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1                               BEFORE THE WASHINGTON  
2                               UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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4 Washington Utilities and        )  
5 Transportation Commission,     )  
6                               Complainant,     )  
7        vs.                        ) Docket UT-140597  
8 QWEST CORPORATION d/b/a        )  
9 Century Link QC,                )  
10                               Respondent.     )

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12                               Prehearing Conference held before  
13                               Administrative Law Judge Gregory J. Kopta  
14   Volume I  
15   Pages 1 - 12

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17                               9:30 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.  
18   April 20, 2015  
19                               1300 South Evergreen Park Drive Southwest  
20   Olympia, Washington

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25 Mary M. Paradise, CSR 2469

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1                                   A P P E A R A N C E S

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3   ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:

4                   Gregory J. Kopta

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6   ON BEHALF OF WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND  
7       TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

8                   JULIAN BEATTIE  
9                   Assistant Attorney General  
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12                   Olympia, Washington 98504

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11   ON BEHALF OF CENTURY LINK QC

12                   LISA ANDERL  
13                   Century Link In-House Counsel  
14                   1600 Seventh Avenue  
15                   Suite 1506  
16                   Seattle, Washington 98191

15   ON BEHALF OF PUBLIC COUNSEL

16                   LISA W. GAFKEN  
17                   Assistant Attorney General  
18                   800 Fifth Avenue  
19                   Suite 2000  
20                   Seattle, Washington 98104

19   Also Present:       William H. Weinman, Assistant  
20                                   Director, Telecommunications,  
21                                   Washington Utilites &  
22                                   Transportation Commission

21                                   Susie Paul, Compliance  
22                                   Investigator, Consumer  
23                                   Protection and Communications,  
24                                   Washington Utilites &  
25                                   Transportation Commission

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1 Olympia, Washington; April 20, 2015

2 9:30 a.m.

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4 P R O C E E D I N G S

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6 JUDGE KOPTA: Let's be on the record. In  
7 docket UT-140597, caption Washington Utilities and  
8 Transportation Commission versus Qwest Corporation  
9 d/b/a Century Link QC.

10 I'm Gregory J. Kopta, the administrative  
11 law judge who will be presiding over this  
12 proceeding, and we are here on Monday, April 20th,  
13 2015 to conduct a prehearing conference. And the  
14 first order of business is to take appearances.  
15 Let's start with the complainant, the Commission.

16 MR. BEATTIE: Thank you, Judge Kopta. Is  
17 a short form --

18 JUDGE KOPTA: Short form is perfectly  
19 fine, as long as you filed something, and I know  
20 you have. So just name and party you're  
21 representing.

22 MR. BEATTIE: Judge Kopta, I'm looking  
23 through my file, and I notice I have not filed a  
24 notice of appearance.

25 JUDGE KOPTA: Shame on you. In

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1 anticipation of you filing one, why don't you just  
2 go ahead and give your name. I think we all know  
3 where you live.

4 MR. BEATTIE: Thank you, Judge. I'm  
5 Julian Beattie, assistant attorney general  
6 appearing on behalf of Commission staff.

7 JUDGE KOPTA: And for the company?

8 MS. ANDERL: Thank you, your Honor. Lisa  
9 Anderl, in-house attorney, appearing on behalf of  
10 Century Link. And I can -- I have not yet filed  
11 anything either, because of the respondent, and we  
12 didn't file an answer, but I can make sure that the  
13 court reporter gets my information afterwards.

14 JUDGE KOPTA: That would be fine. And for  
15 public counsel?

16 MS. GAFKEN: Good morning, my name is Lisa  
17 Gafken. I'm an assistant attorney general  
18 appearing on behalf of public counsel.

19 JUDGE KOPTA: Thank you. Anyone else  
20 wanting to make an appearance? Hearing none, we  
21 will go to interventions. I have not received any  
22 petitions to intervene, and as I understand it,  
23 there is no one on the bridge line or in the  
24 hearing room, but I will give them one last  
25 opportunity. If there is anyone who wants to seek

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1 to intervene in this proceeding?

