

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

**IN THE MATTER OF CENTURYLINK QC'S )  
PETITION FOR ELIMINATION OF THE )  
QWEST PERFORMANCE ASSURANCE )  
PLAN AND PERFORMANCE INDICATOR )  
DEFINITIONS )**

**ORDER GRANTING )  
APPROVAL OF THE )  
ELIMINATION OF THE )  
QWEST PERFORMANCE )  
ASSURANCE PLAN AND )  
PERFORMANCE INDICATOR )  
DEFINITIONS )**

**TC20-047**

On July 31, 2020, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a Petition for Elimination of the Qwest Performance Assurance Plan and Performance Indicator Definitions from Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC (CenturyLink). CenturyLink is requesting approval to eliminate the Qwest Performance Assurance Plan (PAP) and Performance Indicator Definitions (PID) and to modify all existing interconnection agreements that currently contain the PAPs and PIDs to incorporate these revisions. CenturyLink states the services covered by the PAPs and PIDs have declined as the Federal Communications Commission has reduced the unbundled network elements Regional Bell Operating Companies, such as CenturyLink, are required to offer Competitive Local Exchange Companies (CLECs), and as a result, payments to CLECs under the PAP have dwindled to less than \$200 for all CLECs combined in South Dakota. CenturyLink further states that the PAPs and the PIDs have served their purpose and the elimination would be just, reasonable, and not contrary to the public interest. On July 23, 2020, CenturyLink sent notice of this filing to all CLECs doing business in South Dakota. No CLECs contacted CenturyLink with any concerns.

On August 6, 2020, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of August 21, 2020, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On October 19, 2020, CenturyLink filed responses to Commission staff's data requests.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31 and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

On October 28, 2020, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered whether to approve CenturyLink's request to eliminate its PAP and PID, effective December 1, 2020, and whether to deem all existing interconnection agreements that currently contain the PAP and the PIDs to be modified to incorporate the revisions. The Commission voted unanimously to approve CenturyLink's request to eliminate its PAP and PID, effective December 1, 2020, and to deem all existing interconnection agreements that currently contain the PAP and the PIDs to be modified to incorporate these revisions without further filings and approvals. It is therefore

ORDERED, that CenturyLink's request to eliminate the PAP and the PIDs is hereby approved effective December 1, 2020. It is further

ORDERED, that all existing interconnection agreements that currently contain the PAP and the PIDs are deemed to be modified to incorporate the revisions in this Order, effective December 1, 2020, without the need for further filing or approvals.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 29th day of October 2020.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically.
By: <u>Karen E. Cremer</u>
Date: <u>10/29/20</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

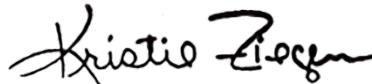
BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



GARY HANSON, Chairman



CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner



KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner