miss Londerholm because it appeared that she was giving
the same information that we were going to introduce as
COI Exhibit 9 which was taken from the CD , and I felt
we could save a little time, instead of having her read all the numbers into the record.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: That's fine, as long as the abbreviations denoted on this exhibit are ultimately identified so we know what a "VG" is. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Was this more or less the information that you were giving on the record, Ms. Londerholm?
A. More or less.
Q. And the column -- this came from your CD , did it not?
A. Yes, it did.
Q. And what does the column "VG" mean or what --
A. "VG" is voice grade.
Q. And in looking at that, would you agree that the range listed on Exhibit 9 varies from 52.5 percent to 58.8 percent?
A. Yes, I would.
Q. And that would depend on the - whatever zone it's in; correct?
A. That's correct. That would be density zone.
Q. Pardon me?
A. That would be density zone.
Q. Okay. Then if you would return to the exhibit that's marked Loop Module Inputs EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Before we go there, could we also identify "WL"? Is that working lines?

THE WITNESS: Yes, working lines. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. It's on the last column, is it not, in the header for the last column for Exhibit 9?
A. Working lines, WL.
Q. Then would you go back to COI Exhibit 8, which is the Loop Module Input, and I'd refer you to Page 16 again. Is this the page that you were correcting in your testimony?
A. Yes, that next paragraph.
Q. The paragraph that says -- the first full paragraph on that page?
A. Yes. That reads, "Distribution cables are sized to allow for" -- (redacted) - "pairs per housing unit." That would be the correction, and that is what it also says in the first full paragraph on Page 17 under Pairs Per Residential Unit.
Q. Thank you.
A. And now that I'm looking at it, I notice that the second sentence says - would also need to be corrected, "Since the model builds" - (redacted) --
"lines per housing unit, the fill factor is set at 100 percent for distribution cables."
Q. So we'll make that correction?
A. Please.
Q. Do you know what percent of households served by Embarq Ohio currently subscribe to a second line?
A. No.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, I need to refer - I need to go back to the ARMIS exhibit, and Ill try to ask those questions in a way that we can get through this quickly.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. It's Exhibit 6. In this exhibit, the Residential Second Line Penetration was calculated at five percent based on the voice-grade equivalents on the ARMIS report. Do you see that in the last column?
A. Under "COI's Analysis," that last column?
Q. Right.
A. Yes.
Q. Doesn't this computation, assuming it's correct, reflect that an average household uses 1.05 lines while your model begins with 1.3 lines per household?
A. COI's Analysis would show that, but my
model is not attempting to just get the second lines when I do the (redacted). We set the distribution fill at 100 percent. So the (redacted) recognizes that spare capacity that we talked about earlier that we need to have in the network in order to assure that we can turn up service within five days of when it's requested, to not get into the additional cost of reconstructing for more plant because the original placement wasn't enough. If we had only tried to get to residential second lines, we would have zero spare capacity in our distribution network, because we use that 100 percent fill factor.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Why don't we go off the record for a minute. We'll take a five-minute break.
(Recess taken.)
EXAMINER LYNN: Back on the record, then. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Ms. Londerholm, would you turn to Page 33 of your testimony, on Lines 5 to 7 of your testimony you say that TELRIC rules require that the model calculates cost for purely wholesale operations, and that in order to meet this requirement, you adjusted actual book expenses for product management, sales, advertising, customer services downwards, and then the
specific numerical value that you used for this adjustment was 75 percent; correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. So isn't it correct that the remaining (redacted) percent of product management, sales, advertising, customer services book expenses are being included in the model's calculation of the wholesale UNE loop costs?
A. That would be correct. I believe the (redacted) percent equated to (redacted) million.
Q. Have you had the opportunity to read the Commission's order in Case No. 02-1280-TP-UNC which involves SBC and UNE rates?
A. I have looked at parts of the order. I have not read through the whole order.
Q. Okay. If it were determined that that order stated that it was not appropriate to have product management, sales, advertising, and customer costs allocated to the UNEs, the UNE costs, would you agree that the UNE costs in your Cost Model for Ohio's purposes are overstated by 25 percent of those costs?
A. No. I understand that proceeding to be an SBC proceeding, SBC, AT\&T. This is for Embarq and Embarq's costs, so --
Q. I'm sorry?
A. This proceeding is Embarq and Embarq's costs, and I believe also that proceeding was in 2002. I know --
Q. That's correct.
A. -- we've progressed five years since then, also. So I would not have understood that what was ordered for SBC's model and the way SBC put their model together to equate to what Embarq needed to do in this proceeding.
Q. So you did not apply that principle in your cost study in Ohio for Embarq?
A. I did not apply SBC's orders to my cost study, that would be correct.
Q. If you would turn to Page 38, Line 7, you indicate in your testimony, Indicated that Embarq de-averaged its DS1 UNE loops using three rate zones or bands, which we call them in Ohio; right?
A. That's correct.
Q. And your testimony does not address specifically the de-averaging of the four-wire loops, but is it correct that there are also three rate zones in Embarq's current pricing proposal to COI for four-wire loops?
A. Yes, that's correct.
Q. Isn't it correct that the wire
assignments -- wire center assignments for rate bands for the DS1 loops is not the same as the assignment for four-wire loops?
A. That would be correct. That's because the FCC has ordered that the rate bands should be based upon the cost, so we looked at the cost of DS1 and banded those, and we looked at the cost of the four-wire and banded those.
Q. Isn't it true that in the current ICA for COI, for example, let's take the Mansfield center, the two-wire, four-wire, and DS1 services are all in the same rate band?
A. Yes.
Q. And isn't it true that in the model provided in May 2008, the prior model, for these same services, and this model was given to COI, all of these three services, two-wire, four-wire, and DS1 rates, from the Mansfield Wire Center were all in the same rate band?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: So the record is clear, when you say the prior model, provided in 2008 ?

