

EXHIBIT A

**AFFIDAVIT CONTAINING CERTIFICATIONS
AS REQUIRED BY WAC 480-123-060 AND WAC 480-123-070**

I, David D. Cole, being of lawful age and duly sworn, on my oath state that I am Executive Vice President and Controller for CenturyLink, Inc. and an officer of United Telephone Company of the Northwest d/b/a CenturyLink ("Company"), that I am authorized to execute this affidavit on behalf of the Company, and that the facts set forth in this affidavit and the accompanying reports are true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. On this basis, I hereby certify to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission ("Commission") for use by the Commission in providing the certification to the Federal Communications Commission and Universal Service Administrative Company required by 47 C.F.R. §54.314, as follows:

- (1) That all federal high-cost support received by the Company within Washington was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended;
- (2) That during the 2016 calendar year, the Company substantially met the applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules found in WAC 480-123-030(1)(h);
- (3) That during the 2016 calendar year, the Company had the ability to function in emergency situations under the standard found in WAC 480-123-030(1)(g), as such standard relates to functionality of wire line carriers in emergency situations; and
- (4) That during the 2016 calendar year, the Company publicized the availability of its applicable telephone assistance programs, such as Lifeline, in a manner reasonably designed to reach those likely to qualify for service, including residents of and federally recognized Indian Reservations within the Company's service area and, in a manner which, in the Company's judgment, included advertisements likely to reach those who are not current customers of the Company within the Company's designated service area.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

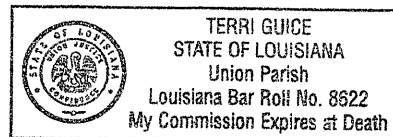
Dated this 27th day of June, 2017

Company: United Telephone Company of the Northwest d/b/a CenturyLink

By: [Signature]
David D. Cole, Executive Vice President and Controller

Subscribed to and sworn before me this 27th day of June, 2017 in Monroe, Louisiana.

[Signature]
Notary Public
TERRI Guice
Printed Name of Notary



My Commission Expires: At death