1	STATE OF MISSOURI					
2	PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION					
3	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS Hearing					
4	February 25, 2009					
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6	Jefferson City, Missouri Volume 1					
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10	In The Matter Of The Verified ) Petition of Sprint ) Communications Company, L.P., ) Case No. Sprint Spectrum L.P., And ) CO-2009-0239 Nextel West Corp. For ) Arbitration Of Interconnection ) Agreements with Southwestern ) Bell Telephone Company )					
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14	d/b/a as AT&T Missouri )					
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16	NANCY M. DIPPELL, Presiding,					
17	DEPUTY CHIEF REGULATORY LAW JUDGE					
18	WILLIAM VOIGHT, ADVISORY STAFF					
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21	REPORTED BY:					
22	Pamela Fick, RMR, RPR, MO CCR #447 Midwest Litigation Services					
23	MILLAMESE DICISACION SELVICES					
24						
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1		APPEARANCES:					
2							
3	LEO 3	J. BUB, Senior Cou SBC Missouri	ınsel				
4	One SBC Center, Room 3520 St. Louis, MO 63101						
		(314)235-4300					
5		leo.bub@att.co	om				
6		FOR: AT&	T Misson	uri.			
7							
8							
9							
10	KENNETH SCHIFMAN, Attorney at Law Sprint Communications Company						
11		6450 Sprint Parky Overland Park, KS	vay	mparry			
12		(913) 315-9783 kenneth.schifman@		COM			
13			_				
14	JEFF	PFAFF, Attorney at Law Sprint Communications Company					
15	6450 Sprint Parkway Overland Park, KS 66251 (913) 315-9294 jeff .m.pfaff@sprint.com						
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18		FOR:	Nextel	Communications West Spectrum, L.P.	Company		
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1 PROCEEDINGS
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- 2 (EXHIBIT NOS. 1, 2, 3 P, 3 NP, 4 AND 5
- 3 WERE MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION BY THE COURT
- 4 REPORTER.)
- 5 JUDGE DIPPELL: Good morning. This is
- 6 Case No. CO-2009-0239, the Verified Petition of
- 7 Sprint Communications Company, L.P., Sprint Spectrum,
- 8 L.P. and Nextel West Corporation for Arbitration of
- 9 Interconnection Agreements with Southwestern Bell
- 10 Telephone Company, doing business as AT&T Missouri.
- 11 My name is Nancy Dippell. I'm the
- 12 regulatory law judge and the arbitrator that has been
- 13 assigned to this case. I also have sitting on the
- 14 bench with me my advisory staff, Bill Voight, who's a
- 15 member of the Commission's telecommunications staff.
- 16 We are going to -- we come here today
- 17 for an arbitration here and we're going to begin.
- 18 We've premarked exhibits. We're going to begin with
- 19 entries of appearance, and then we'll start with
- 20 opening statements. So we can start with Sprint.
- 21 MR. SCHIFMAN: Thank you, Judge. My
- 22 name is Ken Schifman representing the Sprint
- 23 companies that are named in the petition here today.
- 24 MR. PFAFF: Good morning. My name is
- 25 Jeff Pfaff also representing the Sprint companies

- 1 named in the petition.
- 2 JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. And AT&T.
- 3 MR. BUB: Good morning, your Honor. Leo
- 4 Bub for AT&T Missouri.
- 5 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. We can begin
- 6 with Sprint. You can either come up here or you can
- 7 stay seated there, whichever you prefer.
- 8 MR. PFAFF: Thank you, Judge Dippell,
- 9 Mr. Voight, may it please the Commission. Despite
- 10 its tortured history, this should be a relatively
- 11 straightforward case.
- 12 Since the Commission has ruled it has
- 13 jurisdiction to consider this arbitration, the
- 14 Commission must now determine if the merger
- 15 commitments require AT&T to extend Sprint's
- 16 interconnection agreement in Missouri for three years
- 17 or should AT&T be allowed to place arbitrary
- 18 deadlines not contained in the merger commitments
- 19 that limit carriers like Sprint's ability to extend
- 20 their existing interconnection agreements.
- 21 The language and the intent of the
- 22 merger commitments is clear. The Commission should
- 23 order AT&T to extend Sprint's ICAs for three years
- 24 from Sprint's extension request.
- 25 In 2006 AT&T merged with Bell South. As

- 1 part of that merger, AT&T made certain promises,
- 2 including promises that it would allow requesting
- 3 carriers ease in obtaining interconnection
- 4 agreements. The FCC granted the merger subject to
- 5 those conditions governing AT&T's behavior through
- 6 June 2010.
- 7 One of the merger conditions was that
- 8 AT&T agree that any carrier could extend its current
- 9 ICA for three years. Under the heading "Reducing
- 10 Transaction Costs Associated with Interconnection
- 11 Agreements, "Merger Commitment 4 states: "The AT&T
- 12 Bell South ILECs shall permit a requesting
- 13 telecommunications carrier to extend its current
- 14 interconnection agreement regardless of whether its
- 15 initial term has expired for a period up to three
- 16 years subject to amendment to reflect prior and
- 17 future changes of law. During this period the
- 18 interconnection agreement may be terminated only via
- 19 the carrier's request unless terminated pursuant to
- 20 the agreement's default provisions."
- 21 Sprint has three current interconnection
- 22 agreements with AT&T, one for our CLEC, one for
- 23 Sprint PCS and one for Nextel West. I will generally
- 24 refer to, and Mr. Schifman will generally refer to
- 25 Sprint to encompass all three entities.

- 1 The interconnection agreement with
- 2 Sprint CLEC was approved by the Missouri Commission
- 3 in August 2005. The Sprint PCS ICA was approved by
- 4 the Missouri Commission in 2003 and the Nextel West
- 5 ICA has been in operation since 1999. These ICAs
- 6 have been subsequently amended but never replaced.
- 7 All parties agree that the parties have continued to
- 8 operate under the terms and conditions of those ICAs.
- 9 Now, in direct contradiction of the
- 10 merger commitment, AT&T believes that these
- 11 agreements are no longer appropriate to do business
- 12 under even though they have been in effect for many
- 13 years.
- 14 As this Commission knows, in November
- 15 2007, Sprint notified AT&T of its election to port
- 16 the Kentucky ICA into Missouri under a different
- 17 merger condition. AT&T objected to this election and
- 18 filed this Motion to Dismiss. The Commission granted
- 19 AT&T's Motion to Dismiss, holding that the Commission
- 20 only had jurisdiction if Sprint filed the petition
- 21 for arbitration. While Sprint disagreed with that
- 22 decision, it followed the Commission's direction and
- 23 filed this arbitration.
- 24 Meanwhile, in the Bell South states,
- 25 AT&T had opposed Sprint's request to extend those

- 1 ICAs. First, AT&T claimed that the state commissions
- 2 did not have jurisdiction to interpret and enforce
- 3 merger commitments. Then, despite the clear language
- 4 of the extension commitment, AT&T claimed that ICAs
- 5 could only be extended for three years beyond the
- 6 original term of the ICA.
- 7 In September 2007 the Kentucky
- 8 Commission rejected AT&T's interpretation, finding no
- 9 such limitation in the language of the commitment and
- 10 ruled that Sprint's ICAs could be extended.
- 11 On July 1st Sprint filed a Section 252
- 12 request with AT&T. The parties negotiated through
- 13 the rest of the summer and throughout the negotiation
- 14 period. Then, during several conversations during
- this period and then by letter dated November 21st,
- 16 2008, Sprint informed AT&T of its election to extend
- its current ICA under the fourth merger commitment.
- 18 On December 5th, AT&T informed Sprint
- 19 that its request was denied because the request was
- 20 received after the arbitrary deadline set by AT&T for
- 21 extension requests for ICAs whose initial term had
- 22 expired. Then in Mr. McPhee's rebuttal testimony, he
- 23 offers another reason why the ICAs cannot be
- 24 extended. Those agreements, in his view, are not
- 25 current, even though the parties have continued to

1 operate under those agreements and the parties have

- 2 not replaced those ICAs with any other ICA.
- 4 plan to allow Sprint to utilize any of the merger
- 5 commitments through one reason or another. Then when
- 6 Sprint opened this arbitration window and while the
- 7 parties continued to discuss the porting of the
- 8 Kentucky ICA, it became clear to Sprint that the
- 9 parties continued to be far apart on some fundamental
- 10 issues. Further action would be necessary to resolve
- 11 those differences.
- 12 And given that the Kentucky ICA's term
- 13 would expire at the end of the year, further
- 14 agreements on that -- further efforts on that
- 15 agreement didn't make sense. So in an effort to
- 16 obtain replacement ICAs under some form of
- 17 streamlined approach, Sprint sought to extend its
- 18 current ICAs, but AT&T continues to oppose this
- 19 effort.
- 20 First, it filed its Motion to Dismiss.
- 21 Then it indicated that the ICAs -- ICAs had expired
- 22 and that any extension would only be added to the
- 23 original term. This was the approach taken by AT&T
- 24 in the Bell South states and rejected by the Kentucky
- 25 Commission. Then AT&T relied on a self-serving

- 1 accessible letter that it prepared that establishes
- 2 an arbitrary deadline for carriers seeking
- 3 extensions, an arbitrary deadline that is not
- 4 included anywhere in the merger commitments and a
- 5 deadline that, to Sprint's knowledge, was never
- 6 submitted to nor approved by the FCC.
- 7 Now AT&T comes up with a new argument
- 8 that the ICAs are not current. This, despite the
- 9 fact that Sprint and AT&T continue to operate under
- 10 the terms and conditions of those ICAs. AT&T has
- 11 already extended other carriers' interconnection
- 12 agreements, even those whose initial terms have
- 13 expired. They have refused to grant Sprint's request
- 14 simply because Sprint didn't feel bound by AT&T's
- 15 unilateral declarations of when such a request needed
- 16 to be made.
- 17 It's time for the Commission to end
- 18 endless objections and obstacles erected by AT&T
- 19 preventing Sprint from utilizing the merger
- 20 commitments to reduce its transaction costs related
- 21 to obtaining interconnection agreements with AT&T.
- 22 Sprint respectfully requests that this
- 23 Commission grant Sprint's relief, extend the current
- 24 ICAs in accordance with Merger Commitment 4
- 25 commencing with our request date of November 21st,

- 1 2008. Thank you.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. AT&T?
- 3 MR. BUB: Good morning, Judge. Good
- 4 morning, Mr. Voight. With the experience you have,
- 5 I'm confident that you know that when two large,
- 6 sophisticated companies like AT&T and Sprint bring a
- 7 matter here for resolution that there's always two
- 8 sides to that story, and we're here to explain ours
- 9 and there's more to it than you've been told.
- 10 But before I get too far into our case,
- 11 I'd like to introduce our two AT&T witnesses that are
- 12 here with me today. Our first witness is going to be
- 13 Lynn Allen-Flood. She's our lead negotiator with
- 14 Sprint. She's the one that actually conducted the
- 15 face-to-face interconnection negotiations with
- 16 Sprint.
- 17 Now, she's never testified at a public
- 18 utility commission before and it's not a regular part
- 19 of her job to testify, but we thought it was
- 20 important for her and for you to appear today so that
- 21 you could -- so that she could recount firsthand to
- 22 you what actually happened.
- Our second witness is Scott McPhee.
- 24 He's one of our associate directors in our group that
- 25 handles wholesale policy matters. You may remember

- 1 him from his testimony in other cases because he's
- 2 appeared here before. Now he's testifying on our
- 3 company's position on the merger commitments before
- 4 us today.
- Now let's turn to our case. Sprint has
- 6 complained here about its inter -- inability to reach
- 7 a new interconnection agreement with AT&T. I need to
- 8 tell you that we too had hoped to have new agreements
- 9 by now, and it's no secret that we've reached
- 10 agreements with thousands of other carriers all
- 11 across the country. We just can't seem to do that
- 12 here with Sprint.
- 13 Here, our folks have spent an inordinate
- 14 amount of time and resources working with Sprint to
- 15 reach agreement, but we've been unsuccessful in doing
- 16 that. While Sprint's frustration is clear, you need
- 17 to know that such -- such frustration is
- 18 self-inflicted by Sprint and that AT&T too is
- 19 frustrated.
- 20 After all, it was AT&T that terminated
- 21 the parties' interconnection agreements as those
- 22 agreements contemplated by their own terms in order
- 23 to try and get the parties into new current
- 24 agreements, and that AT&T has spent thousands of
- 25 person hours on that effort, and so far to no avail.

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1 Now, let me tell you why Sprint's
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- 2 frustration is self-inflicted. The negotiations that
- 3 were conducted for Missouri actually grew out of
- 4 seeds from negotiations at the national level. These
- 5 negotiations preceded the merger commitments. For
- 6 over a year prior to the commitments, the parties
- 7 conducted extensive negotiations for new agreements
- 8 for our nine states' southeast region. Although
- 9 difficult, they were successful and a tentative
- 10 agreement was reached.
- But while AT&T was preparing final
- 12 contracts for signature, along came the merger
- 13 commitments. We were very surprised when Sprint told
- 14 us that they were no longer interested in going
- 15 forward with the agreements that we had reached and
- 16 instead wanted to port its agreement from Kentucky
- 17 pursuant to Merger Commitment 7.1.
- Now, you have to remember, the purpose
- 19 of those commitments was to reduce transaction costs
- 20 associated with interconnection agreements, and since
- 21 we were nearly done with new nine state agreements
- 22 for Sprint, we really didn't understand how it could
- 23 be a reduction in transaction costs to scrap all that
- 24 work and completely change direction, especially
- 25 because of all the work that would be required to

- 1 modify that Kentucky agreement so it could be ported
- 2 to other states.
- 3 As you know, Merger Commitment 7.1
- 4 doesn't allow an agreement to be ported from one
- 5 state to another as is. Rather, the commitment
- 6 specifically conditions that porting on conforming
- 7 the agreement to state-specific pricing, performance
- 8 plans, technical feasibility and state law and
- 9 regulatory requirements.
- 10 So when a carrier wants to port an
- 11 agreement from one state to another under that
- 12 commitment, we need to scour through the agreement
- 13 for such state-specific technical, legal or
- 14 regulatory requirements and make the necessary
- 15 adjustments. It's a very tedious and time-consuming
- 16 task.
- 17 So when Sprint changed course and sought
- 18 to adopt the Kentucky agreement under Merger
- 19 Commitment 7.1, we had asked ourselves why. Why
- 20 would they do this when we were nearly finished with
- 21 the new nine-state agreements? When -- when we got
- 22 further into that Kentucky agreement with Sprint, we
- 23 realized what they were up to. You see, the Kentucky
- 24 agreement was unique.
- 25 For starters, it was a combined wireless

- 1 wireline agreement all rolled into one, and it
- 2 provided for local traffic to be exchanged between
- 3 the parties on a bill-and-keep basis. That means
- 4 that neither party pays anything to the other to
- 5 terminate a local call. Usually a carrier that
- 6 terminates another carrier's local call gets paid the
- 7 local reciprocal compensation rate to cover its cost
- 8 to terminate that call.
- 9 Many state commissions like ours here in
- 10 Missouri rule that bill-and-keep is only appropriate
- 11 when the traffic being exchanged is roughly balanced
- 12 between the parties, but there were no qualifiers
- 13 like that in the Kentucky agreement for the
- 14 bill-and-keep provision.
- So in seeking to port the Kentucky
- 16 agreement to Missouri and other states, Sprint's goal
- 17 was to impose bill-and-keep on AT&T even when the
- 18 traffic wasn't balanced. With this proposal, Sprint
- 19 potentially sought to avoid millions of dollars in
- 20 reciprocal compensation payments to AT&T. And
- 21 essentially, that would have resulted in a shift of a
- 22 major portion of Sprint's cost of doing business to
- 23 AT&T and its customers. And not surprisingly, we
- 24 resisted.
- 25 And when we told Sprint that their

- 1 proposal went against state law and regulatory
- 2 commission requirements that said that bill-and-keep
- 3 was only appropriate when the traffic was relatively
- 4 balanced, they had different reactions in different
- 5 states.
- 6 Our refusal to allow them to have that
- 7 and other similar provisions led to proceedings in
- 8 states like Missouri and complaints and other
- 9 arbitration proceedings. And in Missouri, that
- 10 complaint that Sprint filed was dismissed by the
- 11 Commission here on jurisdictional grounds.
- 12 And frankly, it is that bill-and-keep
- 13 provision and some other issues that we had with the
- 14 Kentucky agreement that we expected Sprint to present
- 15 here for arbitration. That's because all the
- 16 substantive negotiations the parties had for Missouri
- 17 focused on that Kentucky document.
- 18 If you go back into the testimony, and
- 19 you'll see it as an attachment to Sprint's
- 20 arbitration petition here, we sent a July 16 letter
- 21 to Sprint telling them that we preferred negotiating
- 22 from our generic agreement and we didn't want to
- 23 negotiate from the Kentucky document. And in that
- 24 letter, there was a footnote that also indicated our
- 25 willingness to start with our existing agreements as

- 1 we were required to do under Merger Commitment 7.3,
- 2 but Sprint rejected both of those options.
- 3 Sprint's August 18 letter makes clear
- 4 that it insisted on using the Kentucky red-line
- 5 agreement. Our September 2nd letter also makes clear
- 6 that we finally relented, and those letters you can
- find as Exhibits 4, 5 and 6 to Sprint's arbitration
- 8 petition.
- 9 As Mr. Pfaff indicated, for months the
- 10 parties worked off the Kentucky red-line agreement to
- 11 conform it for use in Missouri. If you wanted to
- 12 look in Scott McPhee's direct testimony, it's
- 13 Schedule I P. That's just one of the many sections
- 14 from the Kentucky red-line draft that's the general
- 15 terms and conditions portion of the agreement.
- There, you'll see reflected the parties'
- 17 substantive positions on the issues in that section.
- 18 You'll also see noted on the face of that section in
- 19 red-line, discussion about where the parties were on
- 20 that bill-and-keep issue that I discussed earlier.
- 21 We had issues, they had issues, and they were all
- 22 reflected in the various sections of the red-line
- 23 draft that were exchanged between the parties.
- 24 So when you look at Schedule I in the
- 25 testimony of both parties, it should be clear that to

- 1 the extent the parties were negotiating under 252 of
- 2 the act, we had many remaining open issues from those
- 3 discussions. And it should also be clear that
- 4 neither party has presented those issues here for
- 5 arbitration.
- 6 Apparently, the Commission believes that
- 7 the parties were negotiating under 252 using the
- 8 current agreements as a starting point for
- 9 negotiations and had a disagreement about the term of
- 10 the agreements that they were negotiating. Well --
- 11 well, if that was the case, you know, certainly that
- 12 term, that duration issue would be an arbitrable
- issue, but that's not what happened and that's not
- 14 what the parties are negotiating about.
- 15 Remember we were told by Sprint that it
- 16 was again changing course for the second time just
- 17 weeks before the arbitration filing deadline. From a
- 18 practical standpoint, when Sprint formally notified
- 19 us on the Friday before the Thanksgiving holidays
- 20 that it wanted to extend the terminated -- terminated
- 21 agreements, it left us insufficient time to analyze
- 22 those agreements and make any type of
- 23 counterproposal.
- 24 But if the Commission believes that the
- 25 Section 252 negotiations occurred using existing

- 1 agreements as a starting point, it needs to
- 2 understand that there were many other unresolved
- 3 issues, issues that we had and the issues that
- 4 neither party presented for arbitration because of
- 5 the 11th-hour timing of Sprint's extension requests.
- 6 Consequently, the Commission's resolution of this one
- 7 issue's duration really won't yield an
- 8 interconnection agreement.
- 9 Now, Sprint's answer to that, of course,
- 10 is that the only thing that needs to be cited here is
- 11 a duration question because the merger commitment
- 12 entitles it to an extension of an existing agreement
- 13 as-is, no room for negotiations. That exposes what
- 14 we believe is a fundamental error in the Commission's
- 15 decision denying a Motion to Dismiss.
- 16 What we have here is not an arbitrable
- 17 disagreement about the term of interconnection
- 18 agreement that's being negotiated under the act, but
- 19 a nonarbitrable disagreement about Sprint's
- 20 entitlement to extend under the merger commitment.
- Now, we recognize that the Commission
- 22 denied our motion on this point and that we're
- 23 required to move forward with arbitration, and we're
- 24 going to do that, but we wanted to make our
- 25 disagreement with the ruling clear and preserve our

- 1 objection which we will set out in more detail in an
- 2 application for rehearing at the appropriate time.
- Now I'd like to focus on why the
- 4 Commission should deny Sprint's request to extend its
- 5 expired agreement under Merger Commitment 7.4. That
- 6 commitment requires AT&T to permit a requesting
- 7 telecommunications carrier to extend its current
- 8 interconnection agreement regardless of whether its
- 9 initial term has expired for a period of up to three
- 10 years.
- 11 This language on its face allows the
- 12 addition of three years to a carrier's current
- 13 agreement. Its reference to the initial term makes
- 14 it even more clear that the extension is to be keyed
- 15 off of the end of the initial term.
- 16 Sprint, on the other hand, wishes to add
- 17 language to the -- to the commitment that just isn't
- 18 there. It wishes the Commission that that -- it
- 19 wishes the Commission to read the commitment as
- 20 requiring AT&T to extend the agreement an additional
- 21 three years, not from the end of the initial term as
- 22 the merger commitment indicates, but from the date of
- 23 Sprint's request.
- In the case of the Sprint Spectrum
- 25 agreement, that would not be a three-year extension

- 1 of the agreement, but a seven-year extension, and for
- 2 its Nextel agreement, an eight-year extension.
- 3 That's not what the language of the commitment
- 4 allows; moreover, when those two agreements had
- 5 already terminated under their own provisions when
- 6 Sprint made its extension request and they couldn't
- 7 be extended because they're not current.
- 8 We do acknowledge that the plain
- 9 language of the commitment would have permitted the
- 10 extension of Sprint's landline agreement to April 29,
- 11 2011, and that's three years from the extension date.
- 12 However, Mr. Pfaff indicated we indicate -- we denied
- 13 the extension of that agreement under our
- 14 November 16, 2007 accessible letter we issued, not
- 15 under the merger commitment.
- As indicated in Mr. McPhee's direct
- 17 testimony, Sprint and other carriers took issue with
- 18 our application of Merger Commitment 7.4 complaining
- 19 that it provided no benefit to their old agreements.
- 20 While AT&T continued to believe its reading was
- 21 correct, it modified its application of that
- 22 commitment in order to resolve the differences.
- 23 Under our accessible letter, we in
- 24 effect provided a grace period for agreements that
- 25 expired prior to January 15, 2008. As long as the