MS. BLOOMFIELD: It was, Your Honor, and if I could have a word of explanation, we had -- once

COI signed the Protective Order, it was given a CD with a Cost Model on it, and that's the model upon which Dr. Ankum based his first testimony. That had four - in that one, all these rates were in one rate band. Then when the CD that came with this testimony appeared, there was a change, and the -- some of the services were allocated to different rate bands, and she is -so far the questions that I've asked she said that's the case.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Correct?
A. They were in the same rate bands, that's correct.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: I referred to -- the May 2008 was when we actually received that particular model, Cost Model.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Isn't it true that AT\&T Ohio has the same rate band classification for four-wire, two-wire, and DS1 loops for any particular wire center?
A. I don't know what AT\&T's rate bands - I do know that AT\&T only has three rate bands.
Q. Right, but I was asking about whether those services were all in the same rate band regardless.
A. And I do not know.
Q. Okay. Iss't it also correct that Embarq's proposed rate band approach for these services - isn't it true that for the recently -- the recent Cincinnati Bell Telephone ICA, these services were all in the same rate band, the ICA that Embarq tendered to it?
A. Yes. Those were all negotiated, so - but

I -- it's also possible, too, that two of those rate bands have the exact same dollar amount, so effectively it would be three rate bands, but --
Q. And isn't it true, and I want to verify this, that when the - I'm going to call them CBT, the Cincinnati Bell ICA between Embarq and that company, all the products were -a all these products, two-wire, four-wire, and DS1, were always in the same rate band from a given wire center; correct? No matter which wire center you picked, they would all be in the same rate band?
A. Yes.
Q. Isn't it true that this approach of having those services in the same rate band is more typical in the industry?
A. I do not know that. I know that we made a conscious effort to move away from that, because we realized that the FCC rules were very explicit in
saying that they should follow costs, and so to the extent that the DS1's cost variations were different than the two-wire, we ended up with banded costs that didn't make sense for DS1, and so we consciously made that decision to band them separately.
Q. So, in this case, isn't it true that changing the rate bands for these services from a particular wire center adds complexity for the customer to figure out the rate for those particular services?
Where now we can go to one rate band and see what all the services are, if you've moved them around, they can't do that anymone; isn't that correct?
A. I don't find that complex. I have a list of wire centers. There's two-wires and the --
Q. Okay. Let me ask it this way, is it more complex than what they have to do today, when they're all in the same rate bands?
A. I truly don't mean to be difficult, but if they're looking for - it's an eyeball from one column to the next column.
(Discussion off the record.)
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Isn't it true today, moving from the services that are in a particular rate band, that today Embarq's ICA, the one that's expired but is currently
effective, has four rate bands?
A. I believe that to be correct, but I also believe that the first two rate bands may have the same rates, and, therefore, effectively there's only three.
Q. Isn't it correct that in the prior proposals to COI in this matter that there were four rate bands that were tendered, including the model that we received, that COI received in May 2008 ? There was a four-rate band plan rather than a three-rate band plan?
A. Yes. And since we have this line of questioning, I want to be clear that the Rate Band 1 has a single wire center in it, and then the Rate Band 2 really starts in the additional banding, so it's simply a matter of averaging the costs and at what level are you going to average the cost. So putting a single wire center into a single rate band -- it's not influencing the final banded number all that closely.
Q. I guess that's a matter of interpretation. Isn't it true that in the currently effective, that is, the recently concluded ICA for Cincinnati Bell, there are five rate bands?

