

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
DOCKET NO. UT-100820
CENTURYLINK RESPONSES TO
INTEGRA'S FIRST SET OF INFORMATION REQUESTS
NOS. 1 THROUGH 156**

9. Separately for the legacy Qwest territory and legacy CenturyLink territory, describe any plans to seek exemption for rural telephone companies under Section 251(f)(1) of the Act post-merger. If there are no such plans, so state. To the extent that a CenturyLink ILEC has rural exemption status in any of the 14 states in which Qwest currently operates as a BOC, describe whether and to what extent the proposed merger will affect those rural exemptions.

CenturyLink Objections:

To the extent this request applies to matters other than Washington intrastate operations subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission, CenturyLink objects to such request as irrelevant, overly broad, unduly burdensome and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

CenturyLink Response:

Subject to and without waiving its objections, CenturyLink provides the following response, including Washington-specific information.

The Transaction will not affect the rural exemption status of CenturyLink's ILECs in Washington. The Transaction occurs at the parent company level and will not affect the corporate identity or existence of the CenturyLink ILECs. Therefore there will be no impact on the rights and obligations of the CenturyLink ILECs, including the status of their rural exemption.

Sponsor: John Felz, Director Regulatory Operations and Policy