Service Date: August 5, 2025

## BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application of Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC,

For an Order Authorizing the Transfer of Assets or a Determination That an Order Authorizing the Transfer is Not Required.

**DOCKET UT-250544** 

NOTICE OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE (Set for August 11, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.)

- On July 7, 2025, Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC (CenturyLink or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) an Application for an Order Authorizing the Transfer of Assets, or determination that an Order Authorizing the Transfer is not required, from CenturyLink to Forged Fiber 37, LLC ("AT&T") under RCW Chapter 80.12 and WAC Chapter 480-143 and any other authority as may be deemed necessary to effectuate the Transaction.
- In the Petition, CenturyLink asserts that combining CenturyLink's Mass Markets fiber assets with AT&T's significant financial resources, technical and managerial expertise, and experience from successfully operating the nation's largest consumer fiber business, will expand investment in critical connectivity infrastructure, accelerate the deployment of high-speed fiber internet access, and deliver additional benefits by enabling more consumers and small businesses to leverage this high-speed connectivity, all consistent with the Commission's promotion of economically efficient broadband infrastructure. The Petition also asserts the Transaction will give residents access to converged wireline and wireless broadband from a single provider, allowing continuous, reliable connectivity that services from separate providers cannot match.
- On July 8, 2025, CenturyLink submitted to the Commission current financial statements and a copy of the Purchase Agreement.
- STATUTORY AUTHORITY: The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter under Title 80 RCW and has legal authority to regulate telecommunication companies. The statutes that apply to this matter include Chapters 80.01 RCW, 80.04 RCW, and 80.36 RCW, including but not limited to RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.01.070, RCW 80.04.110, RCW 80.04.380, RCW and RCW 80.36.080. The rules that apply to this matter include those within Chapters WAC 480-120 relating to telecommunication companies.

- THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That it will hold a virtual prehearing conference in this matter at 2:00 p.m., on August 11, 2025. To attend via Zoom, please click here to join meeting. To attend by phone, please call (253) 215-8782 and enter the Meeting ID: 889 9197 4998# and Passcode: 198361#.
- The purpose of the prehearing conference is to consider requests for intervention, resolve scheduling matters including establishing dates for distributing evidence, to identify the issues in the proceeding, and determine other matters to assist the Commission in resolving the matter, as listed in WAC 480-07-430.
- INTERVENTION: Persons who wish to intervene should file a petition to intervene in writing at least three business days before the date of the prehearing conference. See WAC 480-07-355(a). The Commission will consider oral petitions to intervene during the conference, but strongly prefers written petitions to intervene. Party representatives must file a notice of appearance with the Commission no later than the business day before the conference. See WAC 480-07-345(2). Any party or witness in need of an interpreter or other assistance should fill out the form attached to this Notice and return it to the Commission. The Commission will set the time and place for any evidentiary hearings at the prehearing conference, on the record of a later conference or hearing session, or by later written notice.
- THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That any party who fails to attend or participate in the prehearing conference set by this Notice, or any other stage of this proceeding, may be held in default under RCW 34.05.440 and WAC 480-07-450.
- 9 The names and mailing addresses of all known parties and their known representatives are as follows:

Commission: Washington Utilities and Transportation

Commission P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504

<sup>1</sup> https://utc-wa-gov.zoom.us/j/88991974998?pwd=Y0JjQFVI6uma7vnPVNX2vZgXfbrfaV.1

Representative: Jeff Roberson

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Administrative Law Judge Connor Thompson, from the Commission's Administrative Law Division, will co-preside during this proceeding.<sup>2</sup>

- The Attorney General has designated Tad O'Neill from the Public Counsel Unit of the Washington Attorney General's Office (Public Counsel) to represent the public. You may use the Commission's address shown below for contacting Public Counsel, or you may contact Public Counsel directly by writing or calling the address or telephone number listed below.
- The Commission will give parties notice of any other procedural phase of the proceeding in writing or on the record, as appropriate during this proceeding.

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective August 5, 2025.

#### WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

# JEFF KILLIP Executive Director and Secretary

Inquiries may be addressed to:

Executive Director and Secretary Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250 (360) 664-1160 - or - Public Counsel Unit Office of the Attorney General 800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000 Seattle, WA 98104-3188 (206) 464-7744

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Judge Thompson can be reached at connor.thompson@utc.wa.gov or (360) 664-1346.

### NOTICE

Hearings are accessible to persons with disabilities and persons who do not speak English as a first language. If limited English-speaking or hearing-impaired parties or witnesses are involved in a hearing and need an interpreter, a qualified interpreter will be appointed at no cost to the party or witness.

If you need an interpreter, or have other special needs, please provide the information requested below via email to Stacey Brewster, paralegal, at <a href="mailto:stacey.brewster@utc.wa.gov">stacey.brewster@utc.wa.gov</a>:

### (PLEASE SUPPLY ALL REQUESTED INFORMATION)

Docket:	
Case Name:	
Hearing Date:	Hearing Location:
Primary Language:	
Hearing Impaired: (Yes)	(No)
Do you need a certified sign language interpreter:	
Visual	Tactile
Other type of assistance needed:	