- 1 carrier submitted a request by that date, we were
- 2 willing to extend the agreement three years from the
- 3 date of that request.
- 4 And for agreements expiring after its
- 5 January 15, 2008, we were willing to extend the
- 6 agreement for three years as long as the request was
- 7 made prior to the agreement's expiration and the
- 8 initial term was to expire prior to the merger
- 9 commitment's sunset date.
- 10 As Mr. McPhee testified, Sprint took
- 11 advantage of the accessible letter's grace period to
- 12 extend many of its agreements with us. In fairness,
- 13 we believe that having done so, Sprint should not be
- 14 allowed to ignore the deadline for making a request
- 15 under the accessible letter.
- Now, I need to be clear. We're not
- 17 claiming that the merger commitment contemplated the
- 18 deadlines set forth in the accessible letter --
- 19 letter. Rather, we issued the accessible letter in
- 20 order to resolve disputes with carriers, first and
- 21 foremost, Sprint, about our implementation of the
- 22 merger commitments.
- Now, the accessible letter, it included
- 24 some gives and takes. It gave Sprint the benefit of
- 25 an extension to which the merger commitment didn't

- 1 actually entitle Sprint, but it required Sprint to
- 2 avail itself of those rights by a specific date in
- 3 order to enjoy that benefit.
- 4 Sprint did not avail itself of that
- 5 right -- it did avail itself of that right throughout
- 6 AT&T's southeast region. And having done so, Sprint
- 7 should not now in all fairness be allowed to disavow
- 8 the deadline that we associated with that extension.
- 9 But if the Commission decides not to
- 10 enforce our accessible letter, it should nevertheless
- 11 focus on the plain language of Merger Commitment 7.4,
- 12 and in doing so, only Sprint's wireline agreement
- 13 would be eligible for extension. The extension
- 14 request for Sprint's Spectrum and Nextel agreements,
- 15 the wireless agreements, those should be denied.
- 16 Thank you.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you very much.
- 18 Okay. And I didn't exactly go over the procedure
- 19 here today, and since we do have some witnesses that
- 20 don't usually testify before us, I will just kind of
- 21 run through what happens when you come up here.
- We have -- since we've had prefiled
- 23 written direct and rebuttal testimony, what we
- 24 usually do is have the party call the witness, you're
- 25 sworn in, they usually ask you some preliminary

- 1 questions about your testimony in order to admit that
- 2 testimony as a whole as is written as direct
- 3 testimony, and then we allow the opposite side to ask
- 4 cross-examination questions.
- 5 And then after that, I may have some
- 6 questions for the witnesses, and I allow the
- 7 cross-examiner to ask questions following up on the
- 8 questions I asked, and then at the very end we allow
- 9 a redirect time for the witness's attorney to ask
- 10 some -- some clarifying questions about all of the
- 11 testimony before it.
- 12 And that's pretty much how that goes.
- 13 If you have any questions about the procedure, you
- 14 can let me know. Did you have some, Mr. Schifman?
- MR. SCHIFMAN: No. I was --
- JUDGE DIPPELL: You were getting ready
- 17 to go, okay.
- 18 MR. SCHIFMAN: -- just getting ready to
- 19 call my witness, Judge.
- 20 JUDGE DIPPELL: Then we'll have Sprint
- 21 call its first witness.
- MR. SCHIFMAN: Thank you, Judge. We'd
- 23 like to call our first witness and only witness,
- 24 Mark G. Felton.
- 25 (The witness was sworn.)

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1 JUDGE DIPPELL: If you could spell your
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- 2 name for the court reporter.
- 3 THE WITNESS: My name is Mark, M-a-r-k,
- 4 Felton, F as in Frank, e-l-t-o-n.
- 5 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you.
- 6 Mr. Schifman, you may continue.
- 7 MR. SCHIFMAN: Thank you, Judge.
- 8 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. SCHIFMAN:
- 9 Q. Mr. Felton, whom do you work for?
- 10 A. I work for Sprint.
- 11 Q. Okay. And what is your position at
- 12 Sprint?
- 13 A. I am a contract negotiator.
- 14 Q. Okay. And are you here representing
- 15 the -- the three Sprint companies that are named in
- 16 Sprint's verified petition for arbitration?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And Mr. Felton, did you prepare your
- 19 direct testimony which has been marked as Exhibit 1,
- 20 consisting of 16 pages in question-and-answer format
- 21 and including Exhibits MGF-1, MGF-2 and MGF-3?
- 22 A. Yes, I did.
- Q. Do you have any changes in your direct
- 24 testimony, Exhibit 1?
- 25 A. I have one minor nonsubstantive change.

- 1 It's on page 7, line 3. Delete the first occurrence
- of the word "is." And that's the only change I have
- 3 to my direct testimony.
- 4 Q. And Mr. Felton, if I asked you those
- 5 questions today that are contained in your direct
- 6 testimony, Exhibit 1, would your answers be the same
- 7 with the change that you just indicated?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And are -- is the testimony and the
- 10 exhibits attached thereto true and accurate to the
- 11 best of your knowledge and -- and belief?
- 12 A. Yes, it is.
- Q. Okay. Mr. Felton, we'll turn now to
- 14 your rebuttal testimony that's been marked as
- 15 Exhibit 2. It consists of ten pages in
- 16 question-and-answer format; is that right?
- 17 A. Correct.
- 18 Q. And do you have any changes to that
- 19 testimony?
- 20 A. I do. On page 8, footnote 6, insert the
- 21 words "page 4" before the words "line 14" -- "lines
- 22 14 through 16."
- Q. So that footnote would read "McPhee
- 24 testimony, page 4, lines 14-16"; is that right?
- 25 A. Correct.

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1 Q. Okay. Do you have any other changes to
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- 2 Sprint Exhibit 2?
- 3 A. I do not.
- 4 Q. Okay. And if I asked you those
- 5 questions today that are contained in Exhibit 2,
- 6 would your answers be the same with that one change
- 7 that you indicated?
- 8 A. Yes, they would.
- 9 Q. And is that rebuttal testimony,
- 10 Exhibit 2, true and accurate to the best of your
- 11 knowledge and belief?
- 12 A. Yes, it is.
- 13 MR. SCHIFMAN: Okay. Judge, I would
- 14 like to move Exhibits 1 with its -- with their
- 15 accompanying schedules, MGF-1, MGF-2 and MGF-3 and
- 16 Exhibit 2 into the record and make Mr. Felton
- 17 available for cross-examination.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Would there be any
- 19 objections to Exhibits 1 or 2?
- MR. BUB: No, your Honor.
- 21 JUDGE DIPPELL: Then I will receive them
- 22 into the record.
- 23 (EXHIBIT NOS. 1 AND 2 WERE RECEIVED INTO
- 24 EVIDENCE AND MADE A PART OF THE RECORD.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: And Mr. Bub, you may

- 1 cross-examine.
- 2 MR. BUB: Thank you, your Honor.
- 3 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. BUB:
- 4 Q. Good morning, Mr. Felton.
- 5 A. Good morning, Mr. Bub.
- 6 Q. I'd like to first focus on Sprint's
- 7 June 30, 2008 letter from Fred Broughton to Lynn
- 8 Allen-Flood, AT&T, that was Exhibit 5 to Sprint's
- 9 arbitration petition. Do you have that letter with
- 10 you?
- 11 A. I do not. If you have a copy, I'd
- 12 appreciate that.
- MR. BUB: May I approach the witness,
- 14 your Honor?
- 15 JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes. And tell me again
- 16 which letter that is, Mr. Bub.
- MR. BUB: Could we have Mr. Felton
- 18 describe it? Because he has it right now.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Oh, go ahead.
- 20 THE WITNESS: Okay. I -- I believe you
- 21 stated it was Exhibit 5 to Sprint's arbitration
- 22 petition. It is a letter from a Sprint negotiator,
- 23 Fred Broughton to Ms. Lynn Allen-Flood, I believe in
- 24 response to AT&T's notice --
- 25 BY MR. BUB:

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1 Q. Well, why don't we -- I'll ask some
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- 2 specific questions maybe to get us on track here.
- 3 That's actually Sprint's letter
- 4 requesting negotiations that led to today's
- 5 arbitration proceeding, isn't it?
- 6 A. If I -- if I could, could I have a
- 7 moment to read --
- 8 Q. Sure, absolutely.
- 9 A. -- read the entire letter, please?
- 10 Q. Absolutely. I just thought you were
- 11 familiar with it. I apologize.
- 12 MR. SCHIFMAN: Can we go off the record
- 13 for a second?
- 14 (DISCUSSION HELD OFF THE RECORD.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: We had a little
- 16 interruption there. We -- we were trying to get the
- 17 witness some documents. And let me just pause for
- 18 just a second and ask counsel if there's a plan to
- 19 offer the entire petition and its exhibits as an --
- 20 as an exhibit?
- MR. SCHIFMAN: Yes, there is, Judge.
- 22 And we have copies for everybody here, so we would
- 23 just offer the petition and all of its accompanying
- 24 exhibits as one exhibit here in this matter.
- 25 JUDGE DIPPELL: And would there be any

- 1 objection from AT&T?
- 2 MR. BUB: No, your Honor.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Let's go ahead,
- 4 then, and mark that petition and its exhibits as
- 5 Exhibit No. 6.
- 6 (EXHIBIT NO. 6 WAS MARKED FOR
- 7 IDENTIFICATION BY THE COURT REPORTER.)
- 8 MR. SCHIFMAN: Would there be any
- 9 problem if I hand these out?
- 10 (DISCUSSION HELD OFF THE RECORD.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Go ahead and proceed,
- 12 Mr. Bub.
- MR. BUB: Thank you, your Honor.
- 14 BY MR. BUB:
- 15 Q. Let's -- let's go back to that June 30
- 16 letter, and I think I made a mistake by calling it
- 17 Exhibit 5. It's actually Exhibit 3 to your petition.
- 18 A. Okay.
- 19 Q. Okay. Have you had a chance to take a
- 20 look at that letter?
- 21 A. I have.
- Q. Okay. And that's Sprint's letter
- 23 requesting the negotiations that led to today's
- 24 arbitration proceedings?
- 25 A. Yes, it is. This was a -- I believe --

- 1 to put it in context, immediately following the
- 2 Commission's ruling in our complaint proceeding
- 3 determining that they did not have jurisdiction --
- 4 Q. Okay.
- 5 A. -- to rule on Sprint's complaint.
- 6 Q. And it specifies Sprint's preference for
- 7 using the Kentucky red-line interconnection agreement
- 8 as a starting point for negotiations in Missouri; is
- 9 that correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. It's correct that it does not seek to
- 12 use the parties' existing Missouri agreement as a
- 13 target point?
- 14 A. That is correct.
- 15 Q. Sprint could have made such a request at
- 16 that time, right?
- 17 A. Certainly could have.
- 18 Q. Had a right to do so under Merger
- 19 Commitment 7.3?
- 20 A. Sure. Our preference clearly was to
- 21 port the Kentucky agreement, and we believe that
- 22 using the Kentucky agreement as our starting point
- 23 for negotiations would get us as near to that result
- 24 as -- as possible.
- Q. And you chose not to use the existing

- 1 agreement as a starting point; is that correct?
- 2 A. That is correct.
- Q. Okay. Do you have AT&T's response?
- 4 Now, that's our July 16th letter which should be
- 5 Exhibit 4.
- 6 A. Yes, I do.
- 7 Q. Okay. Would you read for me that
- 8 footnote 1 of that letter, AT&T offered the existing
- 9 agreement as a starting point?
- 10 A. I'm sorry. Did you ask me if I would
- 11 agree with you or --
- 12 Q. Yes.
- 13 A. The footnote says that Sprint would like
- 14 to commence negotiations pursuant to its existing
- 15 Missouri interconnection agreement. "AT&T Missouri
- 16 is willing to do so in accordance with Merger
- 17 Commitment 7.3." And I would presume that means they
- 18 were willing to start from the existing agreement.
- 19 Q. We also offered to begin negotiations
- 20 from the generic CLEC wireless service provider
- 21 template agreements; is that right, defined in the
- 22 third paragraph?
- 23 A. Sure -- yes.
- Q. Okay. But Sprint rejected both of
- 25 those, right?

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1 A. Well, I -- clearly, as I've stated, our
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- 2 preference was to begin with our Kentucky -- with the
- 3 Kentucky agreement as a starting point. So if you
- 4 want to characterize that as rejecting, then sure, we
- 5 rejected that.
- 6 Q. Okay. And that's reflected in your
- 7 August 18 letter which is Exhibit 5 to Sprint's
- 8 petition?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Okay. And it's correct that AT&T
- 11 finally agreed to go ahead and use the Kentucky
- 12 red-line document as it stood at that point for a
- 13 starting point in Missouri?
- 14 A. I believe that's true, yes.
- 15 Q. And that's reflected in Exhibit 6 which
- 16 is an AT&T letter?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Okay.
- 19 A. It did say that.
- Q. And you agree that the parties did
- 21 indeed use the Kentucky document as a starting point
- 22 for Missouri negotiations?
- 23 A. Yes, the parties did conduct -- conduct
- 24 negotiations using that document.
- Q. Okay. Did you personally participate in

- 1 the Missouri negotiations?
- 2 A. Well, I participated in some of the
- 3 negotiations. I don't know that they were specific
- 4 to Missouri because we were negotiating a -- an
- 5 agreement that would have covered the 13 Legacy AT&T
- 6 states. I participated in discussions regarding a
- 7 unbundled network elements. I was not involved in
- 8 the majority of the negotiations, but I did
- 9 participate in some.
- 10 Q. Okay. So you have some familiarity with
- 11 what transpired during the Missouri negotiations?
- 12 A. Yes, I have general familiarity with
- 13 that.
- Q. Okay. What's the basis of that
- 15 knowledge?
- 16 A. Conversations with my colleague, Fred
- 17 Broughton. I was aware that what was going on with
- 18 our complaint and subsequent starting of the window
- 19 and filing of the arbitration petition and kind of
- 20 generally aware of where we were in the process.
- Q. Okay. I'd like to go back now to the
- 22 series of letters between the parties that we just
- 23 discussed earlier. You agree that each of those
- 24 letters is a very formal letter?
- 25 A. I -- I don't know what constitutes "very

- 1 formal," but I agree that it is on company letterhead
- 2 and it's from a representative of one party to a
- 3 representative of the other party.
- 4 Q. Would you agree that all letters from
- 5 both parties are pretty carefully worded?
- 6 A. I'm sure there was attorney involvement
- 7 in the drafting of these letters.
- 8 Q. And there's good reasons to be careful,
- 9 right?
- 10 A. Sure.
- 11 Q. Okay. So in those letters, the parties
- 12 are articulating their various positions?
- 13 A. Absolutely, yes.
- Q. And you know, if you look at the
- 15 letters, the parties provide citations to the various
- 16 laws and regulations that they believe apply?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And the parties where they think it
- 19 appropriate, include statements preserving various
- 20 rights so they aren't to be perceived to be like --
- 21 to be waiving anything; is that correct?
- 22 A. Sure.
- Q. And then -- so you'd agree that in an --
- 24 in an important matter like this, the parties each
- 25 want to make sure that there's no misunderstanding of

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1 what actions they're taking or what's being proposed?
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- 2 A. I would agree with that, yes.
- 3 Q. So to document that through the letters?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Okay. An example in Sprint's June 30
- 6 letter, it sets out Sprint's view of the negotiation
- 7 timeline and the arbitration window, right?
- 8 A. Yes, it does.
- 9 Q. Okay. So if AT&T disagreed with that
- 10 timeline, would you have expected AT&T to express
- 11 that disagreement in writing and set out its own view
- 12 of the appropriate timeline?
- 13 A. If the roles were reversed, I would have
- 14 expected Sprint to set it out in a letter. I'm not
- 15 sure what AT&T would have done, but --
- 16 Q. That's an important matter the parties
- 17 typically try and document?
- 18 A. Yeah, I think generally so, yes.
- 19 Q. Would you -- you'd agree that the
- 20 parties take similar care with the red-line draft
- 21 agreements that they exchange?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Okay.
- 24 A. Well, I'm not sure -- are you saying
- 25 that a formal letter accompanies those red-line

- 1 drafts?
- Q. That they're careful?
- 3 A. Oh, absolutely.
- 4 Q. That they set out their positions
- 5 carefully in those documents, right?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Put in specific language that they want
- 8 for a particular term or condition?
- 9 A. Sure, sure.
- 10 Q. Okay. And you're aware that the parties
- 11 did, in fact, negotiate using that Kentucky red-line
- 12 agreement?
- 13 A. Yes, they did.
- 14 Q. And they exchanged several versions?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Okay. For example, the general terms
- 17 and conditions portion that Mr. McPhee attached to
- 18 his direct testimony as Schedule 1 P, you've seen
- 19 that, haven't you?
- 20 A. I have, yes.
- Q. Okay. And that's an example of red
- 22 lines being exchanged back and forth, right?
- 23 A. It's -- it's an example. It's probably
- 24 fairly indicative of red lines. Obviously, some
- 25 attachments are going to have considerably more red

- 1 lines than others, and attachment 3 would have been
- 2 probably the reddest of them all.
- 3 Q. And that's just how the parties worked?
- 4 A. Which -- yes, which attachment 3 is the
- 5 interconnection section which is generally where most
- of the disagreements between the parties arise.
- 7 Q. It reflects what's closed and what's
- 8 still open in -- with -- with respect to that
- 9 attachment?
- 10 A. Yes. Different parties do it different
- 11 ways. My recollection is AT&T does denote what has
- 12 been resolved between the parties.
- 13 Q. Okay. If the parties had gone forward
- 14 with an arbitration here over that Kentucky
- 15 agreement, they would have used that red-line to
- 16 populate their decision point list that corrects all
- 17 the issues for the Commission to decide, right?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 O. Okay. And the parties would have worked
- 20 on that together?
- 21 A. I think so, yes.
- Q. We talked earlier about Sprint's request
- 23 to negotiate using the Kentucky document as a
- 24 starting point, and that was Exhibit 3, that letter.
- 25 Would you agree that Sprint never requested to use

- 1 the parties' existing agreements as a starting point
- 2 for negotiations in Missouri?
- 3 A. In this negotiation, yes, I would agree
- 4 with that.
- 5 Q. Okay. Had you chosen that option using
- 6 the existing agreements as a starting point for
- 7 negotiations, is it your understanding that AT&T
- 8 would have had a right to propose changes to that
- 9 existing Missouri agreement?
- 10 A. If Sprint had elected to negotiate from
- 11 the parties' current interconnection agreement, AT&T
- 12 would have had the right?
- Q. Yes, sir. Well --
- 14 MR. SCHIFMAN: Let me object first
- 15 because he's asking for a legal conclusion about what
- 16 AT&T's rights are. I think it's calling for
- 17 speculation and legal conclusion.
- MR. BUB: Your Honor, he's the lead
- 19 negotiator and I think he's -- and I think in his
- 20 testimony he's also testified that he's, you know,
- 21 familiar with the act and how the negotiations work.
- 22 I'm asking for his understanding and if I didn't, you
- 23 know, I'd be happy to have the question read, is it
- 24 his understanding.
- 25 JUDGE DIPPELL: Can the court reporter

- 1 read me back the question?
- 2 (THE COURT REPORTER READ BACK THE
- 3 PREVIOUS QUESTION.)
- 4 MR. BUB: I have no trouble modifying
- 5 that question, would it be your understanding that
- 6 AT&T would have had the right.
- 7 JUDGE DIPPELL: I'll let him answer your
- 8 modified question.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Well, my response to that
- 10 would be if Sprint had elected to negotiate an
- 11 agreement pursuant to Merger Commitment 7.3 and begin
- 12 with the current agreement as the starting point for
- 13 negotiations, then, yes, AT&T would have had the
- 14 right to propose modifications for that.
- 15 However, we didn't elect to negotiate an
- 16 agreement pursuant to Merger Commitment 7.3. We
- 17 elected to extend our current agreement pursuant to
- 18 Merger Commitment 7.4, and under that Merger
- 19 Commitment, I would not agree that AT&T has the right
- 20 to propose modifications to that agreement. We have
- 21 the right under Merger Commitment 7.4 to extend our
- 22 current interconnection agreement without
- 23 modification.
- 24 BY MR. BUB:
- Q. You'd agree that the parties never

- 1 conducted any substantive negotiations using their
- 2 existing agreements, right?
- 3 A. Well, I -- again, I don't know what
- 4 you -- exactly what you mean by "substantive," but I
- 5 do -- as I've stated in my prefiled testimony, the
- 6 parties did discuss the extension of the current
- 7 agreement in the context of negotiations that they
- 8 conducted, and I guess that's pretty substantive.
- 9 Q. Do you agree that the parties never
- 10 exchanged red-line drafts of their existing reserve
- 11 agreements?
- 12 A. I'll go back to the answer of -- to the
- 13 question two questions ago and there was no reason to
- 14 exchange red-line drafts. All we elected to do at
- 15 that point was to extend our current agreement.
- 16 Q. So you -- so you -- so they weren't
- 17 exchanged?
- 18 A. Correct, they were not exchanged.
- 19 Q. And those red lines presently don't
- 20 exist?
- 21 A. That is true.
- Q. Now, I'd like to point you to Exhibit 12
- 23 to Sprint's arbitration petition, and I'm afraid
- 24 that's not something that we may have highlighted for
- 25 you before. What it is --

- 1 A. I might be able --
- 2 Q. -- it's the proposed amendments to
- 3 extend the Missouri agreements.
- A. About how far back is it in the petition
- 5 just roughly?
- 6 Q. It's right after the very large CLEC
- 7 agreement, maybe two after that, maybe about 20 pages
- 8 from the end.
- 9 A. Okay. I'm -- I'm getting there. Hang
- 10 on. I'm at the CLEC agreement right now. Okay. I'm
- 11 there.
- 12 Q. Great. Would you agree that the parties
- 13 did not exchange drafts of those proposed amendments?
- 14 A. Well, I believe -- I believe that this
- 15 would be our proposed amendment to extend the current
- 16 agreement, so in -- well, against that backdrop, I
- 17 would say yes, I would agree that we did not exchange
- 18 drafts.
- 19 Q. Okay. And there are no red lines that
- 20 went back and forth on that -- those amendments?
- 21 A. Correct.
- Q. No negotiations on them?
- 23 A. Well, I don't know that I would say
- 24 that. I mean, just because a red-line was not
- 25 exchanged doesn't mean that negotiations didn't take

