BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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

COMMISSION STAFF'S MOTION FOR FURTHER EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO CENTURYLINK'S PETITION TO RELEASE ESCROWED FUNDS AND ELIMINATE FUTURE ESCROW PAYMENTS

1

On April 17, 2012, the Commission granted Staff's request to extend the deadline until May 7, 2012, to respond to CenturyLink's Petition for Release of Funds from Broadband Escrow Account and Elimination of Requirements for Future Escrow Payments (Escrow Petition). Staff had anticipated completing its analysis of the broadband investment projects supporting CenturyLink's reimbursement request by May 7. In its April 17th request for extension, Staff recognized that this was a compressed time period. It has become clear since then, that, with the resources Staff is able to devote to this matter, the process will require more time than Staff initially anticipated. Accordingly, Staff requests an extension of time until July 13, 2012, to complete its review and file a response to CenturyLink's petition.

2

To address potential prejudice to CenturyLink from the extension of time, Staff proposes also extending CenturyLink's deadline for payment of the next escrow installment, or staying the requirement, until Staff has completed its review and the Commission has

issued an order on CenturyLink's petition. Staff has consulted with CenturyLink and with Public Counsel, and they do not object to this motion.

DATED this 4th day of May, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

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