MR. STEWART: I'm sorry, but I'm going to object. I don't understand that rate bands are an arbitrated issue, but maybe I 'm too tired to think
clearly.
MS. BLOOMFIELD: We're getting there, Your
Honor. If you will indulge me, we're getting there, to
how the rate bands affect the prices that are in contention in this case.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Proceed. THE WITNESS: Yes, five rate bands.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Okay. And then, as you stated currently the proposal that we now have from Embary to COI proposes three rate bands; correct?
A. For only the DSIs and the four-wires.
Q. Isn't it true that if Cincinnati Bell would order a two-wire, four-wire, DS1 service from the Manstield Wire Center, the level of rates would be in the middle band, while COI would be taking some of these services at the highest band?
A. I am not sure where Mansfield falls for DS1s or four-wires, which band they fall in. I do not have that here with me. I do see, though, that in the -- for two-wire, when COI orders a two-wire in Mansfield, it would fall into Band 3.
Q. Isn't it also true that if Cincinnati Bell would order a two-wire, four-wire, DS1 services from the Mansfield Wire Center, only a single rate band
would apply to these products?
A. They would be multiple different prices.
Q. Right, but they would all be from the same rate band; correct?
A. Yes.
Q. That would not be the case for COI under the new proposal; isn't that correct?
A. They'd still have different rates, but --
Q. And they'd be in different bands as well, some of them?
A. Yes. And I should caution that at the final setting up within our billing system, we may have ten rate bands, but some of them could be the same price, same rate, but for billing purposes we may have to distinguish the wire centers into different rate bands.
Q. Isn't it true that the changes made in the new model to COI, to the rate bands, means that for the following DS1 rates, currently for COI and Cincinnati Bell at the Mansfield Wire Center, COI is paying $\$ 97.04$ while Cincinnati Bell, which has a newer ICA, is paying \$184.39, but if the Embarq proposed rate structure is approved, COI would be paying $\$ 514.72$ for exactly the same service that is offered to Cincinnati Bell at \$184.39?
A. I don't have those rates in front of me, but those exact same rates that Cincinnati Bell will be paying are the same rates that were offered to COI that they rejected, so --
Q. I'm not talking about what was offered. I'm talking about what Embarq has proposed and what we're litigating in this arbitration.
A. I don't have the Mansfield -- I don't have the rate banding in front of me right at the moment.
(Discussion off the record.)
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Assuming for the moment they've taken
these figures correctly from the various price lists
from the Mansfield Wire Center, do you think that COI
can do business if it has to pay $\$ 512.72$ (sic.) for a
DS1 when Cincinnati Bell, a larger company, only has to
pay $\$ 184.39$ for exactly the same product?
MR. STEWART: Objection.
EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Basis?
MR. STEWART: It's asking the witness to speculate on whether COI can do business. The issue -well, that's it. It's an improper question.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Miss Bloomfield.
MS. BLOOMFIELD: I think it's a proper
question. She is proposing these rates. They are
disparate. Theirs is almost three and a half times more that CBT is being charged, and their rate just went into effect, and the one that is being proposed for COI is 500 and something. I think that's a fair question to ask. She has -- she is indicating that she knows the business of Embarq. I think that's a fair question to ask her, whether she thinks a person can do business when you have two disparate rates coming from Embarq.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: If the witness feels qualified to respond to that question, you may.

THE WITNESS: I don't understand COI's business plan in general and --
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. You think the question depends -- their paying more depends upon their business plan?
A. Well, I think that CLEC has an opportunity to serve a niche market and, therefore, finds the specific customers that they want to serve.
Q. Is it not the case that Embarq would be would be foreclosing a niche market if they give the one rate that's considerably lower to Cincinnati Bell and another rate for exactly the same product to COI ?

MR. STEWART: I'm going to object. This line of questioning suggests there's something improper

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about rates being different in different interconnection agreements. It's not the law. That's why one CLEC can MFN the agreement that another CLEC has.
(Discussion off the record.)
MR. STEWART: MFN, Most Favored Nation. So I object to the question.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: The Commission will ultimately make the determination that it believes is appropriate, and if the witness again feels qualified to respond as to somebody else's business plan, she can. If you don't feel you're qualified to make that type of assessment, you can say so.

THE WITNESS: I would certainly suggest that I would believe that negotiations could still take place, and if COI would like to adopt CBT's rates for DS1, that can be discussed.
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Would you say that's blackmail?

MR. STEWART: I object.
THE WITNESS: No.
EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Ms. Bloomfield, I think you made your point in this.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Okay. I'll move on, Your Honor.

