

**STATE OF WASHINGTON**

UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

***1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 ● Olympia, Washington 98504-7250***

***(360) 664-1160 ● www.utc.wa.gov***

September 14, 2015

**NOTICE REVISING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

**NOTICE OF HEARING ON SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL**

**(Set for January 12, 2016)**

RE: *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC*, Docket UT-140597

TO ALL PARTIES:

On February 19, 2015, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission), on behalf of its Staff, initiated a complaint proceeding against Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC (CenturyLink). The complaint alleges violations of Commission rules arising from a 911 service outage affecting Washington residents on April 9-10, 2014. The Commission convened a prehearing conference in this docket on April 22, 2015, and adopted a procedural schedule to resolve the issues presented in the complaint. On August 6, 2015, the Commission issued a notice granting the parties request to revise the procedural schedule.

On September 10, 2015, Commission Staff and CenturyLink jointly filed with the Commission Staff a multiparty settlement agreement (Agreement) that would, if accepted, resolve all contested issues in this proceeding. The Public Counsel Unit is an intervenor in this docket but has not joined the Agreement.

On September 10, 2015, Staff, filed with the Commission a request to modify the procedural schedule in this matter. Staff states that all of the parties have agreed to the following revised procedural schedule:

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| **Event** | **Deadline** |
| Staff & Company testimony supporting settlement agreement | October 13, 2015 |
| Public Counsel responsive testimony | October 27, 2015 |
| Staff & Company rebuttal testimony | December 8, 2015 |
| Settlement hearing | January 12, 2016 |

The revised schedule is more protracted that the Commission prefers, but the parties explained that they need the time they propose because Public Counsel has not joined the settlement agreement. The parties thus believe they will need this time for Public Counsel to develop, and the other parties to examine, the evidence on which Public Counsel intends to rely to support its position. The Commission reluctantly finds that the parties have demonstrated good cause to revise the procedural schedule as they have proposed and grants the request. The Commission also requires the parties to file all cross-examination exhibits and to provide exhibit and witness lists and cross-examination time estimates by January 7, 2016.

**THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That the Commission grants the parties’ request and adopts the revised procedural schedule they propose to govern this proceeding with the addition that the parties must file all cross-examination exhibits and provide exhibit and witness lists and cross-examination time estimates by January 7, 2016.**

**THE COMMISSION GIVES FURTHER NOTICE That it will conduct a hearing on the proposed settlement agreement on January 12, 2016, beginning at 9:30 a.m., in Room 206, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington.**

GREGORY J. KOPTA

Administrative Law Judge