Service Date: January 10, 2025



STATE OF WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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January 10, 2025

NOTICE SUSPENDING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

NOTICE REQUIRING FILING OF SETTLEMENT DOCUMENTS (By 5 p.m., February 7, 2025)

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 September 6, 2024, the Commission entered Order 06 rejecting a settlement agreement and extending the term of alternate form of regulatory agreement. On September 23, 2024, the Commission entered Order 07, updating the procedural schedule and setting an Evidentiary Hearing on November 18, 2024. On September 24, 2024, an Errata to Order 07 was served on the parties, amending the procedural schedule and moving the Evidentiary Hearing date to January 9-10, 2025.

On November 25, 2024, counsel for CenturyLink contacted the Commission on behalf of the parties to inform the Commission that at least two of the parties (the Settling Parties) had reached a settlement in principle, were working to obtain authorization for settlement, and intended to file a settlement agreement and testimony in support thereof. The Settling Parties requested that the Commission extend the procedural schedule to afford them time to memorialize the settlement.

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On December 3, 2024, the Commission issued Notice Extending the Procedural Schedule in this matter.

On December 23, 2024, the Commission received correspondence from Staff's counsel notifying the Commission that CenturyLink and Staff (Settling Parties) have agreed to a settlement and Public Counsel has no intention of opposing the settlement. The parties request the Procedural Schedule be suspended and that the Commission allow the parties until February 7, 2025, to submit the agreement and supporting testimony.

The Commission finds good cause to suspend the procedural schedule. The Settling Parties must file a settlement agreement and supporting documentation by 5 p.m. on February 7, 2025. The Commission further reserves March 12, 2025, for a Settlement Hearing if necessary.

THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That the procedural schedule in this matter is suspended and that the Settling Parties must file a settlement agreement and supporting documentation no later than February 7, 2025.

/s/ Connor Thompson CONNOR THOMPSON Administrative Law Judge