By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. Is there any cost justification for the disparity of those two rates, the $\$ 514.72$ versus the \$184.39?
A. I know that my model has all the details around the demand, the services, the cost associated with the wire center for both -- well, certainly for the model that sits in front of everybody today. I know that negotiated rates for CBT were negotiated, so they might not have an underlying model of inputs because puts and takes and however we decided to develop rates, but we started with a model with both CBT and COI in July of 2007, and so I would certainly have the model that underlies the starting point with CBT, and so Id be able to, again, even within that model, identify my demands, all the locations for services for that same wire center to understand what cost components were in both of them to be able to isolate that.
Q. Why did you choose a three-band rate structure when developing the proposal for COI now when you proposed a four band just a few months before and you have proposed a five band for CBT?
A. Our normal practice is to go with three bands, but in Ohio, negotiations with CBT, they've
asked us, through that process, if we would band differently. I also believe, during negotiations with COI, we also looked at some of their demands to see if there was some way to band some of their wire centers so as to better be able to come up with a better rate for COI, also; so it was through the negotiation process that we ended up with some more bands. Our typical in-house process is three bands.
(Discussion off the record.)
THE WITNESS: We went to more bands. By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. So you would give more bands to a customer who wants to negotiate their rates under an ICA, but if they don't want to negotiate, then you give them fewer bands; is that correct?
A. When we are negotiating, we are hoping to avoid 25 people in a room and all the costs associated with everybody to be here, and so, yes, we are willing then to be more flexible in what we can to do to avoid arbitration, and that's what we do, but since our typical process is to only have three bands, that's what we brought forward in this case.
Q. Ms. Londerholm, did you have an opportunity to review Dr, Ankum's testimony?
A. Yes.

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Q. And in his testimony he indicated a comparison on Page 5 , if you have it, a comparison of several other companies that Embarq had ICAs with. EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Give her a chance
to --
THE WITNESS: Can you point me to where you're looking at?
By Ms. Bloomfield:
Q. It's Page 5 of the confidential version, the prefiled, not the supplemental, and it is Table 2.
A. Page 5, Table 2, I'm there.
Q. Okay. Across the top there are various

ICAs referenced, including one with granite. Do you see that?
A. I'm on Page 5 of the direct testimony.
Q. I beg your pardon. It's the supplemental.
A. I'm sorry.
Q. It's my problem. I'm sorry. It's the supplemental testimony.
A. I'm there.
Q. Okay. The second column from the -
A. Yes, I see the granite, uh-huh.
Q. Was that a negotiated contract as well?
A. I don't know. I was not involved with any
arbitration or any negotiations with granite, so I don't know.
Q. If you'd turn to Page 43 of your testimony, you have a heading on about the third of the way down or fourth of the way down starting on Line 7 that says "Implicit Agreement"?
A. Yes.
Q. Do you see that? And is it a fair summary of your statements here to say that you concluded that the fact that COI did not dispute 140 prices on Table 1 implies that these 140 prices of 155 prices were acceptable to COI?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay. If you were a business person and purchased only 15 services in any significant quantity from Embarq's price list of 155 , would you spend money on consultants and lawyers and a substantial amount of your own time that could otherwise be spent on your core business to contest products and services, 140 products and services that you weren't going to use in any case?

MR. STEWART: I'll object. It's calling for speculation on the part of the witness.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, if I could respond, I believe she's speculated in her conclusion

