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IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

April 4, 2012

**VIA HAND DELIVERY**

Jean D. Jewell, Secretary  
Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
472 West Washington  
Boise, ID 83702-5983

**RE: In The Matter of Qwest Corportion d/b/a/ CenturyLink QC, CenturyTel of Idaho, Inc. d/b/a/ CenturyLink and CenturyLink of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink's Petition for an Exemption of the Commission's Telecommunications Customer Relations Rule 502 (IDAPA 31.41.01.502), Case Nos. QWE-T-12-01, CEN-T-12-01 and CGS-T-12-01**

Dear Ms. Jewell:

Enclosed for filing with this Commission are an original and seven (7) copies of **THE CENTURYLINK COMPANIES' MOTION RE PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE.**

If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,



Mary S. Hobson  
Enclosures

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Attorneys for the CenturyLink Companies

**BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

<p><b>IN THE MATTER OF QWEST CORPORATION DBA CENTURYLINK QC, CENTURYTEL OF IDAHO, INC. DBA CENTURYLINK AND CENTURYLINK OF THE GEM STATE, INC. DBA CENTURYLINK'S PETITION FOR AN EXEMPTION OF THE COMMISSION'S TELECOMMUNICATIONS CUSTOMER RELATIONS RULE 502 (IDAPA 31.41.01.502)</b></p>	<p><b>Case Nos. QWE-T-12-01 CEN-T-12-01 CGS-T-12-01</b></p>
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**THE CENTURYLINK COMPANIES' MOTION RE PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC, CenturyTel of Idaho, Inc. dba CenturyLink, and CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. dba CenturyLink (collectively "the CenturyLink companies" or "CenturyLink") by and through their undersigned attorneys file this Motion re Procedural Schedule seeking that the Commission hold its decision on the CenturyLink Companies' Petition for exemption pending progress through specified phases of a Negotiated Rulemaking set out below. This Motion is based on

**CENTURYLINK MOTION RE PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

CenturyLink's understanding of the Commission Staff's willingness to expeditiously address certain issues raised by the Petition in said Rulemaking as detailed in this Motion.

### **BACKGROUND**

The CenturyLink Companies filed their Petition for Exemption from Rule 31.41.01.502 (Petition) on December 22, 2011. The Commission's Notice of Petition, Notice of Modified Procedure and Order No. 32446 were issued January 25, 2012. The Commission Staff (Staff) and Frontier Communications Northwest Inc. and Citizens Telecommunications Company of Idaho d/b/a Frontier Communications of Idaho (collectively, "Frontier") filed responsive comments on February 22 and 23, respectively.

In its Comments Staff recommended that CenturyLink be denied an exemption and that the Commission open a Negotiated Rulemaking Proceeding regarding Rule 502. Frontier Comments requested that "the Commission open a rulemaking to discuss these important issues and immediately grant a waiver of Rule 502 to CenturyLink and all similarly situated companies." In Reply Comments CenturyLink continued to point out that the CenturyLink Companies had demonstrated that the standards for granting of a permanent exemption had been met but did not object to a rulemaking process to address the broader question of the technological and competitive neutrality of the Commission's telecommunications rules in light of the present industry environment in Idaho.

Following these submissions, representatives of Staff and CenturyLink continued to discuss the issues and how they could be best addressed by the Commission and the industry. On March 28, 2012 Staff and company representatives met informally to determine whether any agreement was possible on interim relief for the CenturyLink

Companies while the rulemaking proposed by Staff proceeded. The parties to that meeting were not able to reach agreement concerning interim relief but certain areas of agreement, detailed immediately below, were reached and these are the bases for CenturyLink's position on the submission of its Petition to the Commission for decision at this time.

### **NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING PROCEDURE**

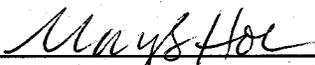
1. Staff agreed to seek the Commission's approval for the initiation of a Negotiated Rulemaking at the Commission's next Decision Meeting, scheduled for April 9, 2012.
2. If the Commission concurs with Staff's Negotiated Rulemaking recommendation, Staff agreed to expeditiously issue the Commission's Notice thereof and schedule a workshop for all interested parties for the purpose of addressing Rule 502 on Monday, April 30, 2012.
3. Should a mutually agreeable revision or set of revisions to Rule 502 be identified, Staff agrees it will support the CenturyLink Companies in obtaining an interim exemption from the current provisions of Rule 502 that would be consistent with the agreed revision(s).

### **DECISION ON CENTURYLINK PETITION FOR EXEMPTION**

Based on the foregoing, CenturyLink respectfully requests that the Commission withhold making a decision on its Petition for Exemption until after the workshop contemplated for April 30, 2012 takes place and the Companies determine whether adequate interim relief may be obtained through the process described above.

Submitted this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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