

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554**

In the Matter of)
)
Section 63.71 Application of)
)
Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC)
)
For Authority Pursuant to Section 214 of)
the Communications Act of 1934, As Amended,)
to Discontinue the Provision of Service)

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STATE OF WASH.
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COMMISSION

SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION

Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC (FRN: 0003-7467-57) (referred to herein as “CenturyLink”) hereby applies for authority pursuant to Section 63.71 of the Federal Communications Commission’s (Commission) rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, and Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214, to discontinue its CenturyLink Frame Relay service and CenturyLink Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) service throughout CenturyLink’s legacy Qwest Corporation’s territory.¹

CenturyLink submits the following information in support of its application:

1. Name and address of carrier

CenturyLink
100 CenturyLink Drive
Monroe, Louisiana 71203

2. Date of planned service discontinuance

As of October 15, 2018, or as soon thereafter as the necessary regulatory approvals can be obtained, CenturyLink will no longer offer these services to new customers or accept new

¹ CenturyLink initially requested to discontinue these services in an application filed on April 26, 2018, but subsequently withdrew that application on May 4, 2018.

orders from existing customers (except to the extent such orders are permitted by contract).

Existing customers of these services will be grandfathered as follows:

- Existing contracts for these services will not be renewed.
- Customers with a contract that expires *prior to March 1, 2019* may retain their CenturyLink QC Frame Relay and/or CenturyLink QC ATM service covered by that contract on a month-to-month basis per the terms of their contract until March 1, 2019.
- Customers with a contract that expires *after March 1, 2019* may retain their CenturyLink QC Frame Relay and/or CenturyLink QC ATM service covered by that contract until the expiration of that contract. At that time, the current service will be considered end-of-life, and will no longer be supported.

3. Points of geographic areas of service affected

CenturyLink seeks authority to discontinue the provision of CenturyLink QC Frame Relay and CenturyLink QC ATM services in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

4. Brief description of the type of services affected

CenturyLink QC Frame Relay Service is a connection-oriented packet-switched data service allowing for the interconnection of Local Area Networks (LAN) or other compatible customer equipment. CenturyLink QC ATM Service is a connection-oriented multiplexing and switching service based on ATM cell-based switching technology. This service uses fixed-length cells to support transmission of multiple types of traffic (such as data, voice and video) over a LAN or Wide Area Network (WAN).

CenturyLink has been working on the end-of-sale and end-of-life for its interstate and intrastate Frame Relay and ATM services for several years. The equipment associated with these services was discontinued by the manufacturer Alcatel-Lucent in 2014, and CenturyLink's stock of spare equipment has diminished.

CenturyLink currently has approximately 120 customers purchasing CenturyLink QC Frame Relay and CenturyLink QC ATM services. Current customers have the option of moving to alternative CenturyLink services, such as IQ Networking Private Port Service, which uses the latest technology to create a robust VPN service. Customers can also turn to numerous other providers of similar services.

5. Brief description of the dates and methods of notice to all affected customers

CenturyLink notified its retail customers of the planned discontinuance of CenturyLink's Frame Relay and ATM services by letter sent via U.S. Mail on April 25, 2018. Those customers were told that the proposed discontinuance would take effect on July 31, 2018, or as soon after that date as authorized by the relevant regulatory commissions. In light of CenturyLink's withdrawal of its original request for discontinuance, CenturyLink verbally notified these retail customers that the discontinuance schedule specified above will now take effect on October 15, 2018, or as soon after that date as authorized by the relevant regulatory commissions. A copy of the customer notification letter is appended hereto. (*See Attachment A.*)

CenturyLink notified its wholesale customers of the planned discontinuance of CenturyLink's Frame Relay and ATM services by email on August 1, 2018, through its Customer Communications Data Base (CCDB). Those customers were told that the proposed discontinuance would begin on October 15, 2018, or as soon after that date as authorized by the relevant regulatory commissions. (*See Attachment B.*) CenturyLink has used CCDB for several years for virtually all communications with its wholesale customers, including information on system outages, network notifications, product information, rate changes, and changes to other terms and conditions. When CenturyLink first began using this system, it notified all wholesale

customers that, going forward, it would be communicating important information about their wholesale services through the CCDB system.

6. Dominance of carrier with respect to the service to be discontinued

CenturyLink is a dominant carrier with regard to the services to be discontinued.

7. Service

In accordance with 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a), CenturyLink has mailed a copy of this application to the Governor and public utility commission of each affected state identified in Paragraph 3 above, to any federally-recognized Tribal Nations with authority over the Tribal lands in the geographic areas identified in Paragraph 3 above, as well as to the Special Assistant for Telecommunications under the Secretary of Defense.

