

STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

VERIZON NORTH INC., VERIZON SOUTH)
INC. AND COVISTA, INC.)
) Docket No. _____
Joint Petition for approval of an Agreement)
Amending the Terms of an Interconnection)
Agreement pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §252.)

**JOINT PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT AMENDING THE TERMS
OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN
VERIZON NORTH INC., VERIZON SOUTH INC. AND
COVISTA, INC.**

Verizon North Inc., Verizon South Inc. (collectively "Verizon") and Covista, Inc. ("Covista") (each individually a "Party" and collectively the "Parties" or "Joint Petitioners"), through counsel and pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§252(a)(1) and 252(e), and 83 Ill. Admin. Code §763, hereby respectfully submit this Joint Petition to the Commission for approval of an Agreement amending the Terms of an Interconnection Agreement between the Parties and, in support thereof, state as follows:

1. The Joint Petitioners have entered into an Amendment No. 1 ("Amendment"), which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, to amend the terms of an Interconnection Agreement between the parties.

2. The Interconnection Agreement between the parties that is being amended became effective on December 26, 2005.

3. Pursuant to Section 252(e)(2) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 U.S.C. §252(e)(2), the Commission may only reject a negotiated agreement if it finds that (1) the agreement discriminates against another carrier, or (2) implementation of the agreement would not be consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity. Neither basis for rejection of the Amendment is present here.

4. Voluntary negotiations like those undertaken by the Joint Petitioners to enter into the Amendment are encouraged. Further, the Amendment meets all the requirements of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 U.S.C. §§151, *et seq.* Thus, the Amendment is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity.

5. As stated in the Statement in Support of Agreement amending Interconnection Agreement Verizon will make the Amendment available on the same such terms and conditions, as set forth in the Amendment as well as in the Parties' underlying Interconnection Agreement, to any duly authorized telecommunications carrier operating within the State of Illinois in accordance with any and all applicable legal provisions. Therefore, this filing is not discriminatory.

WHEREFORE, Verizon and Covista respectfully request that the Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement between Verizon North Inc., Verizon South Inc. and Covista, Inc. be approved as filed.

Respectfully submitted this ____ day of _____ 2006.

VERIZON NORTH INC.
VERIZON SOUTH INC.

COVISTA, INC.

By: _____

By: _____

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