- 1 place.
- Q. How about negotiations on the document?
- 3 A. Okay. No -- no negotiations on this
- 4 particular document, but I -- I want to be careful
- 5 not to characterize that as the lack of negotiations
- 6 on the extension at issue.
- 7 Q. My question was just limited to that
- 8 document.
- 9 A. Okay. Then -- then, yes, there were no
- 10 negotiations on this document.
- 11 Q. Would you agree that the first time AT&T
- 12 would have seen those amendments was as an attachment
- 13 to Sprint's arbitration proceeding -- arbitration
- 14 petition for this proceeding?
- 15 A. I -- I think that's entirely possible.
- 16 Q. Okay. Would you agree that the parties
- 17 did not jointly prepare a decision point list of
- 18 issues concerning the existing Missouri agreements?
- 19 A. You mean modifications that --
- Q. A decision point list.
- 21 A. -- AT&T would want to --
- Q. That both parties would want.
- 23 A. Well, Sprint didn't want any
- 24 modifications to the Missouri agreement, so we
- 25 wouldn't have had a decision point list of -- of open

- 1 issues. Now, I -- I don't believe AT&T prepared one
- 2 of -- modifications that it would want to --
- Q. What I was trying to get at was did the
- 4 parties work together to prepare --
- 5 A. No, they did not.
- 6 Q. Okay. I'd like to point you to
- 7 Exhibit 13 to Sprint's arbitration petition. It
- 8 should be after those amendments. That's your
- 9 decision point list.
- 10 A. Okay.
- 11 Q. Would you agree that the first time AT&T
- 12 would have seen it was as an attachment to Sprint's
- 13 arbitration petition for this proceeding?
- 14 A. Once again, I think that's very
- 15 possible.
- 16 O. Okay.
- 17 A. I think the parties understood clearly
- 18 what the -- what the issue was. I don't think there
- 19 was -- I don't think you were surprised -- I -- and
- 20 my personal opinion was AT&T was not surprised by
- 21 Sprint's arbitration filing and the issue that we
- 22 raised.
- Q. We'd never seen that before it was filed
- 24 with the arbitration; is that right?
- 25 A. You may not have seen this actual

- 1 document, yes.
- Q. I'd like to go to your rebuttal
- 3 testimony just real briefly.
- 4 A. Okay.
- 5 Q. Now we're at your rebuttal, page 3. You
- 6 have a footnote at the bottom where you reference
- 7 page 6, lines 7 through 9 of Ms. Flood's testimony.
- 8 Do you see that?
- 9 A. Yes, sir.
- 10 Q. Okay. Do you have her testimony with
- 11 you --
- 12 A. I do.
- Q. -- that you -- that you referenced?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Could you go to that and take a look at
- 16 the Q and A for that section that you cite?
- 17 A. Okay. I'm there.
- 18 Q. Could you take a look at the -- the Q
- 19 and A?
- 20 A. Yeah.
- 21 Q. It begins page -- on page 6, line 4
- 22 maybe through line -- say, line 12.
- 23 A. Yes, I'm there.
- Q. Okay. That question and answer
- 25 references Sprint's negotiator, Mr. Broughton, and

- 1 that on November 11th and 21st he brought up Sprint's
- 2 interest in extending its existing Missouri
- 3 agreements. Do you see that?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Were you present for either of those
- 6 meetings?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 Q. Okay. Were you present at any other
- 9 meeting with AT&T when an extension of the parties'
- 10 existing Missouri agreements was discussed?
- 11 A. A meeting with AT&T?
- 12 Q. Where the parties -- where an extension
- of the parties' existing Missouri agreement was
- 14 discussed specifically.
- 15 A. Not a meeting with AT&T.
- MR. BUB: Okay. Thank you. Your Honor,
- 17 those are all the questions that we have.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you.
- MR. BUB: Thank you, Mr. Felton.
- 20 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: I have just a couple
- 22 questions for you, Mr. Felton, if you give me just a
- 23 minute. Going through my list, and several of them
- 24 have already been answered, so...
- 25 Maybe all of them have been answered. I

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1 think they have except for a few that I'm going to
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- 2 ask your attorney to explained in his brief --
- THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 4 JUDGE DIPPELL: -- so I don't actually
- 5 have any additional questions for you. Do you have
- 6 anything else?
- 7 MR. VOIGHT: Just one.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Mr. Voight has a
- 9 question for you. I'm going to let him ask something
- 10 to clarify.
- 11 MR. VOIGHT: I have just one question.
- 12 It has to do with the very first question from
- 13 Mr. Bub to Mr. Felton. We were handed this stack,
- 14 and if I'm -- if I understand it right, there's a
- 15 letter in here that more or less kicked off -- from
- 16 Sprint that more or less kicked off this proceeding,
- 17 and I wasn't able to locate that in here. Can
- 18 you-all direct me to that?
- 19 THE WITNESS: This one --
- 20 MR. VOIGHT: I was able to follow
- 21 everything --
- 22 THE WITNESS: This one is tagged if you
- 23 want...
- MR. SCHIFMAN: It's Exhibit 3, I
- 25 believe, to Sprint's petition --

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1 MR. VOIGHT: Can I -- can you just find
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- 2 it for me? Because I've gone through there, and for
- 3 some reason I'm -- I'm --
- 4 THE WITNESS: Yeah.
- 5 MR. SCHIFMAN: The June 30th letter.
- 6 MR. PFAFF: I think I can find it.
- 7 MR. VOIGHT: Okay. I was able to
- 8 follow everything else, all the other exhibits and so
- 9 forth.
- 10 MR. PFAFF: Okay. Yeah, it's Exhibit 3.
- 11 I believe that's what he -- and it's our
- 12 correspondence of June 30th.
- MR. VOIGHT: Thank you very much.
- MR. PFAFF: You're welcome.
- MR. VOIGHT: And that's all I have, your
- 16 Honor.
- 17 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Thank you. Since
- 18 there were no questions for the witness from the
- 19 bench, I will ask, then, if there's any redirect from
- 20 Sprint?
- 21 MR. SCHIFMAN: There is, your Honor.
- MR. BUB: Your Honor, we don't have --
- 23 we don't have any cross either -- or recross.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: There weren't any
- 25 questions. Go ahead.

- 1 REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. SCHIFMAN:
- Q. Mr. Felton, Mr. Bub asked you some
- 3 questions about Sprint's initial preference to port
- 4 the Kentucky ICA. Do you remember those questions?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And you indicated that originally it was
- 7 Sprint's preference to port the Kentucky ICA; is that
- 8 correct?
- 9 A. Actually, it was originally our
- 10 preference. It would still be our preference.
- 11 Q. Okay. Why, then, did Sprint elect to
- 12 simply extend its interconnection agreements in this
- 13 case rather than electing to port the Kentucky ICA?
- 14 A. Because it became obvious in the process
- 15 of negotiating the changes that would be required to
- 16 the Kentucky -- or -- or the changes that AT&T
- 17 believed would be required to the Kentucky ICA that
- 18 they were so numerous and -- and complicated and
- 19 overreaching that we just basically gave up on that
- 20 process and decided that a simpler, more
- 21 straightforward process would be to extend our
- 22 current interconnection agreement and maintain what
- 23 we considered to be status quo between Sprint and
- 24 AT&T.
- Q. And what's the expiration date in the

- 1 Kentucky ICA?
- 2 A. It -- the extended Kentucky ICA, I
- 3 believe the expiration date is December 2009. I
- 4 don't know the exact date, but just a few months from
- 5 now.
- 6 Q. Okay. And so had Sprint and AT&T in
- 7 this process come to an agreement using the Kentucky
- 8 ICA, is it your understanding that that agreement
- 9 would have expired under its terms in December of
- 10 2009?
- 11 A. Yes, and I guess the -- our analysis, if
- 12 you will, of that is that much of the benefit was --
- 13 was lost because of this short duration of that
- 14 ported agreement or the duration that that ported
- 15 agreement would have -- we would have operated under.
- 16 Q. You mentioned that extending Sprint's
- 17 current agreements would be kind of keeping the
- 18 status quo. Can you elaborate on that?
- 19 A. Well, as I stated earlier in response to
- 20 a question to Mr. Bub, extending an agreement under
- 21 Merger Commitment 7.4 maintains that agreement as-is
- 22 for three additional years and that my layperson's
- 23 opinion is maintaining the status quo.
- 24 O. Okay. Mr. Bub took you through some
- 25 questions regarding the exhibits to Sprint's

- 1 petition, Exhibit 3, Exhibit 4 and Exhibit 5. That
- 2 was the exchange of correspondence between Sprint and
- 3 AT&T. Do you remember some of those questions?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Okay. And it talked about the letters
- 6 being the formal positions of the parties. Do you
- 7 recall that?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. In your experience as an interconnection
- 10 agreement negotiator, do the parties only negotiate
- 11 through written correspondence?
- 12 A. Absolutely not. I -- I would say
- 13 probably more of the negotiation takes place in oral
- 14 conversations, either on the phone or in a
- 15 face-to-face setting. Many times the positions of
- 16 the parties will be reduced to writing in a -- in a
- 17 formal letter or in a red-line document that is
- 18 exchanged between the parties.
- 19 Q. But in this case, negotiations -- oral
- 20 negotiations did occur between Sprint and AT&T,
- 21 right?
- 22 A. Yes, many times. And as I pointed out
- 23 in my prefiled testimony, on at least two occasions
- 24 oral negotiations -- or oral discussions took place
- 25 on the extension issue.

- 1 Q. Okay. Mr. Bub asked you some questions
- 2 about AT&T then basically presenting the red-line
- 3 agreement and then Sprint electing, rather than to
- 4 utilize that, to simply extend its existing
- 5 interconnection agreements, right?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Okay. And in the correspondence that
- 8 AT&T -- that we looked through from AT&T, did AT&T
- 9 change positions at any time during this process as
- 10 far as what interconnection agreements could be
- 11 utilized as, quote, a starting point for
- 12 negotiations?
- 13 A. Yeah, I guess you could characterize it
- 14 that way. They certainly started with their current
- 15 template as the starting point for negotiations and
- 16 then agreed to start from the Kentucky agreement as
- 17 the starting point for negotiations.
- And you know, just as a general matter,
- 19 negotiations -- and -- and I stated this in my
- 20 prefiled testimony, negotiations are -- it's a fluid
- 21 environment and people change positions, they change
- 22 tactics, you know, they sometimes change strategies
- 23 all in an effort to get to a resulting agreement
- 24 which was the objective at least of Sprint and we
- 25 hope of AT&T.

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1 Q. Mr. Bub also asked you some questions
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- 2 about whether or not Sprint, AT&T had exchanged
- 3 red-line drafts of the amendments to the
- 4 interconnection -- to the existing interconnection
- 5 agreements. I believe it was Exhibit 12 to Sprint's
- 6 petition. Do you recall that?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. In your view -- and -- and did you
- 9 respond that -- that there were -- that there was no
- 10 exchange of red lines regarding those amendments?
- 11 A. I did respond that there was no
- 12 exchange. I wouldn't have expected there to be an
- 13 exchange because AT&T clearly stated they would not
- 14 agree to extend the current agreement. So if there
- 15 was a red-line that came back, I would expect that it
- 16 would have stricken all of Sprint's proposed language
- 17 to -- that would have extended that agreement.
- 18 Q. And in your view, Mr. Felton, as part of
- 19 this arbitration process, could AT&T have provided
- 20 changes to those proposed amendments that would
- 21 extend the interconnection agreements?
- 22 A. Sure, absolutely.
- Q. And they did not do so?
- A. To my knowledge, they did not.
- 25 MR. SCHIFMAN: Okay. No further

- 1 questions.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. I believe
- 3 that's all the questions for you, then, Mr. Felton,
- 4 and you may be excused.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 6 JUDGE DIPPELL: I think at this time
- 7 we'll go ahead and take a short break, and then when
- 8 we come back, we'll go until noon which is when the
- 9 Commission's agenda session is going to start and
- 10 they'll -- we'll probably hear the announcement and
- 11 that will be our cue to take another break if we're
- 12 not concluded by then. So let's go ahead and go off
- 13 the record and come back in about -- 25 after by that
- 14 clock.
- 15 (A RECESS WAS TAKEN.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: And we are ready, then,
- 17 for AT&T's first witness.
- MR. BUB: And we'll call Lynn
- 19 Allen-Flood to the stand, please.
- 20 (The witness was sworn.)
- 21 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. If you could
- 22 spell your name for the court reporter.
- THE WITNESS: First name Lynn, L-y-n-n,
- last name Allen-Flood, A-1-1-e-n, dash, F as in
- 25 Frank, 1-o-o-d.

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1 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. Go ahead,
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- 2 Mr. Bub.
- 3 MR. BUB: Thank you, your Honor.
- 4 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. BUB:
- 5 Q. Ms. Flood, you're employed by AT&T, are
- 6 you not?
- 7 A. That's correct.
- 8 Q. And you're the lead interconnection
- 9 agreements manager for AT&T with respect to Sprint?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And you caused to be filed in this
- 12 proceeding Exhibit 5 which is your direct testimony?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Do you need to make any changes to your
- 15 testimony?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. If I asked you the same questions in
- 18 Exhibit 5 today, would your answers be the same?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. Are those answers true and correct to
- 21 the best of your knowledge, information --
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. -- and belief?
- 24 A. Yes.
- MR. BUB: Thank you, your Honor. Those

- 1 are all the questions that we have. We'd like to
- 2 offer Exhibit 5 into evidence.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Would there be any
- 4 objection to Exhibit No. 5?
- 5 MR. SCHIFMAN: No.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Then we will receive it
- 7 into the record.
- 8 (EXHIBIT NO. 5 WAS RECEIVED INTO
- 9 EVIDENCE AND MADE A PART OF THE RECORD.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: And you may --
- MR. BUB: We'll tender Ms. Flood --
- 12 Allen-Flood for cross-examination. Thank you, your
- 13 Honor.
- 14 JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Sprint may
- 15 proceed with cross-examination.
- 16 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. SCHIFMAN:
- 17 Q. Hi, Ms. Allen-Flood.
- 18 A. Good morning.
- 19 Q. My name is Ken Schifman. I'm here
- 20 representing Sprint and I'm going to ask you some
- 21 questions about your testimony today.
- 22 A. (Nodded head.)
- Q. Ms. Allen-Flood, you say on page 1 of
- 24 your testimony, lines 7 through 10, that you're
- 25 responsible for negotiating interconnection

- 1 agreements with CLECs; is that right?
- 2 A. That's correct.
- 3 Q. Okay. Do you negotiate interconnection
- 4 statements with wireless carriers also?
- 5 A. No. We have a separate negotiator for
- 6 wireless.
- 7 Q. In -- in the negotiations with Sprint,
- 8 you dealt with the wireless interconnection
- 9 agreements, though, as part of this process?
- 10 A. Initially I was the point person for all
- 11 of it, yes.
- 12 Q. Okay.
- 13 JUDGE DIPPELL: Ms. Allen-Flood, since
- 14 your voice is a little soft, if I could get you to
- 15 sit a little closer to the microphone or pull it a
- 16 little closer to you.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Oh, okay.
- 18 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. Sorry. Go
- 19 ahead, Mr. Schifman.
- 20 BY MR. SCHIFMAN:
- 21 Q. How many CLECs do you negotiate with on
- 22 a typical basis?
- Annually or?
- 24 O. Sure.
- 25 A. I might have six or eight in any period

- 1 during the year.
- Q. Okay. And if AT&T presents a position
- 3 in an interconnection agreement and the CLEC objects
- 4 to it, what's the typical process that you're
- 5 familiar -- familiar with as far as how those
- 6 objections are resolved?
- 7 A. And you're speaking as to the
- 8 negotiations themselves --
- 9 O. Yes.
- 10 A. -- of sessions? I would document that
- 11 objection and I would socialize that with the
- 12 appropriate SMEs within my company.
- 13 Q. And ultimately, if the objection or the
- 14 dispute would not be resolved, what happens in your
- 15 experience?
- 16 A. We would document that as a disagreed-
- 17 upon issue.
- 18 Q. And does it get resolved in a state
- 19 commission arbitration?
- 20 A. If either party does file, and that is
- 21 one of the issues that's brought before in the
- 22 petition, yes.
- Q. Okay. And -- and here we're involved in
- 24 a process where the parties disagreed about
- 25 interconnection agreement terms; is that right?

- 1 A. In some cases, yes.
- Q. Okay. "In some cases" meaning -- let me
- 3 rephrase. Sprint has presented extensions of its
- 4 interconnection agreements in this process that we're
- 5 going through here today; is that right?
- 6 A. I believe that's in your petition, yes.
- 7 Q. Okay. And you've read those extensions
- 8 that Sprint has proposed?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Okay.
- 11 A. Let me clarify. You're talking about
- 12 the petition. Yes, I have read that.
- 13 Q. I'm talking about the extensions that
- 14 Sprint proposed as the Exhibit 12 in its petition for
- 15 arbitration.
- 16 A. Is it marked?
- 17 Q. Unfortunately there's not tabs on those
- 18 copies. It's towards the end of that big stack of
- 19 paper. So Ms. Allen-Flood, I've referred to --
- 20 referred you to Exhibit 6 which is the Sprint
- 21 petition for arbitration, and it has a number of
- 22 exhibits attached to it, and you're looking at
- 23 Exhibit 12; is that right?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And that Exhibit 12 is Amendment to

- 1 Interconnection Agreements, the first one between
- 2 Spring Communications Company, L.P. and Southwestern
- 3 Bell Telephone Company?
- 4 A. That's how it reads.
- 5 Q. Okay. And is there a subsequent one
- 6 that's dealing with an amendment between Sprint
- 7 Spectrum, L.P. and Southwestern Bell Telephone
- 8 Company?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And the last one is an amendment between
- 11 Nextel West Corp. and Southwestern Bell Telephone
- 12 Company?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And you've reviewed these amendments as
- 15 part of the process that we're going through here
- 16 today?
- 17 A. I did read the petition, yes.
- 18 Q. Okay. Do -- does AT&T have any proposed
- 19 changes to these amendments?
- 20 A. Well, they haven't been reviewed to that
- 21 length to give you an answer as to if we would have
- 22 changes or not.
- 23 Q. So you don't know right now if AT&T has
- 24 any proposed changes?
- 25 A. No, I can't answer that without further

- 1 review.
- Q. Okay. Do you know how long -- Sprint
- 3 filed its arbitration petition December 5th of 2008.
- 4 Does that ring a bell for you?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Okay. And AT&T hasn't reviewed these
- 7 amendments from that time until now?
- 8 A. Well, this -- this petition has been
- 9 read, but as far as evaluating this amendment for
- 10 potential execution, no.
- 11 Q. Okay. And why not?
- 12 A. Because -- because of our position that
- 13 we filed in testimony.
- 14 Q. Okay. Your position that the
- 15 interconnection agreement should not be extended
- 16 under Merger Commitment 7.4?
- 17 A. Well, that's a policy issue and I'll
- 18 defer that question to Mr. McPhee.
- 19 Q. You -- you -- you testified in your
- 20 testimony, did you not, that that's what AT&T's
- 21 position is?
- 22 A. I testified -- and would you please cite
- 23 me where you're pointing to in my testimony?
- Q. Page 7 of your testimony.
- A. And this would be lines?

- 1 Q. Well, generally is it AT&T's position
- 2 that you seem to be testifying that AT&T did not want
- 3 to sign the amendments that Sprint proposed, is that
- 4 right, to extend the interconnection agreements?
- 5 A. My testimony -- my testimony stated that
- 6 we did not negotiate Sprint's extension.
- 7 Q. Okay. And you say on lines 9 through 11
- 8 that the amendments were never exchanged or
- 9 discussed. Do you see that?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. Do you agree now that those amendments
- 12 have been exchanged?
- 13 A. Not in the context of our negotiation
- 14 sessions.
- 15 Q. But they were exchanged in the context
- 16 of Sprint's arbitration petition?
- 17 A. In your petition, yes.
- 18 Q. And since Sprint provided those
- 19 amendments in its arbitration petition, AT&T has not
- 20 made any proposals or offers or suggested any changes
- 21 to those amendments; is that correct?
- 22 A. No.
- Q. Is that correct?
- A. Yes, that's correct.
- 25 Q. In your experience as an interconnection

- 1 agreement negotiator, Ms. Allen-Flood, outside of the
- 2 merger commitments that we're talking about here
- 3 today, have parties -- has AT&T agreed to simply
- 4 extend its existing interconnection agreements with
- 5 CLECs or wireless carriers?
- 6 A. I can't state that we've done that
- 7 without really further looking at my records in -- in
- 8 my office, frankly. I can't recall any at this
- 9 point.
- 10 Q. Okay. Would you agree that -- well,
- 11 let's make it a hypothetical since you can't recall
- 12 directly. If AT&T and a requesting party had agreed
- 13 to a -- an extension of their existing
- 14 interconnection agreements, is it your understanding
- 15 that the process would be that AT&T and the
- 16 requesting carrier would simply provide that
- 17 interconnection agreement to a state commission for
- 18 approval?
- 19 A. With the extension amendment, yes.
- Q. Okay. And that's part of the
- 21 Section 251, 252 process as you understand it?
- 22 A. Well, that's a legal question. I'm not
- 23 sure I can answer that question.
- Q. As you understand it?
- 25 A. We have executed amendments to extend.

