



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

October 20, 2023

**NOTICE OF STATUS CONFERENCE**  
**(Set for Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.)**

RE: *In the Matter of the Petition of the CenturyLink Companies to Be Regulated Under an Alternative Form of Regulation Pursuant to RCW 80.36.135,*  
Docket UT-130477

TO ALL PARTIES:

On January 9, 2014, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) entered Order 04 approving and adopting settlement agreements between 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), Commission staff (Staff), the Public Counsel Unit of the Office of the Attorney General (Public Counsel), Sprint Nextel Corporation, and the United States Department of Defense and other federal executive agencies. The settlement agreements established an alternative form of regulation (AFOR) for the Company pursuant to RCW 80.36.135.

On June 5, 2020, CenturyLink, Staff, and Public Counsel (collectively Stipulating Parties) filed a stipulation for a one-year extension of the current AFOR plan in this docket, and a petition to modify the settlement and order approving the settlement in accordance with the extension.

On June 18, 2020, the Commission entered Order 07, granting the Petition and amending Order 04 as the Stipulating Parties requested.

On June 15, 2021, the Stipulating Parties filed a stipulation for a second one-year extension of the amended AFOR plan and petition to modify Order 04 accordingly (Second Petition).

On June 18, 2021, the Commission entered Order 08, granting the Second Petition and amending Order 04.

On June 6, 2022, CenturyLink filed a third petition for another one-year extension of the amended AFOR plan and to modify Order 04 accordingly (Third Petition).

On June 13, 2022, the Commission entered Order 09, granting the Third Petition and amending Order 04. In paragraph 10 of Order 09, the Commission stated, “We expect that this will be the last time we agree that continuing the current AFOR for an additional year will conserve Commission and party resources during what continue to be extraordinary times.”

On June 27, 2023, CenturyLink filed a fourth petition for yet another extension of the amended AFOR plan and to modify Order 04 accordingly (Fourth Petition).

On July 27, 2023, the Commission entered Order 10, granting the Fourth Petition and amending Order 04. Among other provisions, Order 10 required quarterly status conferences for the parties to update the Commission on the status of parties’ negotiations for the Company to file an agreed competitive classification petition or propose a new AFOR. The Commission now schedules the first such status conference.

**THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That it will hold a virtual status conference in this matter at 1:30 p.m., on November 1, 2023. To attend via Zoom, [click here to join meeting](#).<sup>1</sup> To attend by phone, please call (253) 215-8782 and enter the Meeting ID: 824 9343 9099# and Passcode: 769675#**

*/s/ Gregory J. Kopta*  
GREGORY J. KOPTA  
Administrative Law Judge

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<sup>1</sup> <https://utc-wa-gov.zoom.us/j/82493439099?pwd=qIPUo1pBZAeHGaJI0xu5fiM7vKUYEQ.1>.