

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

Docket UT-181051

Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission v. CenturyLink Communications, LLC

**RESPONSE OF PUBLIC COUNSEL TO CENTURYLINK
DATA REQUEST NO. 35**

Request No: 35
Directed to: Public Counsel
Date Received: September 23, 2022
Date Produced: October 7, 2022
Prepared by: Brian Rosen
Witnesses: Brian Rosen

DATA REQUEST NO. 35.

At page 13 (lines 1-3) of his Cross-Answering Testimony, Mr. Rosen asserts that “[m]ajor telecom service providers used to qualify two or more vendors, insist the vendors conform to standards, and field more than one vendor’s devices in a network.” Did Comtech qualify two or more vendors, insist the vendors conform to standards, and field more than one vendor’s devices in a network upon learning that Sprint was going to discontinue providing 2 of Comtech’s 4 SS7 links in late 2017? Fully explain your response.

RESPONSE:

Mr. Rosen does not know what Comtech does with respect to supplier diversity in its networks. The record shows Comtech was aware of the fact that it was using only CenturyLink for the SS7 links, and that was a problem, but beyond that, Mr. Rosen does not know what supplier diversity standards and practices Comtech utilizes.