- 1 That's not what I consider part of 251, 252
- 2 negotiations.
- 3 Q. And why do you submit those to state
- 4 commissions for approval, do you know?
- 5 A. As -- as formal as our process dictates
- 6 and they request those amendments to be presented
- 7 before them.
- 8 Q. The state commissions, right?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Mr. McPhee -- well, strike that. AT&T
- 11 provided a discovery response that Mr. Felton
- 12 attached to his testimony about the interconnection
- 13 agreements that were extended under the merger
- 14 commitment. Did you read that discovery response?
- 15 A. Would you ask me that again, please?
- 16 Q. Okay. Mr. Felton attached to his
- 17 testimony the discovery response from AT&T that
- 18 described in list form a number of interconnection
- 19 agreements that AT&T had extended according to Merger
- 20 Commitment 7.4. Did you review that discovery that
- 21 AT&T provided?
- 22 A. I have not reviewed his list.
- Q. Okay. Okay. Going to page 5 of your
- 24 testimony, Ms. Allen-Flood, lines 13 through 15, you
- 25 state that the parties resolved a great number of

1 issues up to the point on December 5th, 2008. Do you

- 2 see that?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And do you agree that Sprint and AT&T
- 5 still had significant disagreements over various
- 6 issues regarding the Kentucky ICA?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Okay. And those issues included
- 9 bill-and-keep, right?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And whether or not there would be a
- 12 facility sharing provision in the Kentucky ICA; is
- 13 that right?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And whether or not there would be some
- 16 type of escrow provision in the Kentucky ICA; is that
- 17 right?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And AT&T and Sprint also had
- 20 disagreements about the definition of wireless local
- 21 traffic in the Kentucky ICA; is that right?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Did anybody at Sprint ever indicate to
- 24 you that -- that we believed that those agreement --
- 25 those disputes could be resolved short of

- 1 arbitration?
- 2 A. Could you repeat that again, please?
- 3 Q. Okay. Did anybody at Sprint ever
- 4 represent to you that those agreements -- or that
- 5 those disputes that we just covered, facilities
- 6 sharing, bill-and-keep, escrow, definition of
- 7 wireless local traffic, were ever going to be
- 8 resolved short of Sprint filing an arbitration
- 9 petition on those issues?
- 10 A. It seemed likely that that was the
- 11 direction we would have to go in, in order to resolve
- 12 those issues.
- 13 Q. And are you aware that Sprint and AT&T
- 14 had litigated those issues in various other states
- 15 according to complaints that Sprint had filed against
- 16 AT&T?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Okay. Examples being Wisconsin,
- 19 Illinois, Oklahoma, Indiana; is that right?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. On those issues that I just discussed,
- 22 would you agree that Sprint and AT&T had
- 23 negotiations?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Do you now understand as part of the

- 1 process that we're going through right now where
- 2 Sprint is attempting to extend its existing
- 3 interconnection agreements that Sprint takes one
- 4 position and AT&T takes another position on that
- 5 issue?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. Do you consider that to be negotiations?
- 8 A. No, that's not what we discussed in our
- 9 sessions between Mr. Broughton and myself.
- 10 Q. Did Mr. Broughton raise the issue of
- 11 extending Sprint's --
- 12 A. He did on two occasions, yes.
- Q. Okay. Let's take away all the legal
- 14 stuff. Section 252, let's pretend we're in a
- 15 universe where Section 252 does not exist, okay?
- 16 It's a tough one, isn't it?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. If one party takes one position on a
- 19 contract and another party disputes that position,
- 20 would you agree that the parties are negotiating
- 21 about the term of their contract?
- MR. BUB: Now I need to object. I think
- 23 this hypothetical really isn't apt here because I
- 24 don't think you can wish away laws that apply, and
- 25 it's not talking about an ordinary business contract

- 1 here. We're talking about an interconnection
- 2 agreement that's governed by, you know, the act of
- 3 the whole host of FCC rules. So I  $\operatorname{\mathsf{--}}$  those rules
- 4 don't apply, the act doesn't apply to regular
- 5 business contracts, so I don't think this type of an
- 6 analogy is appropriate.
- 7 MR. SCHIFMAN: And I'm -- I'm stating a
- 8 hypothetical. I think -- I'm trying to get at the
- 9 witness's understanding of what negotiations are.
- 10 She asserts in her testimony that Sprint and AT&T did
- 11 not negotiate about the term of the agreement and I
- 12 want to probe that.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: I'm going to overrule
- 14 the objection and allow her to answer.
- 15 BY MR. SCHIFMAN:
- 16 Q. Okay. Do you recall the question?
- 17 A. Would you repeat it, please?
- 18 Q. Okay. This is a hypo -- this is a
- 19 hypothetical. We're pretending we're in a world
- 20 where Section 252 does not exist and the FCC rules
- 21 that implement Section 252 and 251 do not exist.
- 22 We're pretending that Sprint and AT&T are negotiating
- 23 about a contract in a purely commercial sense. Those
- 24 rules and statutes don't apply.
- 25 Would you agree with me that if AT&T

- 1 took one position on how long a contract should be
- 2 and Sprint took another position disputing AT&T's
- 3 position that the parties would be negotiating about
- 4 how long the contract could be?
- 5 A. Without any rules associated with that
- 6 negotiation, I guess I would have to say yes.
- 7 Q. You mentioned, Ms. Allen-Flood, that
- 8 Mr. Broughton brought up Sprint's interest in
- 9 extending the interconnection agreement on two
- 10 occasions; is that right?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. You spoke about it verbally twice; is
- 13 that right?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Okay. And then Sprint sent a letter to
- 16 AT&T dated November 21st that memorialized Sprint's
- 17 position about extending the existing ICAs; is that
- 18 right?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. What was AT&T's position on
- 21 Sprint's request to extend its existing
- 22 interconnection agreements? And I'm talking in the
- 23 context of your discussions with Mr. Broughton.
- A. Would you repeat that again? I'm sorry.
- Q. Yes. In the context of your discussions

- 1 with Mr. Broughton --
- 2 A. Uh-huh.
- Q. -- what was your response to Sprint's
- 4 request to extend the existing ICAs?
- 5 A. He expressed interest in extending. My
- 6 response was that my understanding of the policy was
- 7 that these three agreements had all expired and
- 8 therefore would not be eligible for extension.
- 9 Q. Okay. You understand that Sprint has
- 10 now brought this arbitration petition before the
- 11 Missouri Commission seeking to extend its existing
- 12 interconnection agreements, right?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And you agree with me that AT&T thinks
- 15 that Sprint should not be able to extend those
- 16 agreements, right?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. What else should Sprint have done to
- 19 bring its disagreement before this Missouri
- 20 Commission on whether or not we can extend our
- 21 existing interconnection agreements in your view?
- MR. BUB: Your Honor, I think he's
- 23 calling for a legal conclusion about what the
- 24 different remedies, the legal remedies that would
- 25 exist under the act and under, you know, state and

- 1 federal law. I don't think this witness is qualified
- 2 to answer that.
- We offered her just to recount the
- 4 sequence of events, what happened in the face-to-face
- 5 negotiations. We didn't offer her and she did not
- 6 testify to any policy matters, certainly not to any
- 7 legal issues like remedies a person would have under
- 8 the act. You know, we do have a policy witness. If
- 9 they want to probe him, that's fine. But we just
- 10 offered her to come here and tell the Commission what
- 11 happened and to recount it firsthand. She's not our
- 12 policy witness.
- 13 MR. SCHIFMAN: And I guess my response,
- 14 your Honor, is Ms. Allen-Flood has testified that she
- 15 presented AT&T's policy position that Sprint would
- 16 not be able to extend its existing interconnection
- 17 agreements, and I'm wondering in the context of the
- 18 negotiations and the discussions that were going on,
- 19 you know, what else could Sprint have done other than
- 20 bring this dispute before the Missouri Commission.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: I'm -- I'm going to
- 22 overrule the objection and allow her to answer, but I
- 23 will just state when she does talk a lot in her
- 24 testimony about how she interprets Section 252,
- 25 and -- but I will say that obviously the fact that

- 1 she's not a lawyer will go toward the weight of
- 2 her -- her answer.
- 3 MR. SCHIFMAN: Understood.
- 4 JUDGE DIPPELL: You may answer.
- 5 THE WITNESS: I guess I'll have to ask
- 6 him to repeat the question.
- 7 BY MR. SCHIFMAN:
- 8 Q. Well, okay. We'll -- maybe we'll build
- 9 back up to it. I could ask the court reporter to do
- 10 it again, but I want to go a little bit different
- 11 direction.
- 12 Ms. Allen-Flood, you say like, for
- 13 example, on page 2 of your testimony towards the
- 14 bottom, lines 20 and 21, you talk about successor ICA
- 15 under Section 252 in Missouri. Do you see that?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And on page 3 of your testimony, line 6,
- 18 you say "Sprint requested Section 252 negotiations."
- 19 Do you see that?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. What do you mean by "Section 252
- 22 negotiations" when you use that in your testimony?
- 23 A. I -- that Section 252 negotiations is a
- 24 very structured and formal process that we follow.
- 25 Either party can request negotiations. We confirm

- 1 that via correspondence that's exchanged between the
- 2 parties. We agree on a negotiations start date and
- 3 end date in identifying the arbitration window and
- 4 confirm that via correspondence between the parties.
- 5 We also decide on a starting point of
- 6 those negotiations, what document do we begin and
- 7 negotiate from, and that's also documented via
- 8 correspondence. And throughout the process, the
- 9 parties meet to discuss the issues, come to an
- 10 agreement on some, understand that there's others
- 11 that we may not able to agree upon, document that
- 12 exchange via red lines or listings of the open
- 13 issues. And that's the sequence of events that we
- 14 follow and that was followed here.
- 15 Q. Okay. And do you agree,
- 16 Ms. Allen-Flood, that there is a timeline associated
- 17 with Section 252 negotiations?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And -- and that timeline to your
- 20 understanding is that a party must file a petition
- 21 for arbitration before the 160th day after the
- 22 negotiations started?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you agree with me that Sprint,
- 25 specifically Mr. Broughton, raised with you during

- 1 that timeline, the issue of whether or not Sprint
- 2 could extend its existing interconnection agreements?
- 3 A. Yes, he raised the question on two
- 4 occasions. It was probably a two-minute
- 5 conversation.
- 6 Q. It was within the time frame associated
- 7 with Section 252 negotiations, right?
- 8 A. It was while we were meeting to discuss
- 9 the Kentucky red-lined agreement.
- 10 Q. It was within that time frame; is that
- 11 correct?
- 12 A. It was during the time we were
- 13 discussing the red-lined Kentucky agreement that he
- 14 asked the question.
- Q. And that was before day 160; is that
- 16 correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Let's go to page 7 of your testimony,
- 19 lines 17 through 22. Have you had a chance look at
- 20 that?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. On line -- beginning on line 18, you
- 23 state, "I certainly did not understand that subject
- 24 to be part of the actual negotiations." What subject
- 25 are you talking about?

- 1 A. The extension.
- Q. Did you tell Mr. Broughton that
- 3 specifically, that you did not understand the
- 4 extensions to be part of the actual negotiations?
- 5 A. No.
- 6 Q. Okay. We're moving around here. Going
- 7 back to page 2, please, of your testimony. Now I'm
- 8 looking at lines 20 and 21 where you discuss that
- 9 you're the point person and lead negotiator. Do you
- 10 see that?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Okay. And you're the point person and
- 13 lead -- lead negotiator for discussions with Sprint,
- 14 right?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 MR. SCHIFMAN: Okay. I just want to
- 17 raise to you, Leo, I'm not asking for legal advice
- 18 here or trying to get into legal discussions. I'm
- 19 just asking for kind of names here, okay? So I'm not
- 20 wanting to get into the content of any legal
- 21 discussions that she may have had with attorneys.
- 22 BY MR. SCHIFMAN:
- Q. Ms. Allen-Flood, how did you know to
- 24 reject Sprint's request for extensions under Merger
- 25 Commitment 7.4?

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1 A. When you say how did I know to reject
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- 2 it --
- Q. Yeah, what -- what informed --
- 4 A. -- are you stating from my testimony?
- 5 Q. Yeah, what informed you? Was that a
- 6 position that you knew or did you have discussions
- 7 with other folks at AT&T to come up with that
- 8 position?
- 9 A. That was my understanding of our
- 10 position.
- 11 Q. Okay. And did you have discussions with
- 12 other people from AT&T regarding Sprint's request for
- 13 extensions?
- 14 A. I may have shared that information with
- 15 my supervisor.
- 16 Q. So was it your decision to reject
- 17 Sprint's request for extensions under Merger
- 18 Commitment 7.4?
- 19 A. Was it my decision?
- 20 Q. Yes.
- 21 A. No.
- Q. Whose was it?
- 23 A. It was my understanding of our company
- 24 policy.
- Q. And did you discuss that company policy

- 1 with others at AT&T?
- 2 A. I just related our conversation and that
- 3 at that time was our policy.
- 4 Q. Is it still your policy?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Are you aware that the Nextel agreement
- 7 that Sprint has with AT&T has been in effect since
- 8 1999?
- 9 A. Yes. That rings a bell.
- 10 Q. Okay. So Sprint and AT&T -- or Nextel
- 11 and AT&T have been happily -- well, I'll strike
- 12 "happily," but have been operating under that
- 13 agreement since 1999; is that correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Okay. And before the merger with Bell
- 16 South, AT&T never terminated that agreement; is that
- 17 correct?
- 18 A. Not to my knowledge.
- 19 Q. Okay. And so the parties were operating
- 20 under that agreement before the merger with Bell
- 21 South, right?
- 22 A. That's my understanding.
- Q. Okay. And after the merger with Bell
- 24 South, Sprint -- or Nextel and AT&T continued to
- operate under that agreement; is that right?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. And now Nextel has asked to extend the
- 3 agreement for three more years; is that right?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And it's been operating under it for --
- 6 since 1999, right?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. What's changed that AT&T is no longer
- 9 happy with the Nextel agreement?
- 10 A. That we refused to extend, is that your
- 11 question?
- 12 Q. Yes.
- 13 A. It -- it really goes back to our policy
- 14 on extensions, and Mr. McPhee can address that
- 15 further.
- 16 Q. Okay. Your policy. And who developed
- 17 that policy to your understanding?
- 18 A. Our upper management and our legal.
- 19 Q. Okay. Do you have any names that you
- 20 can provide me?
- 21 A. No. It's quite a group of people.
- Q. Okay. Was this policy developed after
- 23 the merger with Bell South?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. If Sprint is not permitted to extend its

- 1 existing ICAs under the process that we're going
- 2 under right now, what does AT&T intend to do as far
- 3 as getting agreements with Sprint?
- A. Well, the -- the agreements are still in
- 5 place today --
- 6 Q. Okay.
- 7 A. -- and are still operating under those
- 8 agreements.
- 9 Q. Okay. And it's okay with AT&T for the
- 10 Sprint entities to continue operating under those
- 11 agreements?
- 12 A. I can only address what is happening
- 13 today. I can't address what we -- we do in the
- 14 future.
- Q. Okay. Okay. Not that much longer.
- 16 We're going to go to Exhibit 4 from the petition, so
- 17 we're looking at Exhibit 6, the petition, and there's
- 18 a list of exhibits that are attached to it and
- 19 Exhibit 4 is one of those. And it's the July 16
- 20 letter from Ms. Allen-Flood to Fred Broughton.
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. And you wrote that letter,
- 23 Ms. Allen-Flood?
- 24 A. With the help of others, yes.
- Q. Okay. That's your signature at the

- 1 bottom, right?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Okay. And we're looking at the July 16
- 4 letter from you to Mr. Broughton. I want to direct
- 5 you to the second paragraph and the sentence that
- 6 begins with "Moreover." Can you read that sentence,
- 7 please?
- 8 A. "Moreover, given that the parties will
- 9 be negotiating under Section 252 of the act, each
- 10 party is free to offer any language and take any
- 11 position it sees fit subject to its statutory duty to
- 12 negotiate in good faith."
- 13 Q. Okay. Do you believe that according to
- 14 this statement in your letter, that Sprint was free
- 15 to offer language such as extending its existing
- 16 interconnection agreements?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. So extending its existing
- 19 interconnection agreements is somehow different than
- 20 each party being free to offer any language they
- 21 want?
- 22 A. Well, the parties agree on the base
- 23 document from which to negotiate, and a negotiation
- 24 was not about the existing agreement. The
- 25 negotiation was solely about the Kentucky red-lined

- 1 agreement.
- Q. We discussed earlier, though, that you
- 3 and Mr. Broughton discussed extensions within the
- 4 time frame of Section 252, right?
- 5 A. He raised the question, yes.
- 6 Q. Okay. And you responded, right?
- 7 A. And I responded, yes.
- 8 MR. SCHIFMAN: I don't have any further
- 9 questions. Thanks, Ms. Allen-Flood.
- 10 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you, Mr. Schifman.
- 11 I have just a few things for you.
- 12 QUESTIONS BY JUDGE DIPPELL:
- 13 Q. I want to go back to your direct
- 14 testimony on page 7. Are you there?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. All right. On -- at line 19 -- you and
- 17 Mr. Schifman talked about this earlier, but you say,
- 18 "I certainly did not understand this -- that subject
- 19 to be part of the actual negotiations"?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. Can you tell me what you mean there by
- 22 "actual negotiations"?
- 23 A. Well, the parties' focus in every
- 24 session that we met -- and this was starting in July
- 25 through November, the focus of every session was the

- 1 Kentucky red-lined agreement as the parties had
- 2 agreed was the basis of the negotiations at the
- 3 starting point.
- 4 So every session was about that
- 5 agreement and those red lines. He asked this
- 6 question, I responded, but I really thought it was a
- 7 digression from what our focus was on. We had not
- 8 agreed to negotiate from the existing agreement. We
- 9 had agreed to negotiate from the red-lined port
- 10 agreement, and that's what we were doing.
- 11 Q. And was Mr. Broughton the -- he was the
- 12 main person from Sprint that you were negotiating
- 13 with; is that correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Just a clarifying question. You
- 16 mentioned a -- a SME earlier --
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. -- which we refer to around here a lot
- 19 as subject matter experts. Is that what you were?
- 20 A. Yes, I'm sorry. I --
- 21 Q. That's fine. Sometimes the -- the
- 22 record is a little odd if there's a bunch of acronyms
- 23 in there.
- 24 A. I understand.
- Q. And I think Mr. Schifman asked you in

- 1 the beginning, and I think I missed it, so I
- 2 apologize. But you negotiate with CLECs, correct?
- 3 A. Correct.
- Q. And do you also negotiate with wireless
- 5 carriers?
- 6 A. Not ordinarily. And any issue with the
- 7 wireless agreements and the wireless language, I took
- 8 the issue and would socialize that with the wireless
- 9 negotiator.
- 10 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. And I think you
- 11 answered that before, and I -- I'm sorry I missed
- 12 part of it. I'm going to let Mr. Voight ask you a
- 13 question that he has so we have everything clear.
- 14 QUESTIONS BY MR. VOIGHT:
- 15 Q. Hi, Ms. Allen-Flood. My name is Bill
- 16 Voight. Mr. Schifman, I believe, asked you some
- 17 questions about -- on page 2 of your direct
- 18 testimony, and I would note on page 2, line 20 and
- 19 page 3, lines 8 and 13 you refer to the term "a port
- 20 request." And I suppose my understanding of that
- 21 term would be that a carrier wants to take an
- 22 agreement that was applicable to one state and take
- 23 it to another state. Is that what's meant by the
- 24 term "port request" in your testimony?
- 25 A. Yes, that's correct.

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1 Q. And in response to Judge Dippell, I
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- 2 heard the term, a "red-lined port agreement."
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Could you help me understand the
- 5 difference in a port request and a red-lined port
- 6 agreement?
- 7 A. Well, in essence, they're probably about
- 8 the same.
- 9 Q. Okay.
- 10 A. In this instance, Sprint had requested a
- 11 port back in November '07 and AT&T red-lined the
- 12 Kentucky agreement which was -- the request that
- 13 Sprint made was to use the Kentucky interconnection
- 14 agreement which was a combination CLEC and wireless
- 15 agreement and to make that consistent with the merger
- 16 commitment as far as applying pricing, technical
- 17 specifications, et cetera, in the port-to states.
- 18 MR. VOIGHT: Okay. Thank you. I just
- 19 wanted to be sure of my understanding. Thank you.
- 20 That's all the questions, Judge.
- 21 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. Are there
- 22 any further cross-examination questions based on
- 23 those questions from me and Mr. Voight?
- MR. SCHIFMAN: No.
- 25 JUDGE DIPPELL: Is there any redirect?

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1 MR. BUB: Just a couple, your Honor.
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- 2 REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. BUB:
- 3 Q. My questions are following up to some
- 4 questions that Mr. Schifman had asked you. At one
- 5 point he asked about the negotiations that were
- 6 conducted on the Kentucky agreement to conform it to
- 7 Missouri, and -- I think in other states, and he
- 8 asked about it being a significant number. Do you
- 9 recall that line of questions?
- 10 A. Significant number of issues?
- 11 Q. Issues, yes.
- 12 A. Okay. Yes.
- 13 Q. He listed bill-and-keep, shared facility
- 14 factor, escrow, wireless local traffic are examples
- 15 of some of the issues that existed between the
- 16 parties, right?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Do you recall how many issues existed in
- 19 the beginning with the negotiations?
- 20 A. Oh, there were hundreds of issues. I
- 21 mean, there probably were well over 100 issues in the
- 22 agreement.
- Q. Okay. How many were left at the point
- 24 Sprint changed its mind here in Missouri and
- 25 abandoned negotiations on the Sprint Kentucky

- 1 agreement?
- A. And I have to qualify my answer that
- 3 it's based on my recollection because I don't have
- 4 those notes here with me, but I recall that we had
- 5 resolved over 80 percent of the issues.
- 6 Q. Okay. Mr. Schifman also asked you some
- 7 questions about when Mr. Broughton expressed interest
- 8 in extending Sprint's existing interconnection
- 9 agreements from Missouri. Do you recall that line of
- 10 questions?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Okay. When Mr. Broughton raised this
- 13 interest, what documents did each of you have in
- 14 front of you for those meetings?
- 15 A. The red-lined -- the Kentucky red-lined
- 16 port agreement.
- 17 Q. What was the purpose of those meetings?
- 18 A. To discuss the Kentucky red-lined port
- 19 agreement.
- 20 Q. Approximately how long did those
- 21 meetings last?
- 22 A. Usually an hour to two hours.
- Q. Okay. Did you ever exchange red-lined
- 24 drafts of the existing Missouri agreements?
- 25 A. No.

