**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

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| In the Matter of the Petition of  THE CENTURYLINK COMPANIES – QWEST CORPORATION; CENTURYTEL OF WASHINGTON; CENTURYTEL OF INTERISLAND; CENTURYTEL OF COWICHE; AND UNITED TELEPHONE COMPANY OF THE NORTHWEST  To be Regulated Under an Alternative Form of Regulation Pursuant to RCW 80.36.135. | DOCKET NO. UT-130477  CENTURYLINK’S NARRATIVE IN SUPPORT OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH SPRINT |

1. The petitioning CenturyLink companies (“CenturyLink”) hereby file this Narrative in Support of Settlement Agreement pursuant to WAC 480-07-730 and 480-07-740. CenturyLink and Sprint previously filed their Settlement Agreement and request that it be approved and adopted by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (the “Commission”) in resolution of the disputed issues between them in this docket.
2. Pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement filed previously in this docket, CenturyLink requests that the Commission approve the Settlement, and approve the AFOR as being consistent with the public interest.
3. The Settlement Agreement provides that Sprint will withdraw from the proceeding, and CenturyLink will not oppose an informal Commission proceeding such as an educational workshop on the issue of IP-to-IP interconnection. CenturyLink reserves its rights in terms of what its advocacy in such a proceeding might be.
4. CenturyLink believes that the terms of the Agreement satisfy Sprint’s interests and concerns as stated in its petition to intervene, as Sprint is now free to ask the Commission to inquire into the issue of IP-to-IP interconnection, within the scope of the settlement agreement.
5. CenturyLink’s interests are satisfied in that the Settlement Agreement will aid in the timely and orderly regulatory review and approval of the AFOR without delay. Settlement with Sprint also minimizes risks and uncertainty associated with litigation in this matter and is beneficial to all Parties for that reason as well.

*6* CenturyLink offers, pursuant to WAC 480-07-740(2)(b), to present one or more witnesses to testify in support of the Settlement Agreement and answer questions concerning the Agreement’s details. Counsel for the Parties will also make themselves available as necessary to address any legal matters associated with the Agreement and to respond to any questions from the bench.

Dated this 19th day of

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|  | CENTURYLINK    Lisa A. Anderl (WSBA #13236)  CenturyLink  1600 7th Avenue, Room 1506  Seattle, Washington 98191  [Lisa.anderl@centurylink.com](mailto:Lisa.anderl@centurylink.com) |