| 401 | 403 |
| :---: | :---: |
| 1 that we found those -- that COI found those acceptable, | 1 important for them to dispute? |
| 2 and I don't think that's a good conclusion. I am | 2 A. Yes. |
| 3 testing her assumption with another question. | 3 Q. Okay. All right. |
| 4 EXAMNER AGRANOFF: I understand, Miss | 4 I have no further questions, Your Honor. |
| 5 Bloomfield, but I really think that these are the types | 5 EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Redirect. |
| 6 of points that you can make on brief and address there | 6 MR. STEWART: Let me take one minute to |
| 7 if you believe that it's an inappropriate assumption. | 7 speak with my witness, and I think I'll save us at |
| 8 MS. BLOOMFIELD: Okay. | 8 least ten. |
| 9 By Ms. Bloomfield: | 9 EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Okay. Go off the |
| 10 Q. Isn't it true that currently COI does not | 10 record. |
| 11 use any of the four-wire products that Embarq offers? | 11 (Recess taken.) |
| 12 A. I checked at the time I wrote my | 12 EXAMINER LYNN: Back on the record. There |
| 13 testimony, and it was zero, and I believe Mr. | 13 will be no redirect? |
| 14 Vogelmeier said yesterday it was zero. | 14 MR. STEWART: I have no redirect based on |
| 15 Q. And isn't it the case that bec | 15 the cross. |
| 16 chose only to contest the rates of several of the | 16 EXAMINER LYNN: Back to the Panel, then. |
| 17 four-wire products, you assumed that COI did not know | 17 Miss Russell. |
| 18 the differences between these various four-wire | 18 MS. RUSSELL: No questions. |
| 19 services? Isn't that what your testimony says? | 19 EXAMINER LYNN: No questions. |
| 20 A. Could you repeat the question, please? | 20 Miss Green. |
| 21 MS. BLOOMFIELD: Would you mind reading | 21 MS. GREEN: I'll be the bad guy, I guess. |
| 22 it? | 22 REEXAMINATION |
| 23 (Question read back.) | 23 By Ms. Green: |
| 24 MR. STEWART: I'll object ag | 24 Q. Miss Londerholm, what is the study period |
| 25 testimony says COI does not appear to understand the | 25 for the model you submitted in this arbitration, the |
| 402 | 404 |
| 1 physical loop connection, but that's not what the | 1 time frames of the periods? |
| 2 question was. | 2 A. The general ledger is 2006. The cable and |
| 3 EXAMINER AGRANOFF: I think the witness | 3 wire investments were based upon work order data from |
| 4 should be able to explain her own testimony. | 42005 and 2006. Material costs were updated with 2008 |
| 5 MS. BLOOMFIELD: To say what you prompted | 5 information. |
| 6 her to say. | 6 Q. From an engineering perspective, what is |
| 7 EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Let the witness | 7 the difference between a DS1 loop and a four-wire loop |
| 8 explain. Let the witness explain what her testimony | 8 with regard to the provisioning requirements for each |
| 9 says. | 9 one? |
| 10 THE WITNESS: No. The reason that I | 10 A. I believe if you look at my testimony on |
| 11 thought -- the reason I concluded they did not | 11 Page 12 and 13, if you look at my testimony on 12 and |
| 12 understand the distinction is on Page 45, starting at | 12 13, on 13 it will start with the DS1. There are two |
| 13 Line 11, because there was an e-mail sent to us even | 13 ways that we can provision a DS1 coming out of the |
| 14 subsequent to the arbitration being requested that | 14 central office. If it's within 12,000 feet, we serve |
| 15 asked us to describe the technical requirements of | 15 it entirely with copper. It will go through the FDI, |
| 16 these two different four-wire loops, and so I came to | 16 the Feeder Distribution Interface, and the |
| 17 the conclusion that those two different kinds of | 17 distribution -- you can see the distribution cable and |
| 18 four-wire loops weren't familiar to COI, and, of | 18 wire there. That's going to be copper again to the |
| 19 course, they don't -- they, of course, don't order any | 19 customer location. You'll notice that within the |
| 20 of those four-wire loops, so -- but we're here today | 20 central office aspect of it there's channel banks and |
| 21 arbitrating the rates. | 21 HDSL cards. When the customers are further away, we'll |
| 22 By Ms. Bloomfield: | 22 fiber feed a digital loop carrier, and then from the |
| 23 Q. That's right. Isn't it the case that COI | 23 digital loop carrier we'll have copper going to the |
| 24 might believe that in the future that they would need | 24 customer location. There's electronics that are |
| 25 four-wire products, and, therefore, they would be | 25 associated with the DLC, as you see there. The |

53 (Pages 401 to 404)
electronics for the DLC has common costs associated with it which is shared between the DS1 and the voice grade, and this is an area where in the current expired ICA agreement the allocation of that DLC to DS1 did not take place, so the two-wire had a higher rate associated with it than the DSI.

That's what I explained to Mr. Vogelmeier a couple of times while we were working through rates, and it's validated in Dr. Ankum's testimony, on his direct, Page 42 and 43 , when he applies his same indices to two-wire and expects them to be - and they come out higher than he expected them to be, and that's because his starting point on the two-wire was too high. His starting point on the DS1 was too low. So that's - those are the basic components, and when I think of it overall, I think of it in two categories. There's cable and wire, and there's electronics, and then that's a pictorial view of it. Over on Figure 1 and Figure 2, it is the same sort of network associated with a voice grade. Again, it can be copper all the way if it's within 12,000 feet of the central office. Longer than that, there's a fiber fed cable to a digital loop carrier, and then the copper comes off of the digital loop carrier to the customer location. Now, the cable and wire alone in that situation will be
the same for two-wire and four-wire. We simply double the cable and wire for the four-wire, but the electronics piece is different for the four-wire. In the case that we're serving customers out of the DLC, there's a line card in that DLC, and the four-wire line card is rather expensive because it's not a service that gets ordered very much. It's also just a six-port card, which means that only six customers can share that higher cost card, where the voice-grade card has 24 ports, and so divided by a higher number obviously has a lower per unit, which is why the four-wire will be more than twice the two-wire when you look at it on the price sheet.
Q. There has been discussion yesterday in regards to the log files that are contained in your model.
A. Uh-huh.
Q. What are the purposes of the log files?
A. They are -- they are to write out when something unusual might happen within the model. Now, those $\log$ files show up and state on there that there's an error because that's what Microsoft's verbiage is for the particular line, but tagged also in there is a column with a W, which is simply a warning, and so what has happened with those particular log files and the
warnings that are showing up is that we have a lot of flexibility in our model, and it has the ability to put in two different manufacturers of the digital loop carriers. We only use one. We found that Talex (ph) to be the most efficient for all sizes of digital loop carriers, and so in the second input values, if the second one was to be used, we left those blank, and so as Excel processes through and it finds a blank where it expected to find a value, it wrote out to say there's a problem. So had we put zeros into those values for inputs instead of the blanks, those warnings wouldn't have taken place.