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1 Q. Did they exist?
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- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Did you exchange drafts of any
- 4 amendments to extend the existing Missouri
- 5 agreements?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. When was the first time that you saw
- 8 Sprint's proposed amendments?
- 9 A. In their petition.
- 10 Q. Okay. Did you work with Sprint to
- 11 prepare a decision point list, or as we call it a
- 12 DPL, concerning an extension of the Missouri
- 13 agreement?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. Is it customary between the parties to
- 16 work together in putting together a DPL prior to an
- 17 arbitration?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. I think at the end of his -- his
- 20 cross-examination Mr. Schifman pointed you to a
- 21 July 16th letter, and he had you read a piece about
- 22 parties being able to raise any issues as he deemed
- 23 fit. Do you remember that?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Now, at that time, July 16th, in

- 1 that time frame that Sprint raised and asked to
- 2 extend the existing Missouri agreements, what process
- 3 would AT&T have gone through to prepare for that type
- 4 of a negotiation?
- 5 A. We would have red-lined the Missouri
- 6 agreement, as would Sprint, with the issues that each
- 7 party would have for changes to that agreement.
- 8 Q. How many AT&T employees would be
- 9 involved in that type of a process?
- 10 A. Oh, well, with CLEC and wireless, it's
- 11 probably close to 20 people.
- 12 Q. Okay. Would those have been subject
- 13 matter experts like we just talked about?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Okay. Do you know how long that process
- 16 would have taken to review those three
- 17 interconnection agreements to prepare for
- 18 negotiations?
- 19 A. I would estimate three to four weeks,
- 20 maybe longer.
- 21 MR. BUB: Those are all the questions I
- 22 have, your Honor. Thank you. Thank you.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you.
- 24 Ms. Allen-Flood, I believe you survived, hopefully
- 25 unscathed, and you may be excused.

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1 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
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- 2 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. Does anybody
- 3 need to take a break at this point or are we ready to
- 4 go ahead with the next witness?
- 5 (NO RESPONSE.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: I don't see anyone
- 7 jumping up and down, so let's go ahead with the next
- 8 witness, then.
- 9 MR. BUB: So we would call Scott McPhee
- 10 to the stand, please.
- 11 (The witness was sworn.)
- 12 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. If you could
- 13 spell your name for the court reporter, please.
- 14 THE WITNESS: My name is Scott McPhee,
- 15 S-c-o-t-t, M-c-P as in Paul, h-e-e.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Go ahead, Mr. Bub.
- 17 MR. BUB: Thank you, your Honor.
- 18 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. BUB:
- 19 Q. Mr. McPhee, you're employed by AT&T; is
- 20 that correct?
- 21 A. That's correct.
- Q. And you're an associate director of
- 23 wholesale regulatory policy?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. And you work in AT&T's wholesale

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1 organizations to support our ILEC operation through
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- 2 the 22-state area?
- 3 A. That's correct.
- 4 Q. And that would include Missouri?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Okay. And you're responsible for
- 7 developing support and communicating AT&T's wholesale
- 8 product policy; is that right?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And you are a policy witness today?
- 11 A. Yes, I am.
- 12 Q. Did you cause to be filed in this
- 13 proceeding Exhibits 3 P for proprietary and 3 NP
- 14 which is your direct testimony?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Do you have any changes or corrections
- 17 that you need to make to that piece of testimony?
- 18 A. I do not.
- 19 Q. Okay. Did you also cause to be filed
- 20 Exhibit 4 which is your rebuttal testimony?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Are there any changes that you
- 23 need to make in that?
- 24 A. No.
- Q. Okay. If I were to ask you the same

- 1 questions contained in Exhibit 3 and 4, would your
- 2 answers be the same today?
- 3 A. Yes, they would.
- 4 Q. And are those answers true and correct
- 5 to the best of your knowledge, information and
- 6 belief?
- 7 A. Yes, they are.
- 8 MR. BUB: Thank you. Your Honor, with
- 9 that, I'd like to offer Exhibits 3 P and 3 NP and 4
- 10 into evidence.
- 11 JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. And clarify
- 12 for me again, Mr. Bub, which schedule was it that was
- 13 proprietary?
- MR. BUB: It was schedule 1.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay.
- MR. BUB: And with that is -- it's the
- 17 general terms and conditions red-lined from the
- 18 Kentucky agreement that was exchanged between the
- 19 parties. And probably at this point would be a good
- 20 idea for me to tell you that this is proprietary to
- 21 both parties because it reflects their confidential
- 22 business negotiations, so the document actually
- 23 belongs to both of us.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Right.
- MR. BUB: So everyone in the room from

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1 Sprint as well as AT&T is permitted to see it.
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- JUDGE DIPPELL: So it's acceptable to
- 3 talk in general terms about it but not specific --
- 4 MR. BUB: Yeah, and --
- 5 JUDGE DIPPELL: -- terms that are in it?
- 6 MR. BUB: Yes. And if we want to talk
- 7 about --
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay.
- 9 MR. BUB: -- specifically what the
- 10 parties discussed, we may want to go in-camera just
- 11 because of the web.
- 12 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Just remind the
- 13 attorneys to help me keep check on that and make sure
- 14 we don't accidently get something on the public
- 15 session that shouldn't be.
- MR. BUB: I don't have any trouble with,
- 17 you know, generalities like we've been discussing.
- 18 MR. PFAFF: And no objection.
- 19 JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Okay. Thank
- 20 you. Then I will admit Exhibits 3 P and NP and
- 21 Exhibit 4. Thank you.
- 22 (EXHIBIT NOS. 3 P, 3 NP AND 4 WERE
- 23 RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE AND MADE A PART OF THE
- 24 RECORD.)
- MR. BUB: Thank you, your Honor. And

- 1 we'll tender Mr. McPhee for cross-examination.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Is there
- 3 cross-examination?
- 4 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. PFAFF:
- 5 Q. Good morning Mr. McPhee.
- 6 A. Good morning.
- 7 Q. You probably remember my name is Jeff
- 8 Pfaff. Nice to see you again. I hope you had a
- 9 pleasant trip in.
- 10 A. Likewise.
- 11 MR. PFAFF: Thanks. And to the court
- 12 reporter, if I start speaking too fast, please just
- 13 let me know. And nobody has ever accused me of
- 14 speaking too softly, so I don't think that will be a
- 15 problem today. I will also -- and I'm sure
- 16 Mr. McPhee will probably fall into the acronym trap
- 17 as well, so if -- you know, we'll try to catch
- 18 ourselves, but we all have the -- the shorthand.
- 19 BY MR. PFAFF:
- Q. Mr. McPhee, do you have your testimony
- 21 in front of you?
- 22 A. I do.
- Q. And both your written and direct? I'm
- 24 sorry. Your direct and your rebuttal?
- 25 A. Yes, I do.

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1 Q. Thank you. And I see that you have a
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- 2 copy of the petition there on the corner?
- 3 A. Yeah.
- 4 Q. I will hand out various other documents
- 5 I think that -- that we might discuss during your
- 6 cross-examination. Are you ready to begin?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Okay. In your direct testimony on
- 9 page 10, you discuss the -- the merger commitments;
- 10 is that correct?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Okay. And were you employed by AT&T
- 13 during that time when the merger was approved?
- 14 A. With Bell South, yes.
- 15 Q. Okay. And do you remember the date when
- 16 the merger was approved?
- 17 A. I believe it was December 29th, 2006.
- 18 Q. Okay. And you've indicated there were
- 19 conditions imposed upon AT&T as part of that merger;
- 20 is that right?
- 21 A. There were conditions that AT&T agreed
- 22 upon within that merger.
- Q. And you would agree that the -- the
- 24 merger order was effective upon AT&T's agreement to
- 25 those conditions; is that right?

- 1 A. That's my understanding.
- Q. And effectively, the -- the FCC has
- 3 created those requirements upon AT&T as part of the
- 4 merger order. Do you understand that?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Okay. Do you recall how the -- the
- 7 merger commitments were offered to the FCC?
- 8 A. I believe they were, if not all of them,
- 9 some of them were via a letter from AT&T to the FCC.
- 10 Q. Okay. And a letter from Mr. Quinn; is
- 11 that right?
- 12 A. I believe so.
- 13 Q. Mr. Robert Quinn? And is Mr. Quinn
- 14 your -- your current boss, one of your current
- 15 bosses?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. Okay. You don't -- is he still with
- 18 AT&T?
- 19 A. I don't know. It's a very large
- 20 company.
- 21 Q. Okay. Fair enough. And if I -- if I
- 22 told you these conditions were presented in a letter
- 23 on December 28th, would you -- would that surprise
- 24 you?
- 25 A. That sounds correct.

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1 Q. Okay. And the FCC had not approved the
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- 2 merger prior to that date; is that right?
- 3 A. That's right.
- Q. Okay. And then the merger -- the FCC
- 5 approved the -- the merger the next day?
- 6 A. December 29th.
- 7 Q. Okay. Today we're only discussing the
- 8 interconnection-related merger commitments; is that
- 9 right?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Okay. But there are -- there are a
- 12 number of other merger commitments; is that right?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. That require AT&T and -- and the Legacy
- 15 Bell South, I mean all of AT&T, to take certain
- 16 actions; is that right?
- 17 A. That's a fair characterization, yes.
- 18 Q. And I will delve into them, but some of
- 19 them deal with special access, for example?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. And some of them deal with the
- 22 obligation to offer customers certain broadband
- 23 access; is that right?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Now, in your testimony on page 5,

- 1 you indicate that Merger Commitment 7.4 is an
- 2 alternative to Section 252; is that right?
- 3 A. Yes, it is.
- Q. And that's part of your argument as to
- 5 why the merger commitments cannot be enforced in an
- 6 arbitration proceeding; is that right?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Okay. Would you agree with me that it
- 9 is AT&T's position that a state commission cannot
- 10 enforce the merger commitments in any proceeding?
- 11 A. I don't know about in any proceeding. I
- 12 guess it would depend upon the individual situation.
- 13 Q. Okay. Well, Sprint last year filed a
- 14 complaint to enforce a different merger commitment;
- 15 is that correct?
- 16 A. I believe so.
- 17 Q. Okay. And AT&T filed a Motion to
- 18 Dismiss. Are you familiar with that?
- 19 A. Which merger condition are we talking
- 20 about?
- Q. Well, this was the Merger Commitment
- 22 No. 1 to port the Kentucky ICA.
- 23 A. 7.1.
- 24 O. 7.1.
- 25 A. Okay.

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1 Q. And did AT&T file a Motion to Dismiss?
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- 2 A. Which state?
- 3 Q. In Missouri.
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Okay. And the Motion to Dismiss was
- 6 based upon jurisdictional grounds; is that right?
- 7 A. That's my understanding.
- 8 Q. Okay. And the Missouri Commission
- 9 agreed with AT&T under those circumstances, didn't
- 10 they?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Okay. Then Sprint filed its petition
- 13 for arbitration in this proceeding; is that correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. And AT&T again filed a Motion to
- 16 Dismiss; is that correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And again, AT&T's position was that the
- 19 state commission didn't have jurisdiction to enforce
- 20 the merger commitments in the arbitration proceeding;
- 21 is that right?
- 22 A. That's correct.
- Q. Okay. So I'm going to ask you as a
- 24 policy expert and somebody knowledgeable about both
- 25 the merger commitments and interconnection in

- 1 general, what avenue is open at a state commission
- 2 for a company like Sprint that has a disagreement
- 3 with AT&T about the merger commitments?
- 4 A. Again, I guess it would depend upon
- 5 which merger condition Sprint were seeking to apply.
- 6 I'm not sure that there is any avenue at the state
- 7 commission for some of the merger conditions such as
- 8 7.4 here today. If Sprint were to avail itself of
- 9 7.3 to start negotiating from its old expired
- 10 Missouri agreements and if there were disagreements
- 11 on the content of that language, then that language
- 12 would be subject to arbitration at the Commission.
- 13 So that would be -- that would be an
- 14 example where an application of the merger condition
- 15 would ultimately end up under arbitration and review
- 16 at the Commission.
- 17 Q. Okay. You would agree with me that
- 18 generally speaking, state commissions have
- 19 jurisdiction over interconnection agreements; is that
- 20 right?
- 21 A. Generally speaking, yes.
- Q. And that the four commitments that we're
- 23 talking about, and specifically 7.1 through 7.4, all
- 24 deal with interconnection agreements; wouldn't you
- 25 agree?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Mr. McPhee, as part of your
- 3 experience, you're aware that Sprint filed
- 4 arbitrations in the nine Bell South states?
- 5 A. Yes, I am.
- 6 Q. And isn't it true that AT&T filed
- 7 motions to dismiss in those proceedings as well; is
- 8 that correct?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And in the 13 states, AT&T has filed
- 11 motions to dismiss Sprint's efforts to utilize the
- 12 merger commitments when we attempted to port the
- 13 Kentucky ICA; is that right?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. So in the 22 states that AT&T now
- 16 operates, AT&T has filed a Motion to Dismiss when
- 17 Sprint has elected to enforce a merger commitment; is
- 18 that right?
- 19 A. Via the state commission, I believe
- 20 that's correct.
- Q. Okay. AT&T filed a declaratory motion
- 22 with the FCC, and I'm -- I can't recall the exact
- 23 date, but sought a -- a declaration from the FCC
- 24 about whether or not bill-and-keep is a
- 25 state-specific price, are you familiar with that

- 1 proceeding?
- 2 A. Generally I'm aware of it.
- 3 Q. Okay. And -- and if as part of the
- 4 disputes that Sprint and AT&T had in the 13 states
- 5 was whether or not the bill-and-keep provision in the
- 6 Kentucky ICA was -- needed to be modified as a
- 7 state-specific price; is that right?
- 8 A. Under Merger Condition 7.1, there was a
- 9 dispute as to whether or not it was a pricing
- 10 consideration or not, that's correct.
- 11 Q. And Sprint's view was that it was not a
- 12 state-specific price; is that right?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. And AT&T's view was that it was a
- 15 state-specific price; is that right?
- 16 A. Yes, it is.
- 17 Q. And AT&T submitted that question to the
- 18 FCC; is that right?
- 19 A. I believe so, yes.
- Q. Okay. Has the FCC ever ruled on that
- 21 question?
- 22 A. Not to my knowledge.
- Q. Okay. Well -- and in fact, has AT&T
- 24 withdrawn its position?
- 25 A. That's my understanding.

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1 Q. Okay. So AT&T didn't wait for the FCC
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- 2 to provide an answer; is that right?
- 3 A. I guess -- I don't know if -- didn't
- 4 wait for the answer is the right way to characterize
- 5 it. FCC did withdraw it prior to the FCC issuing an
- 6 answer to it.
- 7 Q. Okay.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Let me just interrupt
- 9 for a second. Did you just say that the FCC withdrew
- 10 it or that AT&T withdrew it?
- 11 THE WITNESS: AT&T withdrew it.
- 12 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay.
- MR. PFAFF: In your testimony on
- 14 page 7 -- and first of all -- and this is for Mr. Bub
- 15 too, I am going to try to avoid getting into
- 16 Schedule 1 P, and I'm -- it's not my plan to talk
- 17 about confidential or proprietary. If I -- if I
- 18 stray or stumble, please let me know, okay?
- 19 MR. BUB: Thank you, Jeff.
- 20 BY MR. PFAFF:
- Q. You indicate that there were a number of
- 22 open issues between the parties on the changes
- 23 necessary to the Kentucky ICA; is that right?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And in your testimony, you've

- 1 included as your Schedule 1 P some example of part of
- 2 the disputes; is that right?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Okay. But you would agree with me that
- 5 there are other disputes other than those that you
- 6 have included in your schedule?
- 7 A. That's my understanding that there were
- 8 other sections of the contract that were still being
- 9 negotiated.
- 10 Q. Okay. So it's not your testimony that
- 11 only the disputes reflected on Schedule 1 P are those
- 12 that remain between the parties; is that right?
- 13 A. No. It was just to provide a sampling.
- 14 Q. All right. And -- and you acknowledge
- 15 in your rebuttal -- if you go to your rebuttal
- 16 testimony on page 4, line 23 -- you indicate that the
- 17 parties have continued working and have resolved most
- 18 issues but remain at impasse on others. Do you see
- 19 that?
- 20 A. I -- I see that, yes.
- 21 Q. Okay. And in fact, in -- in at least
- 22 four other states, the parties have submitted those
- 23 issues where we're at the impasse to the state
- 24 commissions, wouldn't you agree?
- 25 A. I believe that's correct, yes.

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1 Q. And you have provided -- personally, you
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- 2 have provided testimony in Indiana, Illinois,
- 3 Wisconsin and I believe Oklahoma; is that right?
- 4 A. I believe that's correct. I get foggy
- 5 on what's actually been filed, what we're continuing
- 6 to work on, but --
- 7 Q. All right. And I -- and I won't hold
- 8 you to -- to what states you've actually testified
- 9 in. But certainly, we were present in both Illinois
- 10 and Indiana --
- 11 A. Yes, that's true.
- 12 Q. -- for your testimony? And at least in
- 13 most of the states, there are some common issues that
- 14 remain at impasse; is that right?
- 15 A. Well, it seems that the -- the
- 16 arbitrations have somewhat changed over time, but
- 17 it's -- if what you're characterizing as the issues
- 18 that were brought before the Commission by Sprint
- 19 with regard to application of Merger Condition 7.1
- 20 and what should or should not be changed in that,
- 21 then -- then, yes, there was commonality between the
- 22 states on those issues.
- Q. Okay. Thank you. And one of the common
- 24 issues -- one of the common issues where the parties
- 25 continued to be at impasse was whether or not the

- 1 bill-and-keep arrangement was a state-specific price,
- 2 would you agree?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Okay. To your knowledge, have the
- 5 parties reached agreement on that issue even in
- 6 Missouri in -- in our discussions?
- 7 A. No, I'm not aware of any agreement.
- 8 Q. Okay. You're not aware of any -- any
- 9 place where AT&T has agreed in any state that
- 10 bill-and-keep was not a state-specific price; is that
- 11 right?
- 12 A. That's true.
- 13 Q. Okay. The other common issue, the --
- 14 one of the issues that Ms. Allen-Flood discussed was
- 15 the issue -- the definition of wireless local
- 16 traffic. Are you familiar with that issue?
- 17 A. Somewhat, yes.
- 18 Q. Okay. And you testified about that
- 19 issue in Illinois and Indiana; is that right?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Okay. And that is another issue who --
- 22 that seems to be common throughout the 13 states,
- 23 wouldn't you agree?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And to your knowledge, that issue hasn't

- been resolved in Missouri either, has it?
- 2 A. That's true.
- Q. Okay. And -- and I'd like to discuss
- 4 with you a little bit about the definition of
- 5 wireless local traffic that -- that Ms. Flood
- 6 indicated in her testimony or at least in her cross
- 7 that was still an open issue between the parties,
- 8 okay?
- 9 First of all, the -- and, of course,
- 10 we've spent some time and I -- I'm -- well, let me
- 11 just ask you, would you please characterize AT&T's
- 12 position on the definition of wireless local traffic
- or what the issue is there?
- 14 A. Well, I'd have to be going off memory
- 15 because, first off -- of all, I'm not involved in the
- 16 actual negotiations so I don't know what has evolved
- 17 over the past year. When I last really looked at the
- 18 issue, I think was in preparation for the Illinois
- 19 and Indiana arbitrations approximately a year ago.
- 20 And it's my understanding that there's a difference
- 21 in the parties' beliefs as to what type of traffic
- 22 should be subject to reciprocal compensation for
- 23 wireless local traffic.
- 24 AT&T believes that that wireless local
- 25 traffic should be only traffic that's exchanged

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1 directly between the parties with -- that -- when the
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- 2 call originates and terminates within the same
- 3 metropolitan -- major -- major trading area, MTA.
- 4 Sprint believes that any traffic that
- 5 starts with one party and ends with another party
- 6 regardless if it's carried by a third-party
- 7 interexchange carrier. So long as that call is
- 8 contained within the MTA, it's subject to reciprocal
- 9 compensation.
- 10 Q. Okay. I think you -- I think you
- 11 have -- and let me just -- let me just build on this
- 12 a little bit. The -- the issue is that there is
- 13 certain traffic that originates with AT&T as a local
- 14 carrier, okay, that is then -- that is then handed
- off to an interexchange carrier or what I'll call as
- 16 an IXC; is that correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And I'll -- I'm going to call that
- 19 one-plus as a shorthand, okay?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And then that call terminates to a
- 22 wireless carrier, but this all occurs within the same
- 23 MTA; is that right?
- A. At the beginning of the call, that's
- 25 correct.

- 1 Q. Okay. And AT&T's position is that
- 2 traffic that is handed off, one-plus, even if it's --
- 3 even if it terminates within the -- the same MTA, is
- 4 not subject to reciprocal compensation; is that
- 5 correct?
- 6 A. That's correct. It's -- AT&T does not
- 7 consider that an AT&T call. That's, at that point in
- 8 time, an IXC call.
- 9 Q. Okay. And Sprint takes the opposite
- 10 position, that traffic that we -- that originates
- 11 with an AT&T local exchange customer and that is
- 12 terminated intra-MTA regardless of whether or not
- 13 there's an intervening carrier, is subject to
- 14 reciprocal compensation. Do you -- is that how you
- 15 understand Sprint's position?
- 16 A. Generally, yes.
- 17 Q. Okay. And -- and that's an issue that
- 18 the parties -- that is still -- that was still under
- 19 dispute in the negotiations of the Kentucky ICA in
- 20 Missouri; is that right?
- 21 A. I don't know for a fact, but I wouldn't
- 22 be surprised.
- Q. Okay. Well, Ms. Flood testified that
- 24 the definition of wireless local traffic was still a
- 25 disputed issue.

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1 A. (Nodded head.) Okay.
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- Q. Okay. So you would agree that it was
- 3 probably still an issue --
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. -- again, because to your knowledge,
- 6 AT&T has never agreed to Sprint's position on that
- 7 issue; is that right?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Okay. And -- and again, you're a --
- 10 you're a policy expert for AT&T, right?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And you're a policy expert on
- interconnection-related matters?
- 14 A. Certain matters, that's correct.
- 15 Q. Okay. And are -- do you know if the
- 16 Missouri Commission has ruled on this issue?
- 17 A. I believe it has.
- 18 Q. Okay. And do you know how it ruled?
- 19 A. I believe it -- my general understanding
- 20 is that it deemed -- it ruled contrary to AT&T's
- 21 position.
- Q. It ruled in favor of Sprint's position;
- 23 is that right?
- 24 A. That's my understanding.
- Q. Okay. And this is from several years

- 1 back?
- 2 A. I believe so.
- 3 Q. Okay. You don't disagree that Sprint
- 4 has requested a three-year extension of its existing
- 5 agreements, do you?
- 6 A. I don't disagree that Sprint is seeking
- 7 that. I believe they requested it via their -- their
- 8 petition for arbitration.
- 9 Q. Well, but -- are you aware of the
- 10 correspondence that predated that? There, let me --
- 11 let me turn you to our petition. And it's our
- 12 letter dated, I think it was in November. And you'd
- 13 think I would have had all this committed to memory
- 14 by now.
- 15 A. November 25th?
- MR. SCHIFMAN: Exhibit 7.
- 17 BY MR. PFAFF:
- 18 Q. Okay. So yeah, Exhibit 7 to our
- 19 petition. You -- can you find that?
- 20 A. Okay. I think these are mixed up.
- 21 MR. BUB: Jeff, if it would help, we're
- 22 not disavowing the letter.
- MR. PFAFF: Okay, yeah.
- 24 THE WITNESS: Yeah, okay. I know what
- 25 you're talking about now.

