

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT)	
PETITION OF QWEST CORPORATION)	CASE NOS. QWE-T-13-03
DBA CENTURYLINK QC, CENTURYTEL)	CEN-T-13-03
OF IDAHO, INC. DBA CENTURYLINK AND)	CGS-T-13-03
CENTURYTEL OF THE GEM STATE, INC.)	
DBA CENTURYLINK FOR PARTIAL)	NOTICE OF APPLICATION
WAIVER OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF)	
IPUC ORDER NO. 20841)	NOTICE OF
)	MODIFIED PROCEDURE
)	
)	ORDER NO. 32844

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on June 7, 2013, the Commission received a Joint Petition from Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC; CenturyTel of Idaho, Inc. dba CenturyLink; and CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. dba CenturyLink (collectively “CenturyLink”) for Partial Waiver of the requirements of Commission Order No. 29841.¹ Specifically, CenturyLink requests a waiver of the requirement to file the 2013 two-year network improvement plan in connection with the annual eligible telecommunications carrier (“ETC”) recertification report due to the Commission on September 1, 2013. CenturyLink asserts its request results from recent actions by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that in 2005, the FCC adopted new ETC designation and reporting requirements. The FCC is again addressing ETC reporting requirements in light of revisions to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313 to include new broadband obligations that will be imposed on carriers. Petition at 3. One of the FCC’s requirements is to report on the carrier’s five-year quality improvement plan for those companies that will be receiving funding for broadband services. *Id.* The FCC’s new reporting requirements will require maps detailing progress toward plan targets, and explanation of how much universal support was received, how it was used, and an explanation of any network improvement targets that have not been met during the year. These reports will require detailed information to be provided at the wire center

¹ On March 17, 2005, the FCC adopted new rules for designating ETCs *In the Matter of the Federal –State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket No. 96-45, 20 C.F.R. 637 pursuant to 47 U.S.C § 214(e)(6). The Commission adopted the FCC’s new ETC requirements in Order No. 29841, with the exception of the alternative two-year network plan versus the FCC’s five-year plan.

or census block level. *Id.* The FCC, however, has not completed all the steps necessary to provide a final form for use by ETCs in formulating the new plans, and because the new federal high cost funding which is aimed specifically at broadband has not been distributed or accepted by the ETCs, CenturyLink contends companies are not in a position to develop specific plans for its use. *Id.* Consequently, the FCC issued an order waiving the five-year plan requirement for 2013. *Id.*

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that CenturyLink believes that the increasingly complex reporting requirements being adopted by the FCC may mean that creating state-specific reports that have unique but less rigorous standards for documenting use of the federal funds no longer fulfill a useful purpose. *Id.* at 3-4. CenturyLink therefore seeks a waiver of the two-year plan requirement contained in Order No. 29841 in the interest of bringing the Idaho ETC recertification reports for 2013 in conformance with FCC requirements for this year.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission believes it is appropriate to consider whether the waiver requested by CenturyLink, if approved by the Commission, should apply to all ETCs. Accordingly, the Commission issues this Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure enabling all interested telecommunications providers to file comments.

NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission has determined that the public interest may not require a formal hearing in this matter and will proceed under Modified Procedure pursuant to Rules 201 through 204 of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.201-204. The Commission notes that Modified Procedure and written comments have proven to be an effective means for obtaining public input and participation.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that any person desiring to state a position on this Application may file a written comment in support or in opposition with the Commission within twenty-one (21) days from the service date of this Notice. The comment must contain a statement of reasons supporting the comment.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that persons desiring a hearing must specifically request a hearing in their written comments. Written comments concerning this Application may be mailed to the Commission and Applicants at the addresses reflected below:

Commission Secretary
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
PO Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0074

Mary S. Hobson
999 Main, Suite 1103
Boise, ID 83702
E-mail: Mary.Hobson@Centurylink.com

Street Address for Express Mail:

472 W. Washington Street
Boise, ID 83702-5918

Lisa A. Anderl
Associate General Counsel
CenturyLink
1600 7th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98191
E-mail: Lisa.Anderl@Centurylink.com

These comments should contain the case caption and case number shown on the first page of this document. Persons desiring to submit comments via e-mail may do so by accessing the Commission's home page located at www.puc.idaho.gov. Click the "Case Comment or Question Form" under the "Consumers" tab, and complete the comment form using the case number as it appears on the front of this document. These comments must also be sent to the Applicant at the e-mail addresses listed above.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if no written comments or protests are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider this matter on its merits and enter its Order without a formal hearing. If written comments are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider them and, in its discretion, may set the same for formal hearing.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Commission offices. The Application is also available on the Commission's web site at www.puc.idaho.gov. Click on the "File Room" tab at the top of the page, scroll down to "Open Telephone Cases," and then click on the case number as shown on the front of this document.

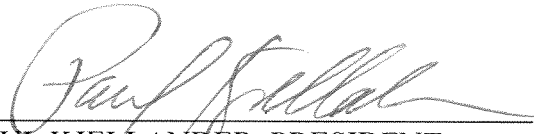
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this case will be held pursuant to the Commission's jurisdiction under Title 61 of the Idaho Code and specifically *Idaho Code* § 61-501, 61-502, and 61-503. The Commission may enter any final Order consistent with its authority under Title 61.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this matter will be conducted pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000 *et seq.*

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this case be processed under Modified Procedure. Interested persons and the parties may file written comments within 21 days of the service date of this Order.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 2nd day of July 2013.



PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT




MACK A. REDFORD, COMMISSIONER



MARSHA H. SMITH, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Jean D. Jewell
Commission Secretary

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