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Philip E. Grate
State Regulatory Affairs Director
Public Policy

June 22, 2016

*Via Web Portal and
Overnight Delivery*

Steven V. King
Executive Director and Secretary
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W.
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

**Re: Docket No. UT-160030
United Telephone Company of the Northwest d/b/a CenturyLink
2016 Federal ETC Filing**

Dear Mr. King:

On November 18, 2011 the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) released its *USF/ICC Transformation Order* in WC Docket No. 10-90 et al. With that Order, the FCC began a transition to a national framework for certification of Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (“ETCs”) and set forth a standard set of information that all ETCs must file with the FCC by July 1st of each year. The Order also required ETCs to provide the same information to the respective state commissions.

The annual ETC reporting requirements are contained in 47 C.F.R. § 54.313 of the FCC’s rules. For the reporting of the data and certifications required by 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313 and 54.422, the FCC has developed a reporting template, Form 481, to be utilized by ETCs.

ETCs that accepted the Connect American Fund Phase II (“CAF II”) state-level commitment are required to report certain CAF II related information by July 1, 2016. Because the CAF II milestones are tracked at a total state level, for states where CenturyLink has multiple Study Areas, all CAF II related reporting will be found only on the Form 481 of the Study Area Code designated by USAC.

Attached are copies of the public and confidential versions of the Form 481 for United Telephone Company of the Northwest d/b/a CenturyLink as filed by CenturyLink with the FCC. The following information is confidential and CenturyLink requests that that information be treated as such in Washington.

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1. The outage information in response to § 54.313 (a)(2).
2. The detailed broadband speed availability information at the exchange level provided in response to 54.313(a)(7).

Consistent with past years, we request that you certify to the FCC pursuant to 47 C.F.R § 54.314 by October 1, 2016 in order for CenturyLink to continue receiving Federal high cost support in Washington.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (206) 345-6224 or via email at phil.grate@centurylink.com should you have any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

Philip E. Grate

PEG/jga

Enclosures