2 Hearing nothing, then we go on to the  
3 next, which is a protective order. Is there a need  
4 for a protective order in this docket, Ms. Anderl?

5 MS. ANDERL: I would anticipate that there  
6 would be, yes. Just the regular protective order,  
7 not highly confidential.

8 JUDGE KOPTA: All right. I think that  
9 makes sense. And we will enter the standard  
10 protective order in this case.

11 Service. Anyone have a problem with  
12 getting electronic service?

13 MS. ANDERL: No objection.

14 JUDGE KOPTA: All right.

15 MS. GAFKEN: No objections from public  
16 counsel.

17 MR. BEATTIE: And the same from staff.

18 JUDGE KOPTA: Excellent. Discovery? Will  
19 there be a need for discovery in this matter?

20 MS. ANDERL: There may be.

21 JUDGE KOPTA: Okay. And we will make the  
22 Commission's discovery rules available. And I  
23 think that leads us to scheduling.

24 MS. ANDERL: I have one thing before that,  
25 your Honor.

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1 JUDGE KOPTA: Okay.

2 MS. ANDERL: In terms of the parties who  
3 should be served electronically, and then if there  
4 is a paper copy, who would get that. Do you want  
5 us to provide that now, or do you want us to just  
6 send an e-mail later this -- you know, by a certain  
7 date this week, with the list of who -- who should  
8 be on the e-service, et cetera?

9 JUDGE KOPTA: Yes, my hope is that we will  
10 just be serving electronically. I'm trying to get  
11 folks to move in that direction.

12 MS. ANDERL: No hard copies at all?

13 JUDGE KOPTA: No hard copies at all. And  
14 I would hope that the parties would be willing to  
15 do that with each other, unless there is a request  
16 for a hard copy.

17 So if you want to -- I mean, in addition  
18 to the attorneys that have spoken up here and any  
19 contacts in the prehearing conference notice that  
20 we have on file, if you wanted anyone other than  
21 that, then please let me know. Sooner rather than  
22 later.

23 Obviously, I would like to get out these  
24 orders promptly, so if you need some time to decide  
25 who that's going to be, then let me know now so

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1 that I'll know not to enter the order before you've  
2 gotten back to me.

3 MS. ANDERL: I know who I would like to  
4 include now.

5 JUDGE KOPTA: Okay.

6 MS. ANDERL: I feel like I'm on a game  
7 show.

8 JUDGE KOPTA: Name that tune.

9 MS. ANDERL: I'd like to try to solve that  
10 puzzle now. In addition to myself, I'd like to  
11 include three other people on the service list, and  
12 that would be Mark Reynolds, and his e-mail is  
13 Mark, dot, Reynolds, and then the Arabic numeral  
14 three at Century Link dot com.

15 Then Maura Peterson -- sorry, strike that.  
16 Maura Reynolds, first name is M-a-u-r-a, but her  
17 e-mail is Maura, dot, Peterson, P-e-t-e-r-s-o-n, at  
18 Century Link dot com, and John Felz. The last name  
19 is F-e-l-z, and his e-mail is John, dot, Felz at  
20 Century Link dot com.

21 JUDGE KOPTA: All right. And is everyone  
22 else okay with who we've got on the list?

23 Ms. Gafken, you're leaning forward.

24 MS. GAFKEN: I am leaning forward. I  
25 probably don't include this information on notice

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1 -- notices of appearance, but I will request that  
2 three other individuals receive e-mails as well.  
3 And if it's all the same, I think it would be  
4 easier and more efficient if I sent you an e-mail  
5 with those addresses.

6 They are Carol Baker, Chanda Mak and  
7 Stefanie Johnson, all in quantities. But I'll send  
8 you the e-mails to you immediately after the  
9 prehearing conference.

10 JUDGE KOPTA: That would be fine. Thank  
11 you. Anyone else, or staff, in addition to  
12 yourself, Mr. Beattie?

13 MR. BEATTIE: No, thank you, Judge.

14 JUDGE KOPTA: All right. Then, now, I  
15 believe we're ready to talk about scheduling. Have  
16 the parties had a chance to discuss that among  
17 themselves?

