



February 9, 2011

Jeff Goltz, Chairman
Patrick Oshie, Commissioner
Philip B. Jones, Commissioner
Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW
Olympia, WA 98504
Facsimile: (360) 586-1150

2011 FEB 23 11:11:02

Re: *In the Matter of the Joint Application of Qwest Communications International Inc. and CenturyTel, Inc. Docket UT-100820*

Dear Chairman Goltz and Commissioners Oshie and Jones:

Attached please find Resolution #11-13, which was adopted by the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians at its 2011 Winter Conference on February 3, 2011. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (503) 249-5770.

Sincerely,

Cleora Scott
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ENCLOSURE



2011 Winter Conference North Bend, Oregon

RESOLUTION #11 - 13

"SUPPORT IMPOSITION OF CONDITIONS TO ANY APPROVAL OF CENTURYLINK-QWEST MERGER"

PREAMBLE

We the members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties, Executive Orders, and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise to promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) are representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and tribes in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Northern California, and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of the ATNI; and

WHEREAS, on January 4, 2011, ATNI and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (Colville Tribes) submitted joint comments to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) on the proposed merger between CenturyLink, Inc. and Qwest Communications; and

WHEREAS, the joint ATNI-Colville Tribes comments asked that the following five changes be incorporated into a pending settlement agreement between the parties or, alternatively, that the WUTC impose the changes as conditions to any approval of the merger:

- (1) adding the communities of Keller and Inchelium to the five communities identified in agreed-to Condition 14 for which CenturyLink will enable broadband;
- (2) establish a Tribal-Liaison office to provide Washington State Indian tribes with a direct point of contact within CenturyLink for quality of service issues, inquiries, or other matters that arise within tribal lands that are dependent on or otherwise implicate CenturyLink's operations;
- (3) establish a training program available to Washington State Indian tribes to enable tribal personnel to service and make repairs to CenturyLink and legacy switches and infrastructure;
- (4) undertake promotional activities to inform residents on tribal lands in Washington State of the Enhanced Lifeline and Link-Up Assistance programs available for tribal members;
- (5) report to the WUTC on areas served by CenturyLink within Indian lands.

; and

WHEREAS, since the comments were submitted, CenturyLink has not agreed to incorporate any of the five changes into its proposed settlement agreement with the WUTC staff; and

WHEREAS, the five changes set forth in the comments, if incorporated, will benefit the Colville Tribes and other Washington State Indian tribes affected by the pending merger; and

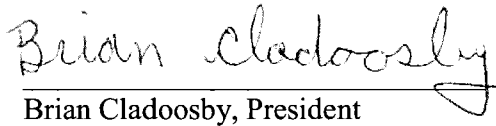
WHEREAS, ATNI has an interest in ensuring that all Washington State Indian tribes are given due consideration in any plans or financial commitments by CenturyLink to invest in broadband infrastructure should the WUTC approve the merger; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI hereby affirms its request that the WUTC impose the five changes set forth in the joint ATNI-Colville Tribes comments as conditions to any approval of the CenturyLink-Qwest merger; and

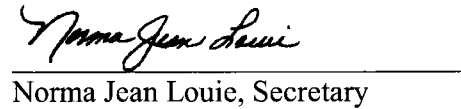
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI requests that, should the merger be approved, the WUTC ensure that all Washington State Indian tribes affected by the merger are given due consideration in any plans or financial commitments by CenturyLink to invest in broadband infrastructure in Washington State.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2011 Winter Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at The Mill Casino Hotel & RV Park, North Bend, Oregon on January 30 – February 3, 2011 with a quorum present.



Brian Cladoosby, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary