CenturyLink 2023 Planned Investments WAC 480-123-080 (2) CenturyTel of Cowiche, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink

Narrative

The focus of Carrier's service quality improvement plan in 2022 and 2023 will be to continue to maintain its existing facilities (i.e., repairing damaged cables and fibers), as well as upgrading any obsolete facilities as necessary to meet evolving service requirements and maintain high quality service. Carrier also expands its facilities as needed in order to serve new homes or subdivisions within its ETC service area. Carrier replaces and upgrades facilities and equipment on an "as needed" basis. Therefore, providing projected start and completion dates for small projects, and specific geographical locations of such projects, is very difficult.

Carrier was offered and accepted CAF II funding on a statewide basis. With this funding, the Washington companies were required to meet certain broadband enablement obligations. As of the end of 2021, the Washington companies have enabled the required locations and met the obligations of the CAF II program. Carrier will also receive RDOF funding beginning in 2022 and will begin enabling locations in order to meet the obligations set forth by the FCC under that program.

While 2023 capital and operating budgets are not yet finalized, Carrier anticipates that investments and expenditures will be made to enhance voice and broadband networks in its ETC service territory including RDOF funded areas.