



STATE OF WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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June 13, 2025

**NOTICE AMENDING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE, REQUIRING FILING OF
SETTLEMENT DOCUMENTS, SETTING HEARING
(set for July 14, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.)**

And

**NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING
(set for Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at 6 p.m.)**

Phone: (253) 215-8782 • Meeting ID: 822 5650 2346# • Passcode: 563628#

Zoom: [Click here to join meeting](#)

RE: *In the Matter of the Joint Application of Northwest Fiber Holdco, LLC, and BCE Holding Corporation for an Order Approving the Transfer of Control of Ziplly Fiber Northwest, LLC to BCE Holding Corporation,*
Docket UT-240951

TO ALL PARTIES:

On December 12, 2024, Northwest Fiber Holdco, LLC (Northwest) and BCE Holding Corporation (BCE) filed a joint application requesting that the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) enter an order approving the transfer of control of Ziplly Fiber Northwest, LLC d/b/a Ziplly Fiber (Ziplly) to BCE.

On May 13, 2025, the Commission issued Order 02, Prehearing Conference Order; Notice of Hearing (Order 02), which established a procedural schedule. The procedural schedule allowed for a public comment hearing to be scheduled at a later date.

On June 11, 2025, the parties attended a settlement conference and informed the Commission that they had reached a settlement in principle and requested an expedited hearing on the

settlement.¹ The parties further agreed to the hearing being presided over by Administrative Law Judges, sitting without the Commissioners, who will issue an initial order after the hearing on the settlement.²

Based on the parties' agreement, the Commission finds good cause to amend the procedural schedule to expedite a hearing on the settlement in principle reached by the parties.³ Settlement, even if yet unapproved, potentially avoids the administrative expense of an evidentiary hearing. This would further both the public interest and the Commission's administrative needs. Built consensus is always welcome.

The Commission finds good cause to amend the procedural schedule as to allow an opportunity for the parties to finalize their settlement agreement. By July 7, 2025, the parties must file either a settlement agreement with supporting documentation, or proposed amendments to the procedural schedule.

Further, the Commission now establishes the time for a virtual public comment hearing to provide members of the public with an opportunity to present oral comments to the Commission on the issues raised in this matter. To participate by phone, please call (253) 215-8782 and enter Meeting ID: 822 5650 2346# and Passcode: 563628#. To participate Via Zoom, please use the following link: [Click here to join meeting](https://utc-wa-gov.zoom.us/j/88526924207?pwd=cwbUXEJuOhHWfaKopgrDWWE3HVVU8VW.1).⁴

THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That the parties must file a settlement agreement, with supporting documentation and testimony in support of the settlement, or proposed amendments to the procedural schedule no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, July 7, 2025.

¹ WAC 480-07-740(2)(c) ("Parties should inform the presiding administrative law judge as soon as they reach a settlement in principle and request that the commission suspend the procedural schedule or make other arrangements for filing and review of the parties' settlement agreement after the parties have executed it.").

² WAC 480-07-330(2) ("When serving alone as the presiding officer, the administrative law judge will enter one or more initial orders, unless the parties and the commission agree to waive an initial order, or applicable law prohibits entry of an initial order.").

³ WAC 480-07-385(b) (a "party may request that the commission suspend the procedural schedule through a letter or email . . . [t]he commission will grant such a request unless it is inconsistent with the public interest or the commission's administrative needs.").

⁴ <https://utc-wa-gov.zoom.us/j/88526924207?pwd=cwbUXEJuOhHWfaKopgrDWWE3HVVU8VW.1>.

THE COMMISSION GIVES FURTHER NOTICE That the procedural schedule issued in Order 02 is suspended, and the Commission will hear this matter virtually on July 14, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.; the presiding officers of this hearing will be the Administrative Law Judges assigned to this docket, who will subsequently enter an initial order.

THE COMMISSION GIVES FURTHER NOTICE That the Commission will hold virtual public comment hearings in this matter at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, July 16, 2025.

/s/ Bijan T. Hughes

BIJAN HUGHES

Administrative Law Judge

/s/ Jessica A. Kruszewski

JESSICA KRUSZEWSKI

Administrative Law Judge