The other - one of the other warnings, though, has to do with in Visual Basic for Applications or in writing a macro and doing routines, it's typically written that you want to do from 1 to 20 , you do a certain routine, and we had the count wrong on that; so it was trying to go one past it, and so it was again putting out a warning. It had absolutely no effect on any of the results to the model whatsoever. If the model had a true error, you would get one of the big errors on your screen from Excel, and the processing would have stopped.
Q. Okay. In regards to the rate band classification method that you described in your

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testimony for the proposed interconnection agreement, could you walk us in general terms, walk us through how you created that system?
A. Uh-huh. Every wire center has its own monthly recurring costs associated with it. So once the model is finished, Wire Center 1 through 100 will have a monthly recurrent cost, and we'll just say 1 through 100 . So I sort those from high -- lowest to highest, and then I take the average of all of the wire centers, and then I put into my Band 1 all the wire centers that are below that average. Then in Band 3, anything that's above 50 percent of that average goes into Band 3, and the rest goes into Band 2. So that's anything from a zero to 49.9.9. So it's based upon costs, which is what the FCC requires, based upon costs at the wire center level.
Q. There seems to be a hypothetical as far as why does Band 1 seem to have the lower wire centers and the Band 3 the higher. Can you elaborate a little more for our understanding?
A. Sure. The FCC has rules that say the banding needs to take place in at least three groups and that banding needs to be done based upon costs, and so by grouping together all the lower cost wire centers, we believe we're matching up to what the FCC

1 rules say, that those -- that we're putting together in Band 1 the lowest cost, Band 2 then the medium cost, and then Band 3 the highest cost. Does that answer --
Q. Yes. I think I just have a couple more. Let me see here.
A. And if I might elaborate further, we have 174 wire centers in our Ohio property. I suppose another person might say, well, if you're going to band into three, just do a third, a third, a third, but by doing that, that would make my Band 1 rate even higher, because when I band -- when I'm going from highest to lowest, then I'm including in that Band 1 more wire centers than are below the statewide average; so it still could be cost bound doing that, but this helps to kind of get that Band 1 down to a little bit lower rate by recognizing we're going to sell all of those below our statewide average cost. And the other thing to keep in mind with the banding is that in general you're going to have wire centers that you are selling below cost and you're having some wire centers above costs just because of the averaging that takes place, and if you look in our model, in our loop summary .xls file, you'll see where the banding takes place, and you can see that Band 1 at $\$ 120$ has some wire centers that are below that and some wire centers above that, even

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within the band itself, because we're kind of an industry of averaging.
Q. So the classification is based solely on costing?
A. It's based on -- it's based on costs, and then it's based upon how to divide those costs into three bands.
Q. Okay. This question has to deal with common costs. Could you please describe what is reasonable to include in the calculation of common costs and provide examples of what is not reasonable to include?
A. Common cost -- reasonable common costs are going to include anything that's shared across the entire company, so our president is included in that. I'm included in that. The desk of our president, the building that we're in, the IT services, accounting services, they're all necessary to run a company. It may not be necessary to just a telecom company, but they're necessary to run a company. So those are the reasonable things to include in common costs. What's not reasonable would be non -- a non - a one-time charge that you don't expect to happen in the future should be removed from that cost. That's the only specific example that I can think of.
Q. Okay. The last question is it's my understanding that the main distribution frame is used in UNE switching and UNE loops. Did you allocate the costs between the switch and the loop?
A. Yes. There's a demarkation point. The loop model is going to pick up the cable and wiring to get to the main distribution frame as part of the loop, and switching picks up the demarkation point.
Q. Is that somewhere in your study that you can point us to or in your testimony anywhere or --
A. The -- you will not find the main distribution frame inputs as part of the loop model. What you will see on the inputs file under the tab called loop there's two input values kind of in the middle of the page, over to the right, that have to do with the cable and wire and the installation costs for plugging all of that into the MDF, and you can certainly call me and l'd be happy to point you to it.
Q. Are those the (redacted) value and (redacted) value?
A. That's correct.
Q. So those are the values that represent the allocation between the loop and the switch?
A. Well, it's the ending point of the loop, if that makes sense, to get the loop to the main

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distribution frame, and then Im done, and switching would pick up.
Q. All right. I think that is all I have. EXAMINER LYNN: Mr. Agranoff. EXAMINER AGRANOFF: No questions. EXAMINER LYNN: No questions. Okay. Counsel for Embarq, do you have any other questions based upon what the Panel had asked?

MR. STEWART: I do not.
EXAMINER LYNN: Miss Bloomfield.
MS. BLOOMFIELD: No, Your Honor.
(Witness excused.)
EXAMINER LYNN: Before we move on, there have been a number of exhibits.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: COI has Exhibits 4 --
EXAMINER LYNN: I think I can summarize
it. Since Ms. Londerholm took the stand, we've had exhibits introduced by Embarq as well as COI. I'll start with Embarg's first, if that's okay. Mr.
Stewart, I can't recall if you made a motion. Did you make a motion to admit Exhibits 3 and 3A into evidence? If not, do so now.