- l BY MR. PFAFF:
- Q. Okay. That's fine. And you would also
- 3 agree that that letter was sent during the time the
- 4 arbitration window was opened?
- 5 A. That's my understanding, it was sent
- 6 during the time the arbitration window for the
- 7 negotiations of the Kentucky agreement was still
- 8 open.
- 9 Q. Okay. And Ms. Flood talked about
- 10 several conversations about Sprint's extension
- 11 request, and she indicated that it was contrary to
- 12 Sprint's policy? Do you take that as a -- a denial
- 13 of Sprint's request? I -- I didn't ask Ms. Flood
- 14 that, but...
- 15 A. I don't -- I don't know. I wasn't there
- 16 to characterize whether it was a request or if it's
- 17 just a discussion and it was just simply a difference
- 18 of views or positions. I don't -- Ms. Allen-Flood
- 19 has characterized that it wasn't a negotiation. It
- 20 sounds like it was asked and she responded to it.
- 21 Q. Okay. It was asked and she responded --
- 22 well, all right. Let me just -- let me move on.
- 23 AT&T did provide a letter -- actually,
- 24 you can keep that because the next exhibit, I think,
- 25 is the letter dated December 5. I'm sorry. That's

- 1 your testimony. That's Schedule 4. I'm sorry,
- 2 Scott.
- 3 A. I have it.
- Q. Okay. And that is AT&T's response to
- 5 Sprint's request; is that right?
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. Okay. And in essence, AT&T denied
- 8 Sprint's request because we didn't meet the deadline
- 9 under the accessible letter; is that right?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. Okay. Any other reason provided?
- 12 A. I believe that's the reason provided in
- 13 this letter.
- Q. Okay. And not to put too fine a point
- on it, but basically, we're just too late; is that
- 16 right?
- 17 A. With the request, that's correct.
- 18 Q. Okay. Now, this is the accessible
- 19 letter that is dated November 16th, 2007 and that's
- 20 attached to your direct testimony as Schedule 5. Is
- 21 that the accessible letter that's being discussed?
- 22 A. Yes, it is.
- Q. Okay. Have there been any other
- 24 accessible letters distributed by AT&T with respect
- 25 to the merger commitments?

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1 A. I -- I don't know. There's a lot of
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- 2 merger commitments that we're not talking about here
- 3 today.
- 4 Q. Any secret accessible letters that we
- 5 should know about or...
- 6 A. They'd be news to me as well.
- 7 Q. Okay. Do you know, has this accessible
- 8 letter ever been submitted to the FCC?
- 9 A. It's my understanding that the -- this
- 10 accessible letter was submitted to the FCC staff and
- 11 there was no objection to the letter.
- 12 Q. Do you know when that took place?
- 13 A. I don't have a specific date, but I -- I
- 14 believe it would be around November 2007.
- 15 Q. And was it submitted in the docket in
- 16 the proceeding?
- 17 A. I believe it was. I -- I do know that
- 18 we've been trying to pull it up in our records on the
- 19 docket and there's been some trouble in finding it.
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. But that's my understanding that it was.
- Q. Do you know if there's ever been an
- 23 order issued by the FCC officially adopting the
- 24 accessible letter?
- 25 A. No.

- 1 Q. Okay. Now, under the accessible letter,
- 2 if a carrier wanted to extend its current ICA and one
- 3 whose initial term had already expired, it needed to
- 4 submit its request prior to January 15th, is that
- 5 right?
- A. 2008, that's correct.
- 7 Q. Yeah, I'm sorry. Yes, January 15th
- 8 2008. And since Sprint didn't make its request at
- 9 least formally until the November 21, 2008
- 10 correspondence, it didn't conform to the accessible
- 11 letter according to AT&T?
- 12 A. With respect to Missouri, and yet Sprint
- 13 conformed to it with respect to eight other states.
- 14 Q. Okay. Those are the states in the Bell
- 15 South territory, right?
- 16 A. That's correct.
- 17 Q. Okay. And the reason cited was -- and
- 18 that was the reason cited in December 5th
- 19 correspondence that we didn't meet the terms of the
- 20 accessible letter. Do you -- could you pull out from
- 21 the petition the actual merger commitments? And I
- 22 think that is Exhibit 1.
- 23 A. I think they were attached to my
- 24 testimony as well.
- Q. You know what, I think you're right. I

- 1 think it is attached to your testimony.
- MR. SCHIFMAN: Schedule 3.
- 3 BY MR. PFAFF:
- 4 Q. Yeah, Schedule 3, page 150.
- 5 A. Okay.
- 6 Q. That's the Merger Commitment 4?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Okay. Can you tell me in that merger
- 9 commitment where it requires a carrier to make its
- 10 request by the January 15th deadline?
- 11 A. Those words aren't there.
- 12 Q. Okay. That date doesn't exist there,
- 13 does it?
- 14 A. It does not.
- Q. Okay. And it's somewhat of an arbitrary
- 16 date chosen by AT&T, wouldn't you agree?
- 17 A. It was a grace period provided by AT&T
- 18 to clarify the merger commitment in an effort to
- 19 reduce conflicts with other carriers including
- 20 Sprint.
- Q. And so Sprint had disagreed with AT&T's
- 22 interpretation of the Merger Commitment 4; is that
- 23 right?
- A. That's correct.
- Q. Okay. And we weren't the only ones; is

- 1 that right?
- A. That's true.
- 3 Q. Okay. Other carriers had disagreed as
- 4 well?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Okay. And AT&T selected January 15th
- 7 as -- as an arbitrary deadline -- strike that.
- 8 Wouldn't you agree that AT&T could have selected
- 9 another date? Couldn't AT&T have selected
- 10 February 15th?
- 11 A. I suppose AT&T could have, but it
- 12 provided for a 60-day grace period which is a
- 13 sufficient amount of time for carriers to take
- 14 advantage of extending their contracts.
- 15 Q. Do you know if AT&T ever filed this
- 16 accessible letter with the Missouri Commission?
- 17 A. I don't know.
- 18 Q. Now, you would also agree -- I'm going
- 19 to ask you to turn to Exhibit MGF-1, that's to
- 20 Mr. Felton's testimony. You probably don't have that
- 21 in front of you, do you?
- 22 A. No.
- Q. Here, I've got another copy. Okay. Do
- 24 you recognize -- I've handed you what is really MGF-1
- 25 is which is the -- an exhibit to Mr. Felton's

- 1 testimony. Do you see that?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Okay. And you recognize that as a
- 4 discovery response to Sprint from AT&T?
- 5 A. Yes, I do.
- 6 Q. Okay. Now, you would agree that AT&T
- 7 did process and grant extension requests even if they
- 8 received them after the January 15th deadline; is
- 9 that right?
- 10 A. Yes, and we would continue to do so.
- 11 Q. Okay. Well -- and actually, let me --
- 12 let me point out something. In your accessible
- 13 letter, the language actually says that you have to
- 14 send in -- if you look to your accessible letter,
- 15 Schedule 5. Are you there?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And the very last page.
- 18 A. Okay.
- 19 Q. And this is -- this Schedule 5 to his
- 20 testimony. It says "ICAs expiring prior to
- 21 January 15th, 2008, option 1." Do you see that?
- 22 A. The first bullet point on that page?
- Q. Yeah, I wouldn't call it a bullet point.
- 24 I'd -- it's an underlined section heading, I guess.
- 25 The -- the -- the page is extending ICAs' terms.

- 1 A. Okay. The second-to-last page. I was
- 2 on the last page.
- 3 Q. Second page? Oh, I'm sorry. They were
- 4 out of order, yeah.
- 5 A. Okay. I see it.
- 6 Q. Okay. So -- so the page has a section,
- 7 the heading "Extending ICAs' Terms," right?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Okay. And then the first section under
- 10 that is "ICAs expiring prior to January 15th,
- 11 2008" --
- 12 A. Yeah.
- 13 Q. -- do you see that? It said that "AT&T
- 14 would extend ICAs whose terms have already expired or
- 15 will expire prior to January 15th provided that AT&T
- 16 receives the carrier's request prior to January
- 17 15th." Do you see that? That's the first sentence.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Okay. Which would mean A -- have to --
- 20 AT&T would actually have to receive the request by
- 21 January 14th, right?
- 22 A. I guess so, yes.
- Q. Okay. And yet, when you look at --
- 24 turning back now to MGF-1, the discovery responses,
- 25 and if you would turn to page 19 of 23, and I know

- this is very small print. This is the way it was
- 2 produced to us.
- 3 A. Okay.
- Q. All right. If you'll look, do you see
- 5 the -- the listing of ComPartners, LLC?
- 6 A. I do.
- 7 Q. Okay. And if you look towards the
- 8 bottom, you see the states of Arkansas, Nevada and
- 9 Texas?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Okay. When did those three agreements
- 12 expire?
- 13 A. This says 12/31/2006.
- Q. Okay. And when did AT&T receive the
- 15 request?
- 16 A. This says January 15th, 2008.
- 17 Q. So under the -- the explicit language of
- 18 the accessible letter, ComPartners was late, wasn't
- 19 it?
- 20 A. If you're saying because the accessible
- 21 letter says prior to January 15th?
- 22 Q. Yes.
- 23 A. I guess they might be a day late --
- 24 Q. Okay.
- 25 A. -- or perhaps there's a day for

- 1 processing, I don't know.
- Q. All right. And if you look above, do
- 3 you see where there is a -- a Shelcom? It's like the
- 4 sixth line down, a California --
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. -- company? When did that agreement
- 7 expire?
- 8 A. November 6th, 2002.
- 9 Q. And -- and the request was received?
- 10 A. January 15th, 2008.
- 11 Q. And then the -- the carrier right below
- 12 that, FBN Indiana, when did that agreement expire?
- 13 A. 2004.
- 14 Q. Okay. And yet, when was the request
- 15 received?
- 16 A. January 15th, 2008.
- Q. And yet, AT&T extended their agreements,
- 18 isn't that right?
- 19 A. That's correct.
- Q. Okay. Now, if you'll turn to the next
- 21 page, and it's page 20 of 23.
- 22 A. Okay.
- 23 Q. And if you go about halfway down, you
- 24 see the company identified as Michigan Access?
- 25 A. I do.

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1 Q. Okay. And could you tell me when that
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- 2 agreement expired?
- 3 A. It says January 1st, 2007.
- 4 Q. And when was the request received?
- 5 A. On here it says May 9th, 2008.
- 6 Q. Okay. This wasn't a day late, was it?
- 7 A. According to this, no.
- 8 Q. Okay. And yet, the agreement was still
- 9 extended; is that right?
- 10 A. According to this, that's correct.
- 11 Q. And I want to -- and again, I'm sorry
- 12 for jumping around. But would you go back to your --
- 13 the accessible letter?
- 14 A. Okay.
- 15 Q. And back to the same page that we were
- 16 looking at, the -- and again, the paragraph entitled
- 17 "ICAs Expiring Prior to January 15th."
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Would you read the last sentence,
- 20 please?
- 21 A. "If no requests to extend the ICAs term
- 22 has been received by AT&T prior to January 15th,
- 23 2008, the ICA's term may not be extended pursuant to
- 24 the merger commitment."
- 25 Q. That seems pretty definite to me,

- 1 wouldn't you agree?
- 2 A. It -- it's a pretty firm statement.
- 3 Q. Okay. And AT&T made exceptions to that
- 4 statement, didn't they?
- 5 A. I don't know the circumstances behind
- 6 that extension. I know that Mr. Felton pointed out
- 7 another extension that we did do some research on and
- 8 were able to show that it -- it conformed to AT&T's
- 9 consistent application of the merger -- or of the
- 10 accessible letter.
- 11 Q. Yeah, A -- AT&T made an exception for
- 12 the -- for the Hunt Company; is that right?
- 13 A. I don't know that I would call it an
- 14 exception inasmuch as there seemed to have been some
- 15 miscommunication about the request date, the initial
- 16 request date.
- 17 Q. Okay. Didn't seem to follow the
- 18 accessible letter's terms, yet AT&T still granted the
- 19 extension request; is that right?
- 20 A. I think at the end of the day, it did
- 21 follow the accessible letter's terms.
- Q. Are there any other exceptions to the
- 23 accessible letter that you're aware of?
- A. I'm not aware of any.
- Q. Okay. Well, you're not aware of any

- 1 except the ones that we've talked about today?
- A. Again, I don't know the circumstances,
- 3 if there are any behind that. Like I said,
- 4 Mr. Felton pointed out the Hunt, quote, unquote,
- 5 exception, and we were able to justify its
- 6 application consistent with the accessible letter.
- 7 Q. AT&T's not willing to make an exception
- 8 to Sprint's request?
- 9 A. If AT&T were to, it would be the only
- 10 exception consciously granted, to my knowledge.
- 11 Q. Isn't it true that AT&T originally
- 12 denied -- I'm sorry. Let me back up for a second.
- 13 Verizon Wireless sought to extend its ICA last year;
- 14 is that right?
- 15 A. That's my understanding.
- 16 Q. Okay. And AT&T originally denied
- 17 Verizon Wireless' request; is that right?
- 18 A. I'm not overly familiar, but I -- I have
- 19 no reason to disagree with the characterization.
- Q. Well, you did attach the amendment to
- 21 the Verizon Wireless agreement; is that right?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And the language -- and I'm
- 24 sorry. This is Schedule 2 to your direct testimony.
- 25 Are you there?

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1 A. Yes, I am.
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- Q. And do you see where it starts off,
- 3 where the amendment says, "The interconnection
- 4 agreement dated April 2nd, 1997"? Do you see that --
- 5 did I read that wrong? I'm sorry. It says, "The
- 6 interconnection agreement dated April 2nd, 1997."
- 7 A. I see that.
- 8 Q. Okay. That means that AT&T and Verizon
- 9 Wireless had had an agreement that had been in effect
- 10 since 1997; is that right?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And I --
- 13 A. Well, wait. I'm sorry. Let me clarify.
- 14 They'd been operating under those terms. I don't
- 15 know if it was effective or if it had expired. I
- 16 don't know the -- the situation behind it, but it
- 17 appears that these same terms and conditions were
- 18 being used for the exchange of traffic between the
- 19 parties since 1997.
- Q. Well, you understood that AT&T -- I'm
- 21 sorry -- that Verizon Wireless initially filed a
- 22 complaint against AT&T in Missouri; do you understand
- 23 that?
- 24 A. That's my understanding.
- Q. And that formal -- well -- and so AT&T

- 1 ended up extending this agreement that it was
- 2 originally effective in 1997; is that right, by the
- 3 terms of this amendment?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. You're familiar with the Bell South
- 6 proceedings; is that right?
- 7 A. The Bell South, Sprint proceedings?
- 8 Q. Yes.
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Okay. And...
- 11 A. I'm familiar with some of them. I
- 12 understand that there have been some others that have
- 13 gone on, but the initial ones under Merger
- 14 Commitment -- the extension, the initial extensions,
- 15 yes.
- 16 Q. Well -- and again, Sprint sought to
- 17 extend its current ICAs in the Bell South territory
- 18 and AT&T opposed that; is that correct?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Okay. And Sprint filed arbitrations in
- 21 those nine states; is that right?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Now, the -- the reason that AT&T
- 24 had denied Sprint's request in the nine states was
- 25 because the original term had expired; is that right?

- 1 A. That's correct.
- Q. And AT&T's position at that time was
- 3 that -- that if the original term had expired, the
- 4 ICA could not be extended; is that right?
- 5 A. Consistent with the plain reading of the
- 6 merger commitment, that's correct.
- 7 Q. And this is the issue that was submitted
- 8 to the Kentucky Public Service Commission, right?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Okay. And that's one of the nine states
- 11 that happened to be the first state that ruled on
- 12 this issue; is that right?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- Q. Okay. And the Kentucky --
- 15 (OVERHEAD ANNOUNCEMENT.)
- 16 JUDGE DIPPELL: Apologize for the
- 17 interruption. Mr. Pfaff, do you have quite a bit
- 18 more cross-examination?
- 19 MR. PFAFF: Well, I am -- let me see
- 20 here. I would say I am two-thirds of the way
- 21 through, but I do have -- it's more than -- I'm sure
- 22 it's more than just ten or 15 minutes.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. And --
- 24 MR. BUB: And I don't have any redirect
- 25 at this point.

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1 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Well, I do have a
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- 2 few questions myself, and Mr. Voight does need to be
- 3 at the Commission's agenda at least for some of the
- 4 first part, so do you have maybe a convenient break
- 5 in your cross or --
- 6 MR. PFAFF: We can break here if you
- 7 would like.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay.
- 9 MR. PFAFF: This would be fine.
- 10 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Well, why don't
- 11 we go ahead, then, and go ahead and break for lunch
- 12 and then we can return back even if the agenda isn't
- 13 completed, but I think that we can take an hour and
- 14 five minutes if that -- if everyone thinks that would
- 15 be sufficient to grab some lunch.
- MR. PFAFF: Okay.
- 17 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Let's go ahead
- 18 and take a one-hour lunch break or an hour and five
- 19 minutes and come back at one o'clock. Let's go ahead
- 20 and go off the record.
- 21 (THE LUNCH RECESS WAS TAKEN.)
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. We're back on the
- 23 record returning after our lunch break, and we're
- 24 going to resume with questions from Mr. Pfaff.
- 25 MR. PFAFF: Thank you, Judge Dippell.

- 1 BY MR. PFAFF:
- Q. Mr. McPhee, I want to start off with
- 3 some questions with respect to the -- the nine Bell
- 4 South states. And again, you participated in the
- 5 activities in those states; is that correct?
- 6 A. In some of the activities, that's
- 7 correct.
- 8 Q. And my understanding is that only one
- 9 state, and that is the Kentucky Public Service
- 10 Commission, ever ultimately ruled on the substantive
- 11 issue of whether or not the agreements could be
- 12 extended, would you agree with that?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Okay. And it ruled in favor of Sprint.
- 15 Would you agree, then, that no state commission has
- 16 ever adopted AT&T's position on whether or not an ICA
- 17 whose term had expired could be extended under the
- 18 merger commitments?
- 19 A. I believe that that -- Kentucky was the
- 20 only state that ever issued an order, so that would
- 21 be true.
- Q. Okay. AT&T has argued in its Motion to
- 23 Dismiss that the Missouri Public Service Commission
- 24 does not have jurisdiction over merger commitments;
- 25 is that correct?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. And you -- you do agree, however, that
- 3 state commissions continue to exercise jurisdiction
- 4 over interconnection agreements?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And for those carriers whose ICAs have
- 7 been extended, AT&T and the requesting carrier have
- 8 filed amendments to their current ICAs; is that
- 9 right?
- 10 A. That's my understanding, yes.
- 11 O. And Verizon Wireless and AT&T filed an
- 12 amendment extending the Verizon Wireless ICA until
- 13 April 10th, 2007; is that right, in your Schedule 2
- 14 to your direct testimony?
- 15 A. It looks like the expiration date is
- 16 May 10, 2010; is that correct?
- 17 Q. That's correct.
- 18 A. Yeah.
- 19 Q. Now, has AT&T filed that amendment with
- 20 the Missouri Public Service Commission?
- 21 A. I believe so.
- Q. Okay. And has the -- has the Public
- 23 Service Commission approved that amendment?
- 24 A. I would believe so.
- Q. Okay. So it's -- it's correct that AT&T

- 1 doesn't object to a state commission's exercising
- 2 jurisdiction over interconnection agreements extended
- 3 under the merger commitments; is that right?
- 4 A. I'm sorry. Could you please restate
- 5 that?
- 6 Q. Well, AT&T doesn't have an objection to
- 7 submitting amended ICAs to the state commission for
- 8 approval?
- 9 A. True.
- 10 Q. Okay. Because they submitted the
- 11 Verizon wireless amendment to the Commission for
- 12 approval?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. So when the -- so when a requesting
- 15 carrier and AT&T agree on a merger extension or
- 16 merger commitment extension, the -- the extension
- 17 amendment is normally submitted to state commissions;
- 18 is that right?
- 19 A. That's my understanding, yes.
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. Just like any other contract provision
- 22 that the two parties may decide to agree upon.
- Q. So AT&T is okay with the state
- 24 exercising its jurisdiction in approving those
- 25 amendments?

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1 A. I believe at that point in time, once
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- 2 it's agreed upon, it becomes part of the contract
- 3 subject to state review.
- Q. Would you turn to your direct testimony,
- 5 please? You understand that Sprint requested an
- 6 extension of the existing agreements; is that right?
- 7 A. In November 2008, yes.
- 8 Q. Okay. Would you turn to page 4,
- 9 line 14?
- 10 A. Okay.
- 11 Q. Would you read that sentence, please?
- 12 A. "The term of an existing interconnection
- 13 agreement between the parties could not possibly be
- 14 an open issue with respect to the negotiation and
- 15 subsequent arbitration of a new interconnection
- 16 agreement."
- Q. Would you turn to page 3, line 7, that
- 18 sentence that starts "In addition"?
- 19 A. I see it.
- Q. Could you read that sentence?
- 21 A. "In addition, in case the Commission
- 22 nonetheless decides to arbitrate Sprint's complaint,
- 23 I will show that Sprint is not entitled to extend its
- 24 current ICAs under Merger Commitment 7.4 because
- 25 Sprint requested the extension too late."

