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Ron Krebs, Sheriff

Brendan Cowan, Director

March 15, 2016

WA State Utilities & Transportation Commission PO Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is intended to convey my support of the outcome of the multi-stakeholder process undertaken in late 2015 and early 2016, resulting in the final draft of the San Juan County Outage Communications Plan of CenturyLink, filed as Attachment B to 1-2016 Compliance Filing under docket UT-132-234.

The discussion and negotiation that led to the creation of this document was not always smooth, but in the end has led to a plan that San Juan County is comfortable with and supports. There is no doubt that if the procedures outlined in this plan had been in place during the November 2013 outage, the tenor and evolution of communication during that particular response would have been considerably different.

As with all plans, San Juan County views this document as a living procedure, subject to refinement, adjustment, and updating in the years to come. Hopefully this document is not an end point to what was a productive working group, including the state, the UTC, the AG's office, San Juan County, and CenturyLink- but is rather a starting point for ensuring adequate emergency communications for all providers, and all jurisdictions across the State of Washington.

Thanks to all who participated.

Regards,

Brendan Cowan

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