Respectfully submitted,

CENTURYLINK

By:



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1099 New York Avenue, NW
Suite 250
Washington, DC 20001
Phone 303-992-2503
Craig.J.Brown@CenturyLink.com

Its Attorney

DATE: August 6, 2018



CenturyLink
100 CenturyLink Drive
Monroe, LA 71203

Date

Customer Name
Customer Address
City, State ZIP

Dear <Customer Name>,

Due to changing market conditions, we routinely evaluate our service offerings to ensure the highest quality services for our customers at the best value.

CenturyLink has been working on the end-of-sale and end-of-life for its interstate and intrastate Frame Relay and Asynchronous Transfer Mode ("ATM") services for several years. The equipment associated with these services has been discontinued by the manufacturer, and our stock of spare equipment has diminished. We are now ready to complete the discontinuance of these services for CenturyLink's Qwest Corporation affiliate. These services are in the following states: AZ, CO, IA, ID, MN, MT, ND, NE, NM, OR, SD, UT, WA and WY. This is a service to which you currently subscribe.

As of July 31, 2018, or as soon after that date as authorized by the relevant regulatory commissions, CenturyLink QC Frame Relay service and QC ATM service will no longer be available to new customers or for new orders from existing customers.

Existing customers of these services will be grandfathered as follows:

- Existing contracts for these services will not be renewed.
- Customers with a contract that expires prior to March 1, 2019 may retain their CenturyLink QC Frame Relay and/or QC ATM service covered by that contract on a month-to-month basis per the terms of their contract until March 1, 2019.
- Customers with a contract that expires after March 1, 2019 may retain their CenturyLink QC Frame Relay and/or QC ATM service covered by that contract until the expiration of that contract. At that time, the current service will be considered end-of-life, and will no longer be supported.

ATTACHMENT A

You are encouraged to migrate now to another CenturyLink private networking service, such as CenturyLink's MPLS VPN services or the cost-effective, dynamic networking solutions offered by CenturyLink's SD-WAN services or CenturyLink Metro Ethernet. Please do not delay migrating your service, as you will risk business disruption as a result of network service unavailability.

If you have any questions about these changes, please contact your CenturyLink Account Manager.

Thank you for choosing CenturyLink for your business needs—we value you as our customer.

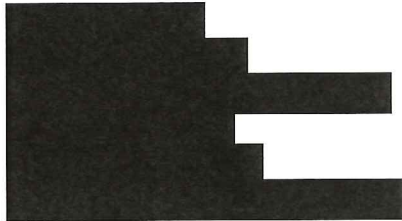
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The following statement is required by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC):

The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service (or reduction or impairment) unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than 30 days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. You may file your comments electronically through the FCC's Electronic Filing System using the docket number established in the Commission's public notice for this proceeding, or you may address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the § 63.71 Application of Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance (or reduction or impairment) upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.



August 1, 2018



TO: [Redacted]

Dear Customer,

Changing market conditions demand that we continually evaluate our service offerings for their ability to deliver the highest quality at the best value in light of the available latest technologies.

As you may already know, because of such an evaluation, the CenturyLink companies are approaching the end-of-sale and end-of-life for its interstate and intrastate Frame Relay and Asynchronous Transfer Mode ("ATM") services. The equipment associated with these services has been discontinued by the manufacturer and our stock of spare equipment has diminished. We are now ready to complete the discontinuance of these services for CenturyLink's Qwest Corporation ILEC Company ("CenturyLink QC"). These services, to which you may currently subscribe, have been offered in the following states: AZ, CO, IA, ID, MN, MT, ND, NE, NM, OR, SD, UT, WA and/or WY.

As of October 15, 2018, or as soon after that date as authorized by the relevant regulatory commissions, CenturyLink QC Frame Relay service and CenturyLink QC ATM service will no longer be available to new customers or for new orders from existing customers.

Existing customers of these services will be grandfathered as follows:

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ATTACHMENT B

You are encouraged to migrate now to another CenturyLink private networking service, such as CenturyLink's MPLS VPN services or to the cost-effective dynamic networking solutions offered by CenturyLink's SD-WAN services or CenturyLink Metro Ethernet. Please do not delay migrating your service, as you will risk business disruption due to network service unavailability.

If you have questions about these changes, please contact your CenturyLink Account Director.

Thank you for choosing CenturyLink as your service provider.

Sincerely,

CenturyLink

The following statement is required by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC):

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