

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of Qwest's Petition to be Regulated Under an Alternative Form of Regulation Pursuant to RCW 80.36.135

DOCKET NO. UT-061625

CENTURLINK'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION AND DEFERRAL OF REQUIREMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONDITION 3 OF THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT IN DOCKET NO. UT-100820

1 In Docket No. UT-100820, the Commission entered Order 14, conditionally approving the merger of Qwest and CenturyLink. In accordance with Condition 3 of the Settlement Agreement in that proceeding between the companies, Commission Staff, and Public Counsel, CenturyLink, hereby asks the Commission to defer, extend, and eliminate certain reviews and filings requirements that would otherwise exist in this docket. Condition 3 provides, in relevant part, as follows:

AFOR Filing

- a. Prior to the expiration of the existing Qwest AFOR, CenturyLink will petition the Commission for the following:
 - i. deferral of the Qwest AFOR review until the filings required in the next section of this condition are made;
 - ii. extension of the Qwest AFOR period until the Commission issues an order on the filings required in the next section of this condition; and
 - iii. elimination of the CenturyTel/Embarq merger conditions requiring a results of operation filing within three years and an AFOR filing within five years of the close of the CenturyTel/Embarq merger.

2 The "Qwest AFOR" refers to the AFOR that was approved in this docket. The AFOR is scheduled to expire on November 30, 2011. Under the terms of the AFOR, review of the

AFOR was to commence on February 28, 2011, triggered by the filing of financial information by Qwest. However, on February 16, 2011 Qwest filed for an extension of the term of the AFOR, and suspension of the review and filing requirements in this docket. On February 18, 2011 the Commission granted that request.

- 3 Condition 3b. in the merger settlement requires CenturyLink to file pro forma results of operations in 2013 and 2014 (as modified by the Commission to add the 2013 requirement), and to file AFOR plans for all of the CenturyLink ILECs no sooner than April 1, 2014 and no later than April 1, 2015. Thus, under subparts i. and ii. above, the existing Qwest AFOR would continue until an order in the next AFOR dockets.
- 4 CenturyLink therefore asks the Commission for an extension of the Qwest AFOR period until the filings required under Condition 3. b. in the merger settlement agreement between the companies and Commission Staff and Public Counsel are made, and the Commission issues an order on those filings.
- 5 Respectfully submitted this 4th day of November 2011.

CENTURYLINK



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