MR. STEWART: I believe I did, but in the event I didn't, I'll move for the admission of Embarq Exhibit 3 and 3A.

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MS. BLOOMFIELD: No objection. EXAMINER LYNN: Those will be admitted into evidence.
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(EXHIBITS ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE.)
EXAMINER LYNN: Miss Bloomfield, COI had introduced Exhibits 5 - COI introduced Exhibit 5. That's the LCM Master Price List?

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Well, I think we had --
EXAMINER LYNN: Im sorry. Four, you're right, the e-mail.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Four through nine, Your Honor, I believe.

EXAMINER LYNN: Four through nine, you're correct. Four is already admitted.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: I would move those, Your Honor.

EXAMINER LYNN: Mr. Stewart, so COI Exhibits 4 through 9, Miss Bloomfield made a motion that they be admitted into evidence.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Yes, Your Honor.
EXAMINER LYNN: Any objections on your part, Mr. Stewart, COI Exhibits 4 through 9?

MR. STEWART: No objection to any besides six, and let me think for a minute.

EXAMINER LYNN: No objections?
(EXHIBITS ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE.)
EXAMINER LYNN: Miss Bloomfield, COI had

MR. STEWART: Yes.
EXAMINER LYNN: You're pondering an exhibit?

MR. STEWART: Yes. I do object to six because there's no way for me to know whether other companies report these various lines utilizing the same methodology that Embarq does, so I don't know that one could make a meaningful comparison.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, if I could respond?

EXAMINER LYNN: Sure.
MS. BLOOMFIELD: It's my understanding that all companies are required to make this report. They're given the report form by the FCC, and this exhibit represents exactly what each of the companies reported. It would be easy to verify that by going to the FCC Website, pulling out the ARMIS reports for each of these companies and compare them, and I think - if it is shown later that we didn't do it correctly, I will withdraw the exhibit voluntarily, but I believe it's correct.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Point of clarification, this exhibit was produced, though -this is not a photocopy? The company actually created the columns and the headings?

MS. BLOOMFIELD: No. Yaur Honor, I believe what happened was -- I believe the only thing that the company -- and I did not prepare this, and I will confirm this, but I believe the only thing that COI consultants did was to go to the COI Analysis, and I believe the -- but I'm not positive. They may have done that - I'm not even sure whether - my recollection is there were many more columns and they just contracted the columns, and they may have done the calculations, but my understanding is that these are columns that are found in the FCC ARMIS report.

MR. STEWART: And I don't doubt that this accurately reflects what different companies have reported. My concern is that I don't know how specific the rules are, nor do I know how companies interpret them with respect to reporting something that's not as cut and dried as a residential access line. For example, a voice-grade equivalent, how different companies conclude -- or calculate what a voice-grade equivalent is for an OC3 or what have you, I don't know and I'm not sure I can ever know, and the mere fact that Verizon is shown as half the number - less than half the number on the column that says Total Access Lines, Switched and Special, makes me -- leads me to the conclusion that some methodology is different,
because it is simply inconceivable that we're twice as big as Verizon in Ohio. It doesn't compute. I don't know what the explanation is. I'm not sure I can ever find out. That's why I object, and I don't mean to -I hope you don't think I mean to impugn the accuracy of what you're putting here. I just don't know what it means, and I don't think we can know what it means.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: If I could have one more shot at this, the FCC tells all the companies file these reports. It gives them instructions, all the things we're talking about, how do you work -- how do you file - how do you compute voice-grade equivalents, that's right there in the instructions, just as if I would have taken three annual reports that were filed here at the PUCO, put them together as an exhibit for convenience purposes, asked to have them be admitted, and we have this kind of objection. I mean, they are public records that were filled out by these companies in accordance with the rules of the FCC, and the one that's amazing to me, the one that he's taking issue with is not anybody else's but Embarq's and whether or not they calculated the voice-grade equivalents properly. I don't know if they did or not, but this is public record. This is what we had available to use, and I don't see a real objection to this, unless
somebody shows me later that this isn't what was filed.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Just a minute.
(Discussion off the record.)
EXAMINER AGRANOFF: With respect to COI
Exhibit 6, that exhibit will be denied. It really
should have been sponsored by a COI witness if you
wanted to bring this in, especially if it has a COI
Analysis on it. If it was sponsored, you may have been able to get over some of the problems that have been raised. So, at this point in time, that will be denied. Then with respect to the other exhibits that were identified --

EXAMINER LYNN: You did make a motion to admit all your exhibits into evidence?

MS. BLOOMFIELD: I did.
EXAMINER AGRANOFF: With respect to all the other COI exhibits, with the exception of Exhibit 6, the other exhibits shall be admitted as far as the record at this time.
(EXHIBITS ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE.)
EXAMINER LYNN: All Embarq's exhibits have been admitted into evidence?

