



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

621 Woodland Square Loop S.E. • Lacey, Washington 98503  
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January 6, 2020

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING**

**and**

**NOTICE AMENDING TIME OF SETTLEMENT HEARING  
(Both Set for Monday, January 27, 2020, beginning at 10 a.m.)**

RE: *In the Matter of the Joint Application of Northwest Fiber, LLC, Frontier Communications Corporation, and Frontier Communications ILEC Holdings LLC for an Order Declining to Assert Jurisdiction Over, or, in the Alternative, Approving the Transfer of Control of Frontier Communications Northwest Inc. to Northwest Fiber, LLC, Docket UT-190574*

TO ALL PARTIES AND INTERESTED PERSONS:

On June 28, 2019, Northwest Fiber, LLC (Northwest Fiber), Frontier Communications Corporation (Frontier Parent) and Frontier Communications ILEC Holdings LLC (Frontier ILEC Holdings) (collectively, the Joint Applicants) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a Joint Application requesting that the Commission decline to assert jurisdiction over a transaction involving the transfer of control of Frontier Communications Northwest, Inc. (Frontier NW) from Frontier ILEC Holdings to Northwest Fiber, or, in the alternative, to approve the application for transfer.

On July 30, 2019, the Commission entered Order 01, Prehearing Conference Order; Notice of Hearing (Order 01), which established a procedural schedule for the docket. On September 13, 2019, the Commission issued a Notice Rescheduling Hearing and Modifying Procedural Schedule, rescheduling the evidentiary hearing to begin on January 27, 2020.

On November 8, 2019, Commission staff (Staff) filed a letter informing the Commission that the parties had reached a settlement in principle, and on November 12, 2019, the Commission issued a notice suspending the procedural schedule other than the evidentiary hearing to allow time for the parties to finalize the settlement.

On November 27, 2019, the Commission issued a notice adopting Staff's proposed revised procedural schedule, which required filing of settlement agreements and supporting testimony on December 19, 2019, and an evidentiary hearing on January 27, 2020. The notice stated that no earlier hearing date was available and that the Commission would determine whether to grant the Joint Applicants' request to proceed on a paper record after reviewing the settlement agreements and testimony.

The Commission has reviewed the three settlement agreements and supporting testimony filed on December 19, 2019, and has determined that conducting the evidentiary hearing as scheduled would assist the Commission in rendering its decision on whether to approve those agreements. The Commission also will provide members of the public with an opportunity to comment on the proposed transaction immediately prior to the evidentiary hearing on January 27, 2020.

**THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE of a hearing at which members of the public may provide comment on the proposed transaction on Monday, January 27, 2020, beginning at 10 a.m., in the hearing room of the Commission's offices, 621 Woodland Square Loop, Lacey, Washington 98503. Persons who wish to comment at that hearing may do so in person or via telephone by calling (360) 407-3810 and entering the Conference ID 9524028 when prompted. Persons who wish to comment at the hearing via video conference may contact the Commission's Records Center by phone at (360) 664-1234 or via email at [records@utc.wa.gov](mailto:records@utc.wa.gov) to make the appropriate arrangements.**

**THE COMMISSION GIVES FURTHER NOTICE That it will begin the evidentiary hearing on the settlement agreements on Monday, January 27, 2020, immediately following the public comment hearing.**

*/s/ Gregory J. Kopta*  
GREGORY J. KOPTA  
Administrative Law Judge