

[Service Date May 12, 2011]

May 12, 2011

**NOTICE REOPENING THE RECORD FOR LIMITED PURPOSE AND  
NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND  
(Responses due by May 18, 2011, at Noon)**

RE: *In the Matter of the Joint Application of Qwest Communications International Inc., and CenturyTel, Inc., for Approval of Indirect Transfer of Control of Qwest Corporation, Qwest Communications Company LLC, and Qwest LD Corp., Docket UT-100820*

TO ALL PARTIES:

On March 14, 2011, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) entered a final order, Order 14, in Docket UT-100820. One of the conditions in Order 14 requires CenturyLink to prepare and file a service quality improvement plan addressing the Colville Tribes' service quality claims, including broadband. This plan is due within 60 days after the merger's close. On May 6, 2011, CenturyLink filed a Motion for an Extension of Time Regarding the Reporting Requirement in Order 14, Paragraph 263 (Motion). The Motion notes that the Commission left open the possibility of an extension of this requirement in Footnote 528, "[i]f the Joint Applicants need more time to undertake a comprehensive review of the Tribes' needs. . . ." CenturyLink seeks a 120-day extension of this reporting condition such that the plan would be due no later than 180 days following the merger's close.

The Motion proposes that the extension align with the deadline for submitting the broadband deployment plan, which is also due within 180 days after the merger's close. In addition, CenturyLink argues that the Colville Reservation is vast, and a detailed analysis of the service quality issues on the Reservation will take some time to complete. CenturyLink reports that Commission Staff supports extending the

deadline for the broadband portion of the plan and takes no position on extension of the service quality portion. According to CenturyLink, neither Public Counsel nor the Colville Tribes oppose the extension request.

The Commission, on its own motion, reopens the record in this proceeding for the limited purpose of receipt of the Motion and responses to the Motion into evidence. Any party may respond to the Motion by Wednesday, **May 18, 2011, at Noon**. Both the Motion and any responses will become part of the evidentiary record in this docket. Given CenturyLink's representation of the Colville Tribes' position, the Commission does not anticipate that a response from the Tribes is necessary.

Sincerely,

MARGUERITE E. FRIEDLANDER  
Administrative Law Judge