

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

CENTURYLINK  
COMMUNICATIONS, LLC

Respondent.

DOCKET UT-181051

PUBLIC COUNSEL RESPONSE TO  
RESPONDENT CENTURYLINK  
COMMUNICATIONS, LLC'S  
MOTION FOR LEAVE TO ACCEPT  
LATE-FILED TESTIMONY

- I.* Pursuant to WAC 480-07-375(4), the Public Counsel Unit of the Washington State Attorney General's Office ("Public Counsel") responds to CenturyLink Communications, LLC's ("CenturyLink") Motion for Leave to Accept Late-Filed Testimony,<sup>1</sup> filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission ("Commission") on April 1, 2022. Public Counsel opposes CenturyLink's motion and requests that the Commission deny the motion. Public Counsel filed a Motion to Strike CenturyLink's response testimony on April 1, 2022. Public Counsel will not repeat its entire Motion to Strike here, but to summarize, Public Counsel objects to the admission of these testimonies because they were untimely filed and untimely served on

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<sup>1</sup> Motion for Leave to Accept Late-Filed Testimony, CenturyLink Communications (April 1, 2022) [hereinafter "CenturyLink Motion"].

parties.<sup>2</sup> CenturyLink failed to seek a continuance as required by rule,<sup>3</sup> so its untimely filing should be barred.

2. CenturyLink argues that it has good cause for the delay in filing its testimony,<sup>4</sup> but its only explanation for the missed deadline is that it failed to correctly calendar the due date.<sup>5</sup> This does not establish good cause. As a result, for the reasons set forth above and in its previously filed Motion to Strike, Public Counsel respectfully requests that the Commission deny CenturyLink's Motion for Leave to Accept Late-filed Testimony.

DATED this 7th day of April, 2022.

ROBERT W. FERGUSON  
Attorney General

/s/   
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<sup>2</sup> Motion to Strike Untimely Response Testimonies of CenturyLink Communications, Public Counsel Unit (April 1, 2022).

<sup>3</sup> WAC 480-07-385(3).

<sup>4</sup> CenturyLink Motion at 2.

<sup>5</sup> CenturyLink Motion at 1.