MR. STEWART: Yes. I'll say this on the record, we will supply the hard copy paper output of

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what the CD contained, so that the public record at some point when the -- if and when the proprietary time period expires, the public's interest can be satisfied by looking at those papers.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: With respect to that, I would request that the court reporter receive a copy as a confidential as well as docketing. You'll provide a copy of the document as well to replace the CD that had been prefiled.

MR. STEWART: Yes, Your Honor, we will do both those things.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: I also have outstanding the time frames on that. When do you think you'll be able to get that done?

MR. STEWART: Let me ask someone who knows. Can somebody print that out and overnight it to us?

MS. LONDERHOLM: Sure.
MR. STEWART: Maybe we can do it here, although 1 don't know. Can we do it here? Let's go off the record.
(Discussion off the record.)
EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Let's go back on the record. With respect to the confidential information contained on the CDs that accompanied Embarq's -- Ms.

Londerholm's testimony, counsel for Embarq has admitted to having that information docketed in hard copy with the Commission by Tuesday, November 4th.

MR. STEWART: Yes.
EXAMINER AGRANOFF: And he will also provide a copy to the court reporter. We also have the issue of the confidential transcripts that counsel will be going through. I don't know when you're going to be receiving those transcripts to figure out when you should have that review done. Let's go off the record again for a minute.
(Discussion off the record.)
EXAMINER AGRANOFF: Let's go back on the record. We just had a conversation off the record with counsel. With respect to the transcript review, Embarq's counsel, Mr. Stewart, has committed to reviewing the sealed transcripts by November 18th, and then he and counsel for COI, Miss Bloomfield, will provide the appropriate information to the court reporter by Monday, November 24th, identifying those portions of the sealed transcripts that can be released on public record. With respect to inform that COI's counsel had represented would be provided to the Commission with respect to the interconnection agreements that are referenced in Dr. Ankum's
supplemental testimony, at this time I would have that information identified as a late-filed exhibit, and it should be identified as Late-Filed Exhibit No. 10 for COI, and, Miss Bloomfield, if you could have that information filed at the Commission by Friday, November 7th.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Yes, Your Honor.
EXAMINER AGRANOFF: And lastly, I want the record to be clear that COI Exhibit 2, COI Exhibit 3, Embarq Exhibit 3 shall be all considered to be confidential exhibits and shall not be part of the public record.

MS. BLOOMFIELD: Your Honor, it may be that some of the exhibits that COI introduced in the four to nine category, which were taken from workbooks from the CD, might also have to be confidential. I think it's up to Embarq to tell us which ones they are.

MR. STEWART: Thank you. Yes, I was going to mention that. COI Exhibit 5, which is the Master Price List, I believe Ms. Londerholm indicated on the stand was proprietary. Let me check with her quickly to see if seven or eight would also be.
(Discussion off the record.)
MR. STEWART: Just No. 5 is confidential.
shall also be considered as confidential and not be
included as part of the public record. Finally, COI
Exhibit 10, which is the late-filed exhibit, shall also be admitted as part the public record at this time.

MR. STEWART: Your Honor, I was too hasty. The one page, COI Exhibit 9, is a confidential exhibit. That's the actual fill factors.

EXAMINER AGRANOFF: We shall also have COI Exhibit No. 9 considered as a confidential exhibit and not part of the public record at this time. Lastly, we earlier yesterday discussed a briefing schedule, and we will anxiously await the briefs. With that, if there's nothing further, this matter shall be considered submitted on the public record. Thank you.
(Thereupon, the hearing was concluded at 6:00 p.m.) by me in this matter on Wednesday, October 19, 2008, and carefully compared with my original stenographic notes.

Valerie J. Sloas, Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio.

My commission expires June 8, 2011.
(VJS-518)

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[^0]:    EDWARD C. HART,
    being by Examiner Lynn first duly sworn, as hereinafter certified, testifies and says as follows:

    EXAMINER LYNN: Thank you. Please take a seat.
    (EXHIBIT HEREBY MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES.) DIRECT EXAMINATION
    By Mr. Stewart:
    Q. Mr. Hart, I'm going to give you what's
    been marked by the reporter as Embarq Exhibit 1. Can you identify that?
    A. That is testimony that l've written and
    prefiled on behalf of -- in this docket on behalf of Embarq.
    Q. And that's captioned Direct Testimony of Edward "Ted" C. Hart on behalf of United Telephone Company of Ohio $\mathrm{d} / \mathrm{b} / \mathrm{a}$ Embarq?
    A. That is correct.
    Q. Do you have any changes or corrections to make to Embarq Exhibit 1?
    A. None.
    Q. If I were to ask you today the same
    questions that appear in Embarq Exhibit 1, would your answers be the same as they appear in Embary Exhibit 1?

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