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October 12, 2007

The Honorable John D. Dingell, Chairman The Honorable Edward J. Markey The Honorable Bart Stupak U.S. House of Representatives 2125 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-6115

Re: Qwest Communications International Inc.

Dear Representatives Dingell, Markey and Stupak:

I am writing to you on behalf of Edward A. Mueller, Chairman and CEO of Qwest Communications International Inc. ("Qwest"), and in response to your letter to Mr. Mueller dated October 2, 2007. Your letter asked for information concerning the process by which telecommunications carriers release customer records, as well as the extent of reported efforts by government agencies to obtain information about customers.

Qwest provides government agencies with customer record information when permitted to do so by law. In that regard, Qwest complies with lawful requests from government agencies for disclosure of communications and related records. Requests can be made pursuant to the federal Wiretap Act (18 U.S.C. § 2510), the Stored Communications Act (18 U.S.C. § 2701), the Pen Register and Trap and Trace Statute (18 U.S.C. § 3121), and the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (50 U.S.C. § 1801) ("FISA"). Non-emergency requests come in the form of subpoenas, court orders, search warrants, or national security letters. Disclosures can lawfully be made under other circumstances, including with the consent of the customer; to protect the rights or property of the provider; or where disclosure is made under emergency circumstances involving risk of death or serious physical injury, or risk to national security.

Qwest's compliance procedures, including its review of individual requests, emanate from the long-standing practices of its predecessor, U S WEST. Compliance is handled by experienced personnel who receive regular training and updates on the law. Qwest's security and legal personnel are involved in periodic reviews of Qwest's compliance and disclosure practices to ensure that those practices continue to be compatible with the law in this area. These personnel are also involved in reviewing any complicated or non-routine requests, and proposed responses

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thereto, and they consult with experienced outside counsel as appropriate. The rigor of our lawful compliance practices is critical and excellence is demanded of all who participate in this area of our business.

With respect to your questions concerning the reported efforts by government agencies to obtain customer information which you refer to in the first paragraph of your letter, as you may know, Qwest is a defendant in a lawsuit pending in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, captioned *United States v. Rabner*. At issue in that lawsuit is whether Qwest and other telecommunications providers are, consistent with applicable law, authorized to respond to subpoenas from the Attorney General of New Jersey seeking information similar to information that you requested in your letter. In *Rabner* and other similar cases, the U.S. Department of Justice has taken the position that any substantive response by Qwest or the other telecommunications providers would violate federal law and the U.S. Constitution. Accordingly, we believe it may be unlawful for us to respond substantively to those related questions.

We trust that this information is helpful and that you understand the constraints we are under with regard to the potential for violating constitutional and/or federal law in providing further response.

Singerely,

M Boen Richard N. Baer

cc: Honorable Joe Barton

Honorable Fred Upton Honorable Ed Whitfield