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1 Q. So in -- in this sentence you're
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- 2 discussing Sprint's current ICAs; is that right?
- 3 A. I'm discussing what it is the parties
- 4 are operating under today, the terms of those ICAs
- 5 that -- that are expired and terminated.
- 6 Q. Well, you'll say that -- you said that
- 7 Sprint is not entitled to extend its current ICAs; is
- 8 that right?
- 9 A. It -- it does say that.
- 10 Q. Okay.
- 11 A. But I'm clarifying that it's an expired
- 12 and terminated contract.
- 13 Q. And on page 4 when you were talking
- 14 about the term of an existing interconnection
- 15 agreement, you were talking about the interconnection
- 16 agreements that the parties operate under now by your
- 17 own testimony; is that right?
- 18 A. The terms of those expired and
- 19 terminated agreements, that's correct, which is
- 20 different and apart from what was negotiated in the
- 21 Kentucky red lines as a new agreement going forward.
- 22 Q. And on page 19 -- I'm sorry. I'm sorry.
- 23 Page 13 of your direct testimony, line 19.
- 24 A. Okay.
- Q. Could you read the sentence that starts

- 1 "In order"?
- A. "In order to benefit from the expanded
- 3 application of the merger commitment, Sprint would
- 4 have had to request extension of the wireless
- 5 agreements prior to January 15th, 2008, which it did
- 6 not do."
- 7 Q. And these statements are all out of your
- 8 direct testimony; is that correct?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Okay. Could you point to me anywhere in
- 11 your direct testimony where you indicate that the
- 12 agreements between Sprint and AT&T are not current?
- 13 A. I don't know if I made that distinction
- 14 until it came up in my rebuttal testimony.
- 15 Q. Okay. Do you know -- in Schedule 4 on
- 16 your direct testimony, do you see that?
- 17 A. I do.
- 18 Q. Okay. Does it indicate there that the
- 19 ICAs could not be extended because they were not
- 20 current?
- 21 A. It didn't delve into that, no.
- Q. Okay. And this was AT&T's response to
- 23 Sprint when it sought to extend the existing ICAs?
- 24 A. That's correct, and AT&T's response that
- 25 Sprint was too late in its submission.

- 1 Q. Right. Are you aware of any other time
- 2 prior to your rebuttal testimony that AT&T has
- 3 informed Sprint that the ICAs cannot be extended
- 4 because they are not current?
- 5 A. I -- again, I wasn't a party to the
- 6 negotiations, so I don't know what was or was not
- 7 said. I personally was not aware of any such
- 8 communication.
- 9 Q. And no -- nothing in -- again, nothing
- 10 in your initial response of December 5th indicated
- 11 that the agreements are not current?
- 12 A. Well, yeah. I think that there was
- 13 reason enough with the accessible letter that we
- 14 didn't need to list out the various reasons behind
- 15 the decision.
- 16 Q. Well, if the agreements were not
- 17 current, why did it matter if our request was late?
- 18 A. I think, first and foremost, the -- the
- 19 request didn't conform to the accessible letter.
- 20 That's what Mr. Reed's organization looked at.
- Q. Well, let me ask it again. When Sprint
- 22 made its request, the response was you're not
- 23 entitled to extend because you didn't follow the
- 24 accessible letter, your request was late; is that
- 25 right?

- 1 A. Essentially, yes.
- 2 Q. Okay. Now, in addition, you've
- 3 raised -- in your rebuttal testimony you've raised a
- 4 new argument and a new reason why we can't extend
- 5 those ICAs; is that right?
- 6 A. Well, I guess it's the first time maybe
- 7 perhaps you've seen it communicated in a formal
- 8 manner, but I wouldn't call it a new reason. I would
- 9 just say that it -- they terminated in, I believe,
- 10 August 2007 from -- from the letters from AT&T, so it
- 11 shouldn't have been a big surprise that those
- 12 contracts had been terminated.
- Q. Well, it's new to the extent it wasn't
- 14 communicated on December 5th; is that right, that
- 15 the --
- 16 A. It's not -- it's not in the letter.
- 17 Q. Okay. And -- and -- all right. Now,
- 18 you have agreed that the parties have not entered
- 19 into replacement agreements; is that right?
- 20 A. That's right.
- Q. Okay. You also have agreed in your
- 22 testimony, and I believe Ms. Allen-Flood stated the
- 23 same thing, that the parties continue to operate
- 24 under those agreements; is that right?
- 25 A. Under the terms -- the same terms of

- those agreements, that's correct.
- Q. All right. And I'm sorry because when
- 3 we talk about "those agreements," we're talking about
- 4 the three agreements that Sprint has requested to
- 5 extend, you understand that?
- 6 A. The Missouri agreements that have been
- 7 expired and terminated, that's correct.
- 8 Q. Well, I guess we can dispute on whether
- 9 or not they've been terminated, but the agreements
- 10 that were -- that the parties agreed to and filed
- 11 with the Missouri Commission, correct, those three
- 12 agreements?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Okay.
- 15 A. The status quo has remained --
- 16 O. Okay.
- 17 A. -- with -- with regard to the operations
- 18 of the parties.
- 19 Q. Do you know if AT&T continues to send
- 20 Sprint PCS and Nextel bills for traffic under those
- 21 ICAs?
- 22 A. I would assume so. I don't know for a
- 23 fact.
- 24 O. And we agree that there's been no other
- 25 ICAs filed with the Missouri Public Service

- 1 Commission replacing those ICAs; is that right?
- 2 A. Right. Just because we say that the
- 3 contracts are expired and terminated doesn't mean
- 4 that AT&T is going to turn off the taps and quit
- 5 exchanging traffic. Common sense and reason would
- 6 apply that the parties would just continue to operate
- 7 in a similar manner until successor agreements are in
- 8 place.
- 9 It's the same as, you know, a striking a
- 10 union worker if they decide to continue to work
- 11 through negotiations. They don't have a contract,
- 12 but they're still going to get paid their wages.
- Q. Okay. Do you have any reason to believe
- 14 that Sprint is not interested in some sort of
- 15 successor agreement?
- 16 A. I believe Sprint is interested in a
- 17 success or agreement.
- 18 Q. Okay. In Mr. Bub's opening statement
- 19 and in your testimony, you discuss the fact that
- 20 the -- the Missouri -- the Sprint CLEC agreement
- 21 actually doesn't -- its term doesn't expire until, I
- 22 believe, is it August 2008?
- 23 A. I believe it's April 2008.
- 24 O. April -- thank you. Okay. And -- and
- 25 that was because that agreement was a  $\operatorname{--}$  was a

- 1 three-year term; is that right?
- 2 A. That's my understanding yes.
- 3 Q. Okay. And I'm sorry. Your -- this is
- 4 your testimony on page 7, the initial term -- I'm
- 5 sorry -- starting on line 9, you say the initial term
- of Sprint's CLEC agreement expired on April 29, 2008,
- 7 it wouldn't be eligible for an extension until April
- 8 29th, 2011. Is that your testimony?
- 9 A. That's on page 14, yes.
- 10 Q. 7 in your rebuttal.
- 11 A. Okay. I see it.
- 12 Q. I'm sorry?
- 13 A. I see that statement.
- 14 Q. All right. Now, is it your testimony
- today that Sprint's CLEC agreement can be extended?
- 16 A. No.
- Q. And why not?
- 18 A. Because it doesn't abide by the terms of
- 19 the accessible letter where AT&T offered additional
- 20 advantages for CLECs to take, and one of those was
- 21 the ability to extend their long expired agreements
- 22 for a period of three years from the request date.
- 23 In exchange for that expanded scope of
- 24 the merger condition, AT&T sought on a going-forward
- 25 basis that all requests be received prior to

- 1 expiration of an ICA, and that did not happen with
- 2 the Sprint CLEC agreement.
- 3 Q. In other words, Sprint was too late in
- 4 submitting its requests?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Okay. And you testified earlier that
- 7 the accessible letter was developed as a way to
- 8 resolve disputes between AT&T and requesting
- 9 carriers; is that right?
- 10 A. Yes, largely Sprint. There -- there was
- 11 a lot of miscommunication or disagreement about the
- 12 application of the plain terms of the merger
- 13 commitment --
- 14 Q. Oh.
- 15 A. -- so AT&T sought to clear up as much
- 16 controversy as possible by issuing that accessible
- 17 letter and allowing carriers a grace period to extend
- 18 their agreements even if they had been expired for
- 19 three years. So --
- 20 Q. Well --
- 21 A. And there have been no disputes since
- 22 that point in time with carriers other than Sprint.
- Q. The -- AT&T's original interpretation in
- 24 the Bell South states was that the extension request
- 25 or the extension years were to be added to the term

- 1 of the original contract; is that right?
- 2 A. That's what the merger commitment says
- 3 and that's -- that's the way AT&T applies it, yes.
- Q. Well, if -- if that's what the merger
- 5 commitment says, why isn't Sprint's request in
- 6 conformity with the merger commitment? Because all
- 7 we are asking for our CLEC is for our agreement whose
- 8 original term expires April -- or did expire
- 9 April 29th, 2008, okay, to extend that for three
- 10 years which was the position that AT&T took in the
- 11 Bell South states.
- 12 A. I guess that I'd respond by saying I
- 13 think Sprint's asking for it both ways. Sprint asked
- 14 initially to have the merger commitment interpreted
- in a manner to allow long expired agreements to be
- 16 extended. AT&T provided a grace period for all
- 17 carriers in order to treat them on a consistent basis
- 18 to do just that.
- 19 And in exchange, that letter clarified
- 20 going forward that this would be the way that
- 21 extensions would be handled, and now Sprint is coming
- 22 back again and asking for an extension that's too
- 23 late per the terms of that accessible letter.
- Q. Well, I'm going -- I'm going to ask
- 25 again, then. Is your testimony today that -- that

- 1 AT&T is unwilling to extend Sprint's CLEC
- 2 interconnection agreement?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Had --
- 5 A. I think --
- 6 Q. Well, there's no question on the table,
- 7 so I -- I'll let your attorney redirect you if he's
- 8 so inclined.
- 9 You heard your -- your attorney ask
- 10 Mr. Felton about whether negotiations took place over
- 11 the extension. Do you recall those questions?
- 12 A. Pertaining to the Kentucky agreement,
- 13 yes.
- Q. Well -- and actually, I'm sorry. My --
- 15 my question was slightly different, and that is he
- 16 asked Mr. Felton whether or not the parties
- 17 negotiated the terms of an extension. Do you recall
- 18 that?
- 19 A. Not specifically. I know that the
- 20 conversation revolved around a lot of that
- 21 discussion.
- 22 Q. Well, you understand from Ms. Felton --
- 23 I'm sorry -- from Ms. Lynn Allen-Flood's testimony
- 24 that Sprint had requested a three-year extension,
- 25 that she had responded, and that on December 5th,

- 1 AT&T provided its formal response. Do you agree with
- 2 all that?
- 3 A. Generally, yes.
- Q. Okay. So you agree that there's no
- 5 question that -- that Sprint asked for the extension?
- 6 A. Well, I think that's formalized in
- 7 Sprint's letter.
- 8 Q. Okay. Thank you. And you'd also agree
- 9 that AT&T denied Sprint's request; is that right?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. If Sprint would have asked again
- 12 following the denial, would AT&T's answer be any
- 13 different?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. Okay. And so would it done -- have done
- 16 any good for Sprint to continue to ask for the
- 17 extension?
- 18 A. Of those agreements, Sprint could have
- 19 asked. The answer would have been the same because
- 20 AT&T would have continued to apply the merger
- 21 commitment in a consistent manner.
- Q. Okay. So we -- we would have continued
- 23 to ask and AT&T would have continued to say no; is
- 24 that right, is that your testimony?
- 25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. Okay. So in other words, it would be
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- 2 futile for us to continue to ask, wouldn't you agree?
- 3 A. The question they were asking, yes.
- 4 Q. Okay. You've indicated that you
- 5 disagree that Sprint should be entitled to submit
- 6 this issue in the arbitration; is that right?
- 7 A. The issue of extending under the merger
- 8 commitment?
- 9 O. That's correct.
- 10 A. That's -- that's true.
- 11 Q. Have you as part of your preparation
- 12 reviewed Sprint's petition?
- 13 A. I believe I read through it.
- 14 Q. Okay. Did you review the DPL that was
- 15 included with the petition? And that's Exhibit 13.
- 16 A. Not very closely. I saw it. I looked
- 17 at it.
- 18 Q. Okay. And Sprint indicated that the
- 19 issue was whether or not we could extend for three
- 20 years under the merger commitment; is that right?
- 21 A. My understanding, that was Sprint's sole
- 22 issue.
- Q. Okay. And did AT&T -- I mean, sorry --
- 24 did Sprint misstate AT&T's position anywhere?
- A. Where? In the DPL?

- 1 Q. In the DPL.
- 2 A. Is AT&T's position just on that first
- 3 page?
- 4 Q. Yes.
- 5 A. It looks to be an accurate
- 6 representation of our position.
- 7 Q. Okay. And I'm sorry. Just for purposes
- 8 of -- you said it's -- it is "an accurate"?
- 9 A. It appears to be. I don't know that
- 10 it's -- I don't know that it's necessarily a position
- 11 inasmuch as it says, "AT&T has provided no written
- 12 response, but it's verbally claimed that Sprint's
- 13 extension request is out of time and cites a CLEC
- 14 accessible letter that it issued on November 16th,
- 15 2007." So there's not really a position there,
- 16 but -- but I don't disagree with what's written
- 17 there.
- 18 MR. PFAFF: Could I have just a quick
- 19 minute?
- 20 JUDGE DIPPELL: Certainly.
- 21 MR. PFAFF: Thank you.
- 22 BY MR. PFAFF:
- 23 Q. Just a couple further questions. Sprint
- 24 requested to extend its current ICAs for three years;
- 25 is that right? I mean, that's what you understand

- 1 our request to be?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Okay. And we -- we asked for that and
- 4 AT&T said no, okay? In your view, could Sprint have
- 5 done anything else to obtain the three-year
- 6 extensions?
- 7 A. Sure. They could have abided by the
- 8 terms of the accessible letter like Sprint did for
- 9 eight other states.
- 10 Q. Well -- but given the fact that the time
- 11 had already passed, I mean, that's where you stepped
- 12 into the -- the time machine.
- 13 A. Well, Sprint could have invoked Merger
- 14 Condition 7.3 which allows for negotiation from I
- 15 believe the Missouri agreements as a baseline.
- 16 Q. Okay. But specifically with respect to
- 17 Merger Commitment 7.4, okay, could Sprint have taken
- 18 any other action with the Missouri Public Service
- 19 Commission? Could we have filed a different type of
- 20 proceeding?
- 21 A. No, not to -- not to my knowledge.
- 22 MR. PFAFF: Okay. I think that's all I
- 23 have. Thank you, Mr. McPhee.
- 24 QUESTIONS BY JUDGE DIPPELL:
- Q. All right. I think I might just have a

- 1 question or two for you. I'm going to ask you to
- 2 look at your direct testimony on page 15.
- 3 A. Okay.
- 4 Q. At line 7 -- and I'll start actually
- 5 back on 6. That very last sentence says, "Having
- 6 availed itself of the benefits it and other CLECs
- 7 received from the resolution of the dispute over
- 8 AT&T's original interpretation of Merger Commitment
- 9 7.4, Sprint should now be permitted to -- should not
- 10 now be permitted to disavow the terms of that
- 11 resolution." Can you explain to me exactly what the
- 12 resolution was?
- 13 A. The resolution was essentially the term
- 14 spelled out in the accessible letter that was issued
- 15 by AT&T in November 2007. Through the plain language
- of the merger commitment, contracts are eligible for
- 17 extension from its initial expiration date, and
- 18 Sprint was contesting that with contracts that had
- 19 been expired for over a period of three years and
- 20 seeking an additional three-year extension above and
- 21 beyond the term, that the contract was already in
- 22 place as well as the time after.
- For example, if the contract incepted in
- 24 2001 and expired in 2004, they were seeking to have
- 25 it extend from 2007 going forward for another three

- 1 years on top of the initial terms.
- 2 The accessible letter clarified and gave
- 3 additional rights to carriers to have a grace period
- 4 to be able to do just that. If they were to exercise
- 5 their request within 60 days' time, AT&T would extend
- 6 those contracts for three years from the date of
- 7 request. So in exchange for that on a going-forward
- 8 basis, AT&T stated that all future extension requests
- 9 needed to be submitted prior to the expiration date
- 10 of a contract. So that was the -- that was the
- 11 resolution.
- 12 Q. And -- and so it was basically an
- 13 informal resolution, and by that I mean it wasn't a
- 14 resolution that the FCC or that any other state
- 15 commission imposed on AT&T?
- 16 A. That's correct. It was -- it was
- 17 designed to try to alleviate some of the tension
- 18 between AT&T and other carriers that had different
- 19 interpretations, and it was successful in doing just
- 20 that in that in the last year there haven't been any
- 21 other formal complaints with regard to merger
- 22 commitment extensions.
- Q. Okay. And in your rebuttal testimony,
- 24 page 6, you state that AT&T has handled over 650
- 25 extension requests under Merger Commitment 7.4. Do

- 1 you know if there have been others that AT&T has
- 2 denied for the same reason that it denied Sprint's
- 3 extension?
- 4 A. I'm unaware of any. I'm certainly not
- 5 aware of any that were denied and then contested on a
- 6 formal basis.
- 7 Q. Are you familiar with the three
- 8 agreements that have been approved here at the
- 9 Commission and -- and which Sprint is seeking to
- 10 extend?
- 11 A. I'm a little familiar with them. I -- I
- 12 believe I helped work on the CLEC agreement in
- 13 2004/2005 time period if it was part of the M2A
- 14 proceeding. The wireless agreement, though, I'm less
- 15 familiar with it. I have looked at them a little
- 16 bit.
- 17 Q. In -- let's see. I think it's in your
- 18 testimony, there's mention of -- yeah, in your
- 19 testimony there's mention of the Sprint Spectrum
- 20 agreement and the Nextel agreement each having a
- 21 clause -- this is in your rebuttal testimony, pages 9
- 22 and 10 -- each having a clause about the termination
- 23 of the contract. Do you know if the Sprint
- 24 communications interconnection agreement also has a
- 25 termination clause?

- 1 A. I don't know.
- 2 Q. You don't know? Okay.
- 3 A. No, I'd have to look at it.
- 4 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. I think that's
- 5 all I had for you. Mr. Voight, did you have any?
- 6 MR. VOIGHT: Just one or two.
- 7 QUESTIONS BY MR. VOIGHT:
- 8 Q. Mr. McPhee, my name is Bill Voight. I
- 9 wanted to follow up on Judge Dippell's question about
- 10 recurrent agreements. I just want to be clear what
- 11 your understanding is of the parties' current
- 12 arrangement. What I wrote down from opening
- 13 statements is there's a 1999 Nextel agreement, a 2003
- 14 Sprint PCS agreement, and a 2005 Sprint CLEC
- 15 agreement. Is that your understanding in -- I mean,
- 16 I don't know if it was negotiated in August or April
- 17 of '05, but is that your general understanding --
- 18 A. That's my general understanding, yes.
- 19 Q. -- of what the parties are operating
- 20 under? Is it all -- and I want to be clear, too, is
- 21 it AT&T's position that those agreements -- and I
- 22 don't know what word to use to characterize them, but
- 23 they're not current or they've been terminated? Is
- 24 that -- am I understanding that correctly?
- 25 A. I believe that I do discuss the -- not

- only are they expired, but they're terminated with
- 2 respect at least to the wireless agreements, that's
- 3 true. It doesn't mean -- we continue to abide by, I
- 4 guess, the terms of those agreements for lack of
- 5 anything else, because obviously the carriers are
- 6 still going to exchange traffic between them. But
- 7 from a legal perspective, they're -- they're
- 8 terminated and expired.
- 9 Q. There was some questions about the --
- 10 and I believe it was of -- of you, correct me if I'm
- 11 wrong about that, but I think -- there was some
- 12 questions about intra-MTA wireless traffic?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you recall that line of --
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. -- generally that line of questioning?
- 17 Could you tell me how the parties, that being the
- 18 AT&T -- AT&T Missouri and Sprint family of companies,
- 19 how -- or the -- I guess Sprint's a CLEC, how that
- 20 traffic -- excuse me, Sprint the wireless carrier,
- 21 the PCS contract, how that traffic is being exchanged
- 22 today and if it is intra-MTA, that travels --
- 23 traverses through an ICA, can you tell me the
- 24 compensation arrangement currently being abided by
- 25 today?

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1 A. I have to apologize. I -- I hadn't
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- 2 testified on that subject matter for this proceeding
- 3 and so I was going off of memory and I don't know
- 4 what the language in these agreements says in
- 5 Missouri today.
- 6 Q. Okay. And as a practical matter, you
- 7 don't know -- I -- I take it you don't know, when it
- 8 comes to payment or for the exchange of that traffic,
- 9 if it's being exchanged pursuant to access charges or
- 10 as a practical matter you don't know?
- 11 A. I would be making assumptions if I
- 12 answered that.
- 13 Q. Okay. All right. You were asked early
- 14 on in your cross-examination by counsel about -- I
- 15 believe it was a petition filed by the AT&T, I'll
- 16 call it family of companies at the FCC. And I didn't
- 17 quite catch it, but I think it had something to do
- 18 with state-specific pricing, but that petition was
- 19 never acted upon. You did show it to the FCC staff
- 20 or something of that nature. Can you elaborate on
- 21 what that petition -- what the nature of that was?
- 22 A. I believe it was a petition for
- 23 clarification on interpretation of whether or not --
- 24 at least in part, whether or not bill-and-keep was a
- 25 state-specific pricing provision subject to Merger

- 1 Condition 7.1 where we went to the FCC and asked for
- 2 essentially a clarification is -- do you agree or do
- 3 you disagree that that is a -- a state-specific
- 4 pricing arrangement.
- 5 Q. Can you tell me why it might not be?
- 6 A. I -- I see no reason why it shouldn't
- 7 be. I believe it absolutely should be a
- 8 state-specific pricing arrangement. It's -- it's
- 9 addressing intercarrier compensation that --
- 10 state-specific prices and state-specific traffic
- 11 levels and balances of traffic. I believe it should
- 12 be state-specific pricing. I believe it is.
- MR. VOIGHT: Thank you.
- 14 QUESTIONS BY JUDGE DIPPELL:
- 15 Q. And one last question for you,
- 16 Mr. McPhee, just so that I'm clear. You're not an
- 17 attorney, are you?
- 18 A. I am not.
- 19 Q. Okay. And you haven't had any law
- 20 school training or anything? I didn't see it in
- 21 your --
- 22 A. No.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: -- testimony. I
- 24 just wanted to double-check and not make any
- 25 assumptions.

