

[Service Date July 26, 2011]

July 26, 2011

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 Order 14, approving the proposed acquisition of Qwest Communications International Inc. (Qwest) by CenturyLink, Inc. (CenturyLink) and adopting, subject to conditions, multiparty settlement agreements. One such agreement between Qwest, CenturyLink, the Commission's regulatory staff (Commission Staff), and the Public Counsel Section of the Washington Office of Attorney General, included a condition (Condition 16(a)) which requires CenturyLink to revise its Service Guarantee Program to increase the residential credits.

On July 22, 2011, CenturyLink filed revised tariff sheets under Advice Nos. WA COW 11-05, WA UTNW 11-05, WA ACQ 11-05, and WA CT 11-05 related to the augmentation of the Service Guarantee Program. The revised tariff sheets increase the credit for missed commitments and appointments from \$15 to \$25 for residential customers, as well as offer allowances for service interruptions.

Commission Staff has examined the tariff filings and has concluded that they are consistent with the terms of Order 14. Therefore, the Commission will permit the tariff sheets filed on July 22, 2011, in Advice Nos. WA COW 11-05, WA UTNW 11-05, WA ACQ 11-05, and WA CT 11-05 to become effective as filed with an effective date of July 29, 2011.

The Commission notes, however, that CenturyLink has filed a complaint in U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington, Case No. 2:11-CV-00633 (Complaint) challenging certain portions of Order 14 in this docket. The Commission notifies the

parties that nothing in the Commission's action or non-action reflected in this letter or the Commission's consideration of this or any other party filings after CenturyLink filed the Complaint can or should be construed as a waiver of any position the Commission has taken or may take in response to the Complaint, including but not limited to taking the position that any judicial decision invalidating any part of Order 14 must result in a remand to the Commission to determine whether and under what conditions the Commission should approve the Joint Application to approve the transfer of control of Qwest to CenturyLink.

Sincerely,

DAVID W. DANNER  
Executive Director and Secretary