



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

621 Woodland Square Loop S.E. • Lacey, Washington 98503

P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

(360) 664-1160 • TTY 1-800-833-6384 or 711

June 14, 2024

**NOTICE MODIFYING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

RE: *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 Competitively Classified Pursuant to RCW 80.36.320, Docket UT-240029*

TO ALL PARTIES:

On January 8, 2024, the CenturyLink Companies – Qwest Corporation, CenturyTel of Washington, CenturyTel of Inter Island, CenturyTel of Cowiche, and United Telephone Company of the Northwest (collectively referred to as CenturyLink or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a Petition for Competitive Classification (Petition) pursuant to Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 80.36.320 and Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-121-061.

On February 5, 2024, the Commission issued Order 02, Prehearing Conference Order; Notice of Hearing, which established a procedural schedule, including an evidentiary hearing set for May 24, 2024.

On April 22, 2024, the Commission issued a Notice Modifying Procedural Schedule and Notice Rescheduling Evidentiary Hearing (First Notice). The First Notice extended the procedural schedule to allow the parties to focus on reaching a settlement and rescheduled the evidentiary hearing to June 14, 2024.

On May 14, 2024, the Commission issued a Second Notice Modifying Procedural Schedule and Notice Rescheduling Evidentiary Hearing (Second Notice). The Second Notice further extended the procedural schedule and rescheduled the evidentiary hearing to July 19, 2024.

On June 6, 2024, Commission staff (Staff) contacted the presiding officer to inform the Commission that Staff and CenturyLink (the Settling Parties) had reached a settlement in principle and to request that the Commission suspend the procedural schedule. Staff stated that the Settling Parties could file a formalized settlement and supporting testimony by July 1, 2024, if the Commission intended to retain the July 19, 2024, hearing for a potential settlement hearing.

On June 12, 2024, counsel for the Public Counsel Unit of the Attorney General's Office (Public Counsel) contacted the presiding officer informing them of the parties agreed, proposed schedule. The presiding officer subsequently clarified the deadline for final prehearing submissions with the parties.

The Commission finds good cause to adopt the parties' agreed, proposed schedule for the disposition of this case, with the exception of the deadline for final prehearing submissions, which is moved two days earlier. The hybrid evidentiary hearing remains on the calendar for July 19, 2024, although it is now deemed a settlement hearing. The Zoom call-in information for online attendees remains unchanged from the earlier notice.

**THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That the procedural schedule in Docket UT-240029 is modified as indicated in Appendix A, attached hereto.**

*/s/ Michael Howard*

Michael Howard

Administrative Law Judge

**Appendix A**

<b>EVENT</b>	<b>ORIGINAL DATE</b>	<b>NEW DATE</b>
Settlement and Supporting Testimony	n/a	July 1, 2024
Public Counsel Response Testimony	n/a	July 12, 2024
Cross-Examination Exhibits, Witness Lists, and Time Estimates	July 1, 2024	July 15, 2024
Settlement Hearing	July 19, 2024	July 19, 2024
Simultaneous Post-Hearing Briefs	August 7, 2024	August 7, 2024
Deadline for Entry of Final Order	September 2, 2024	September 2, 2024