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1 Okay. Are there further
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- 2 cross-examination questions based on mine and
- 3 Mr. Voigt's questions?
- 4 MR. PFAFF: I did have a couple, if you
- 5 don't mind.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Go ahead.
- 7 RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. PFAFF:
- 8 Q. Mr. McPhee, if you would -- you've still
- 9 got a copy of the petition in front of you, correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Okay. And -- and attached to that we
- 12 had attached the interconnection agreements that the
- 13 parties were operating under. And if you'll --
- 14 you'll -- if you can try to find it. It's fairly
- 15 early on, it's the Sprint Spectrum L.P. agreement.
- 16 A. Okay.
- 17 MR. PFAFF: And may I -- may I approach
- 18 and I can -- I can certainly show Mr. Bub the page?
- 19 JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes. It's page 8 of 66
- 20 in the wireless agreement. I can try to get him
- 21 close.
- 22 THE WITNESS: Is this it?
- 23 BY MR. PFAFF:
- 24 O. Yeah.
- 25 A. Okay.

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1 Q. And this is in response to a question by
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- 2 Mr. Voight. And I'll preface this by saying that,
- 3 you know, we won't look farther into the agreement,
- 4 but we'll just look at the definition and you can
- 5 reserve your claims about what further on in the
- 6 agreement it means, but do you see item 1.35 there?
- 7 A. Yes, I do.
- 8 Q. Okay. And the definition of local
- 9 traffic?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And could you read that, please?
- 12 A. "Local traffic, for the application of
- 13 reciprocal compensation, means authorized services
- 14 telecommunications traffic between SBC 13-state and a
- 15 CMRS provider that at the beginning of the call
- 16 originates and terminates within the same major
- 17 trading area as defined in 47 C.F.R., Section
- 18 24.202(A)."
- 19 Q. Okay. Thank you. And there's -- just
- 20 so we're clear, there's no language in that
- 21 definition that requires that the traffic be
- 22 exchanged directly, is there?
- 23 A. The word directly is not in there. I
- 24 would say that it's open to interpretation that it
- 25 talks about between two parties and that's what it

- 1 is.
- Q. Okay. In response to another question
- 3 from Mr. Voight, and actually I think by Judge
- 4 Dippell as well as to the -- the current status of
- 5 the agreement, did I -- did I hear you to say that
- 6 they're -- they're not all in the same place, that
- 7 they've not all been terminated? You seem to have a
- 8 distinction with the Sprint CLEC agreement.
- 9 A. I said I don't know off the top of my
- 10 head. I know that the Sprint CLEC agreement is newer
- 11 than the Sprint wireless agreements and I know that I
- 12 had some language in my rebuttal testimony specific
- 13 to the wireless agreements.
- 14 Q. Okay. But the -- your testimony does
- 15 indicate that the -- that the term of the Sprint CLEC
- 16 agreement ended in August; is that right?
- 17 A. April.
- 18 Q. I'm sorry. April, April of 2005; is
- 19 that right?
- 20 A. April 2008.
- Q. Okay. Let me step back. All right. So
- 22 April 2008. And you also agree that you -- you sent
- 23 the same notice for -- for all the agreements; is
- 24 that correct?
- 25 A. I believe that is correct.

- 1 MR. PFAFF: I would like to mark just
- one item, then, as Sprint Exhibit 7.
- 3 (EXHIBIT NO. 7 WAS MARKED FOR
- 4 IDENTIFICATION BY THE COURT REPORTER.)
- 5 BY MR. PFAFF:
- Q. Mr. McPhee, have you seen this before,
- 7 this document?
- A. It doesn't look familiar to me, no.
- 9 Q. Okay. Would you agree, though, it -- it
- 10 appears to be a notice to Sprint to amend its
- 11 interconnection agreement; would you agree with that?
- 12 MR. BUB: Your Honor, I don't know if
- 13 we've laid an adequate foundation. I think he
- 14 testified he's not familiar with this document.
- MR. PFAFF: Well, it's from AT&T and it
- 16 has AT&T letterhead on it and Mr. McPhee has
- 17 testified that he is the policy expert for AT&T on
- 18 interconnection matters.
- 19 JUDGE DIPPELL: Perhaps you could get a
- 20 little more of that information about the letter out
- 21 of him in identifying it.
- 22 BY MR. PFAFF:
- Q. All right. Mr. McPhee, could you read
- 24 to me what the upper right-hand corner says?
- 25 A. The return address is "AT&T Operations,

- 1 Inc., Four AT&T Plaza, 311 South Akard, Ninth Floor,
- 2 Dallas, Texas 75202."
- 3 Q. Okay. And who is this letter addressed
- 4 to?
- 5 A. Sprint, the manager of ICA solutions.
- 6 Q. Okay. And who is the -- who is the
- 7 letter from?
- 8 A. The Notices Manager.
- 9 Q. Okay. And do you understand that to be
- 10 the Notices Manager from AT&T?
- 11 A. That's what's represented here, yes.
- 12 Q. Okay. Does this look similar to the
- 13 form that AT&T would send out to carriers when they
- 14 were seeking amendment to interconnection agreements?
- 15 A. I'm not -- it looks like a letter from
- 16 AT&T.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- 18 A. I'm not aware of any --
- 19 Q. Well --
- 20 A. -- common form for letters for
- 21 amendments.
- Q. Well, would you allow the language in
- 23 the letter to speak for itself?
- MR. BUB: Your Honor, can I have a
- 25 chance to voir dire the witness before we go on and

- 1 cross-examine the substance of the letter?
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Yes.
- 3 VOIR DIRE BY MR. BUB:
- 4 Q. Mr. McPhee, can you authenticate this
- 5 letter for us? Do you have enough knowledge to
- 6 authenticate it?
- 7 A. I've never seen it before. I -- I -- I
- 8 see that it has a letterhead on it, I see that it's
- 9 from Dallas. I can see the words on it, but I -- as
- 10 far as any background or what it does, I would have
- 11 to read through it to know -- I mean, this is all I
- 12 know about this letter.
- Q. Did you send it?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. Anybody that worked for you send it?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. Can you testify today that it's actually
- 18 been sent?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 MR. BUB: I don't have any further
- 21 questions, your Honor.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: All right.
- 23 RECROSS-EXAMINATION RESUMED BY MR. PFAFF:
- 24 O. Mr. McPhee, is this a letter that is --
- 25 despite the fact that you didn't send it and you

- 1 don't know that it's sent, does this look -- does
- 2 this appear to be a letter that had been sent from
- 3 AT&T to Sprint?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. Okay. And what is the date of the
- 6 letter?
- 7 A. September 15th, 2008.
- 8 Q. Okay. Excuse me just a second. Do you
- 9 see in the amendment in the letter that it's
- 10 discussing House Bill 1779? Do you see that at the
- 11 bottom of the first paragraph?
- 12 MR. BUB: Your Honor, I still need to
- 13 object. You know, there's no foundation for this
- 14 letter being used in cross-examination. Our witness
- 15 already testified that he's never seen it, doesn't
- 16 know whether it was sent, doesn't -- you know, has an
- 17 AT&T logo, has an AT&T address, but he can't
- 18 authenticate it. He didn't send it, he doesn't know
- 19 about it.
- 20 MR. PFAFF: Well --
- 21 MR. BUB: So I object for its use in
- 22 cross-examination. It would be one thing if they
- 23 wanted to put it in their testimony and -- but, you
- 24 know, this witness has no knowledge of this letter
- 25 whatsoever.

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1 JUDGE DIPPELL: Your response?
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- 2 MR. PFAFF: Yes. Mr. McPhee has
- 3 testified that he's responsible and he's the policy
- 4 expert for AT&T on interconnection matters. I don't
- 5 expect that he would be aware of every single letter
- 6 that goes out over -- or under AT&T's letterhead;
- 7 however, I would expect that he would be able to have
- 8 general knowledge about the way that AT&T's attempts
- 9 to amend its agreements. And I -- I don't think
- 10 that's too much to ask for a witness who has his
- 11 responsibility.
- MR. BUB: I don't have any trouble with
- 13 him asking how -- generally how we attempt it, but my
- 14 problem is cross-examining him with a document that
- 15 he can't authenticate and he's not familiar with. So
- 16 if he wants to go that route and talk about how we
- 17 generally amended, I don't have any problem with that
- 18 generalizing, but I have problems with him
- 19 cross-examining him on a document that he can't
- 20 authenticate that has no foundation.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Do you have something?
- MR. PFAFF: Plus, it appears to be a
- 23 business record.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Well, I believe even a
- 25 business record has to have some proper foundation

- 1 laid. I'm going to have to sustain the objection. I
- 2 believe you can question him about the processes.
- 3 BY MR. PFAFF:
- Q. Okay. Mr. McPhee, what is AT&T's normal
- 5 process for amending interconnection agreements?
- 6 A. Actually, Ms. Allen-Flood might have
- 7 been a better person to ask. I'm not in the
- 8 day-to-day operations from the amendment procedures.
- 9 But my general understanding would be that the
- 10 parties, if they were to agree upon some provision
- 11 that needed to be updated in the contract, that they
- 12 would execute legal forms, legal -- legal documents
- 13 and an amendment containing contract language for the
- 14 purposes of amending a contract.
- 15 Q. And this would be the current contract
- 16 between the parties; is that right?
- 17 A. That would be my general understanding.
- 18 Q. Okay. There would be no need to amend
- 19 an -- an agreement that wasn't current, wouldn't you
- 20 agree?
- 21 A. Well, I don't know. I'm not an attorney
- 22 and I don't know if the nuance of a -- of a contract
- 23 where parties continue to operate under certain
- 24 terms. If -- if there are certain terms, whether the
- 25 contract has been expired or terminated, or is

- 1 current, if those can still be amended or not, I
- 2 don't know. I'd have to seek legal counsel to know
- 3 the nuances of how you might want to change a manner
- 4 in which you're operating on a going-forward basis
- 5 when you don't technically have a contract in place.
- 6 Q. Well, let me provide a hypothetical to
- 7 you, okay, that two carriers are operating under
- 8 contract one, okay? Subsequently, they enter into a
- 9 contract two that by its language supersedes and
- 10 replaces contract one. Do you understand me so far?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Okay. Would you feel in your experience
- 13 and knowledge that there would be any need to amend
- 14 contract one?
- 15 A. No, because they're not operating under
- 16 those terms and conditions whatsoever.
- 17 Q. So amendments are only necessary for
- 18 current and existing contracts, isn't that right?
- 19 A. I think amendments are possible for
- 20 changing the terms of how the parties are currently
- 21 operating.
- MR. PFAFF: Nothing further.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you. Is there any
- 24 redirect?
- MR. BUB: Just a couple questions, your

- 1 Honor. Do you care if I do it from here?
- JUDGE DIPPELL: No, go ahead, as long as
- 3 when you answer, you make sure you answer where I can
- 4 hear you. Thank you.
- 5 REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. BUB:
- 6 Q. Mr. McPhee, with both Mr. Voight and I
- 7 believe Mr. Pfaff, they asked you about -- a series
- 8 of questions about a filing that AT&T had made at the
- 9 FCC. I think Mr. Pfaff referred to it as a
- 10 declaratory ruling and I think you may have discussed
- 11 with Mr. Voight as it being a request for
- 12 clarification. Is that the same filing that you
- 13 discussed with both?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Okay. And you indicated that that
- 16 filing was pulled down by AT&T?
- 17 A. That's correct.
- 18 Q. Okay. Can you tell us why AT&T pulled
- 19 it down?
- 20 A. I believe the -- the reason why AT&T
- 21 pulled down that request was AT&T felt that it
- 22 didn't -- it didn't need the answer from the FCC
- 23 anymore because state commissions had ruled that
- 24 bill-and-keep and other pricing provisions were
- 25 indeed state-specific pricing. So we had received

- 1 Commission orders in a couple of states.
- Q. Okay. Before lunch, do you recall going
- 3 through an exhibit with Mr. Pfaff, it had all the
- 4 different CLECs it had requested, extension to those
- 5 interconnection agreements? Do you remember that
- 6 series of questions?
- 7 A. Yes, I do.
- 8 Q. And there was one identified I believe
- 9 as Michigan Access, Inc.?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Okay. And Mr. Pfaff had asked you about
- 12 the timing of that request to extend, and he
- 13 expressed a concern that -- that this request was
- 14 late but that somehow AT&T granted it anyway. Have
- 15 you had a chance over the lunch break to look into
- 16 that?
- 17 A. Yes, I did.
- 18 Q. What did you find?
- 19 A. I called my superior in Atlanta, and she
- 20 was able to pull up the database where this -- this
- 21 information came from for this data request. And she
- 22 said that Michigan Access, Inc. represented to AT&T
- that they sent a letter dated November 30th, 2007.
- 24 Q. And that's -- that's reflected -- is
- 25 that reflected in the document there?

- 1 A. It's not reflected in this document.
- 2 And the way it was explained was that once AT&T sent
- 3 out this accessible letter with this 60-day grace
- 4 period, AT&T received hundreds of requests for
- 5 extension.
- 6 And instead of challenging Michigan
- 7 Access on -- when we couldn't find the paperwork for
- 8 their request, AT&T made the decision to take
- 9 Michigan Access at their word that they submitted
- 10 their request on November 30th, 2007, which would
- 11 have enabled them to take advantage of the three-year
- 12 extension.
- Q. What was the date on -- on Michigan
- 14 Access, Inc.'s request?
- 15 A. The exhibit says it was May 9th, 2008,
- 16 but apparently it was November 30th, 2007.
- 17 Q. I do have one more question. I'm
- 18 looking for it. Okay. Mr. Pfaff also asked you a
- 19 question about what Sprint could have done or whether
- 20 Sprint could have done anything at the Missouri
- 21 Commission with respect to AT&T's denial of the
- 22 extension. Do you remember that question?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And you indicated that with
- 25  $\,$  respect to the extension under 7.4, there was no

- 1 remedy here at the Commission; is that right?
- 2 A. Not -- that's true, yeah.
- 3 Q. Okay. Is there someplace else Sprint
- 4 could have gone if it had a complaint about how AT&T
- 5 applied the FCC merger commitments?
- 6 A. Sprint could go to the FCC.
- 7 MR. BUB: Thank you. No further
- 8 questions, your Honor.
- 9 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Thank you. I
- 10 think, then, that that's all the questions for
- 11 Mr. McPhee, and you may be excused, sir. All right.
- 12 Are there any further witnesses?
- 13 (NO RESPONSE.)
- 14 JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Seeing none,
- 15 then I want to just clarify those three agreements,
- 16 those three Missouri agreements that we've been
- 17 discussing here today, those are the same agreements
- 18 that are attached to the petition, correct?
- 19 MR. SCHIFMAN: That's correct.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Exhibits 8, 9 and 10 of
- 21 the -- of the petition?
- 22 MR. SCHIFMAN: Yes, one is a Sprint
- 23 Spectrum, L.P. agreement, one is a Nextel West
- 24 agreement and the other is a Spring Communications
- 25 Company, L.P. agreement.

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1 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay.
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- 2 MR. SCHIFMAN: And the Spring
- 3 Communications Company, L.P. is what we've been
- 4 calling here Sprint CLEC.
- 5 JUDGE DIPPELL: Thank you for that
- 6 clarification too. I just wanted to ask the
- 7 attorneys to be sure and include a few things in
- 8 their briefs, which I'm sure you will. But one is
- 9 the -- the legalities surrounding the terminated
- 10 versus expired versus current versus operating under
- 11 versus terms and agreements of. If you could help me
- 12 out there with, like you say, the legal issues
- 13 surrounding all of those things.
- 14 Also -- and I think you've pretty much
- 15 already done this in your motions to dismiss and so
- 16 forth, but if you could hit it again in your briefs,
- 17 the Kentucky decision that has been referred to here
- 18 several times, if you could make it clear to me
- 19 the -- the facts of that situation and the exact
- 20 issue because I believe we all have a little bit of
- 21 different take on the issue that was decided there
- 22 and how that is or isn't similar to the Missouri
- 23 situation.
- 24 And if you can point me to the CLEC
- 25 agreement provision that talks about terminating --

- 1 I'm sure I can find it, but if you could point that
- 2 out, that would be good too, if there is one.
- 3 You might also want to discuss the legal
- 4 ramifications of your arguments around the -- if the
- 5 contract is extended, what date it's extended from.
- 6 You had different -- differing opinions there as
- 7 well, and I'm sure you're going to hit all this stuff
- 8 anyway, but...
- 9 And I think that's all the specific
- 10 things that -- that come to my mind that I wanted to
- 11 make sure you were -- helped me out with to make it
- 12 very clear to me where you stand on each of those and
- 13 what legal support you have for that.
- MR. SCHIFMAN: Okay, Judge.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Do you have a question,
- 16 Mr. Schifman?
- 17 MR. SCHIFMAN: Yes, I do have one
- 18 question. You know, the Commission has ruled on the
- 19 Motion to Dismiss.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Uh-huh.
- 21 MR. SCHIFMAN: A lot of the testimony
- 22 that the witnesses presented were -- was concerning
- 23 issues that were examined in the Motion to Dismiss.
- 24 For purposes of briefing now, I quess my question is
- 25 do we need to go over that stuff again or are we at

- 1 the point where the Commission has determined to, you
- 2 know, hold the arbitration and we're now just arguing
- 3 over, you know, the terms, the later terms?
- 4 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Well, I think
- 5 that's a good question, but my answer is I think the
- 6 Commission's decision is that they have jurisdiction
- 7 to arbitrate the negotiated agreements. So as far as
- 8 whether or not the Commission has jurisdiction, I
- 9 don't think you need to argue that again. However,
- 10 because basically AT&T's argument is that whether --
- 11 I mean, they're arguing on one -- on the one hand
- 12 that it wasn't negotiated and they're still arguing
- 13 that. I think that you do need to hit that point --
- MR. SCHIFMAN: Okay.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: -- with regard to
- 16 exactly what was negotiated because I think in -- as
- 17 arbitrator, in making the arbitration decision, I
- 18 need to know exactly what was negotiated and what
- 19 wasn't negotiated.
- 20 So while I don't think that at this
- 21 point the Commission will come back unless it's in
- 22 response to a request for rehearing, I don't think
- 23 the Commission will come back with a we don't have
- 24 jurisdiction to hear this. It is possible that I,
- 25 the arbitrator, or the Commission, subsequent to my

- 1 report, could find that this was -- wasn't negotiated
- or, you know, that term wasn't on the table or
- 3 whatever.
- 4 So I think it's still possible that that
- 5 could come back one way or the other, though I don't
- 6 think with regard to whether or not the Commission
- 7 itself has jurisdiction to hear it. I don't think
- 8 that issue could come back unless it's on rehearing.
- 9 MR. SCHIFMAN: That's helpful.
- 10 JUDGE DIPPELL: I probably made that
- 11 clear as mud.
- 12 MR. SCHIFMAN: No, I think that's
- 13 helpful. Thank you.
- MR. BUB: I got it too, thank you.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. Are there any
- 16 questions about the procedures from here on out?
- 17 MR. SCHIFMAN: The dates are still the
- 18 same as in your order?
- 19 JUDGE DIPPELL: Yeah, and I don't think
- 20 I specifically said anything official in the order
- 21 about the extension that you-all had agreed to with
- 22 regard to the Commission acting under the statutory
- 23 deadline.
- MR. SCHIFMAN: You did, I believe, in
- 25 the first paragraph, Judge.

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JUDGE DIPPELL: Oh, I did? Okay.
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- 2 MR. SCHIFMAN: Yes.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. But I'll just say
- 4 that again on the record that that date has
- 5 officially been waived and extended and the
- 6 subsequent dates and the Commission's rule to get
- 7 decisions out by that certain day or whatever the
- 8 deadline is, is waived and we will go with the dates
- 9 that were set out in the procedural order.
- 10 And so I have briefs due March 11th. Is
- 11 that going to still work out for everyone? I've
- 12 asked her to expedite the transcript, and she'll
- 13 probably have it to me tomorrow or the next day.
- MR. BUB: If we have an issue, we can
- 15 discuss it with counsel. Otherwise, I think you can
- 16 assume it's okay.
- 17 JUDGE DIPPELL: Okay. All right. And
- 18 so if -- if I get briefs on March 11th, then you can
- 19 expect to see the draft arbitration order or report,
- 20 I forget which it's called, on March 25th, and then
- 21 there will be comments due about that order on
- 22 April 3rd and then I'll issue a final order by
- 23 April 10th. And then the Commission will have its
- 24 chance to decide whether to adopt my ruling or to
- 25 hold their own proceedings or -- or change the order

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1 in some other fashion. And we've got their decision
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- 2 coming out May 12th.
- 3 They will be in the throes of a major
- 4 rate case during that time period, but -- and
- 5 statutorily rate cases take priority here, but I'm --
- 6 I'm hoping that there won't be a problem with those
- 7 deadlines, so...
- 8 Any other questions or issues before we
- 9 go off the record? I didn't give you-all a chance to
- 10 make closing statements, but since you're making --
- 11 filing briefs, I didn't think that was necessary
- 12 unless someone wants to say -- add something.
- MR. BUB: We're okay, your Honor.
- JUDGE DIPPELL: All right. Okay, then.
- 15 Thank you all very much. I appreciate those that
- 16 came in from out of town which I guess was everybody,
- 17 and those that came from out of state. And I
- 18 appreciate your participation. Have a safe trip home
- 19 and we can conclude this hearing and go off the
- 20 record.
- 21 (PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED.)

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1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
	CERTIFICATE OF REFORTER
2	STATE OF MISSOURI )
3	COUNTY OF COLE )
5	
6	I, PAMELA FICK, RMR, RPR, CSR, CCR #447,
7	within and for the State of Missouri, do hereby
8	certify that the foregoing proceedings were taken by
9	me to the best of my ability and thereafter reduced
10	to typewriting under my direction; that I am neither
11	counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the
12	parties to the action to which this hearing was
13	conducted, and further that I am not a relative or
14	employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the
15	parties thereto, nor financially or otherwise
16	interested in the outcome of the action.
17	
18	
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20	
21	PAMELA FICK, RMR, RPR, CSR, CCR #447
22	
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