18 MS. ANDERL: Yes.

19 MR. BEATTIE: Judge, we have had a phone  
20 conference to discuss scheduling, and came up with  
21 a proposed procedural schedule, which I did send to  
22 Kippy Walker, and I don't know if she's  
23 communicated any of that to you.

24 JUDGE KOPTA: She has not.

25 MR. BEATTIE: Okay. So Bill Weinman is

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1 handing up a copy of the proposed schedule.

2 Ms. walker represented to me that these dates look  
3 okay from -- in terms of availability.

4 JUDGE KOPTA: Okay. Generally, if the  
5 parties are okay with dates, I don't have a problem  
6 with them, as long as we don't have a statutory  
7 deadline. Although, I believe most complaints are  
8 supposed to be resolved within ten months, so this  
9 would carry us past that time. As long as the  
10 company doesn't have an objection to taking longer  
11 than the ten months in 80.04.110, then --

12 MS. ANDERL: That's fine, your Honor. I  
13 don't think there's any statutory consequence if it  
14 takes longer anyway, but we don't object to the  
15 schedule and the appropriate amount of time after  
16 the conclusion of hearings, if any, for the -- and  
17 briefing for the Commission to issue an order.  
18 That's fine.

19 JUDGE KOPTA: Okay.

20 MS. ANDERL: I do have one little hiccup  
21 that I just noticed, and that is I believe we have  
22 our first settlement conference scheduled for June  
23 9th.

24 JUDGE KOPTA: Yes.

25 MS. ANDERL: And the Commission just

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1 issued a notice setting a workshop in a case that  
2 we may all be interested in. It has to do with the  
3 current practices in the industry across all  
4 industries regarding credit card payments by  
5 customers.

6 JUDGE KOPTA: So we did, yes.

7 MS. ANDERL: So it could be -- that could  
8 pose a conflict.

9 JUDGE KOPTA: Is that something that you  
10 can resolve, if we took a little time this morning?

11 MS. ANDERL: Yes, I'd be happy to talk off  
12 the record. I think we're free, you know, one day  
13 on either side. It was June 9th, it was a just a  
14 nice day -- it was just a day that everybody was  
15 available, but I would be happy to see if we can  
16 work on an alternate day.

17 JUDGE KOPTA: Okay. And as far as you  
18 know, these hearing dates also work for the  
19 commissioners? They will be planning to sit on in  
20 this if there is a hearing?

21 MR. BEATTIE: That's correct. That's what  
22 Ms. Walker told me.

23 JUDGE KOPTA: That's the only other real  
24 constraint here. Why don't we go off the record  
25 briefly so that you can see about that first date

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1 and then we can finalize the rest of this. So  
2 we'll be off the record.

3 (Discussion off the record.)

4 JUDGE KOPTA: We'll be back on the record.

5 After a discussion among the parties, it's  
6 determined that we will go ahead and stick with the  
7 original date, because the workshop that Ms. Anderl  
8 referenced is only scheduled for the morning, and  
9 the parties can still meet in the afternoon.

10 So I have no problem with this schedule,  
11 conditioned only on my confirmation that the  
12 commissioners are available during the evidentiary  
13 hearing dates. So I will, at this point -- I don't  
14 know that I really need to say this on the record,  
15 unless anybody really wants me to recite all these  
16 dates and times? Okay. I won't.

17 I have the parties' proposal. I think it  
18 will be acceptable. I will incorporate that into  
19 the prehearing conference order. Is there  
20 anything else that we need to handle this morning?  
21 Hearing nothing, we are adjourned. Thank you.

22 MS. ANDERL: Thank you.

23 MR. BEATTIE: Thank you, Judge.

24 (The prehearing conference concluded at  
25 9:40 a.m.)

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I, Mary M. Paradise, a Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript of the prehearing conference on April 20, 2015, is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, skill and ability.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 29th day of April, 2015.

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MARY M. PARADISE, CSR