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IDAHO PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

August 31, 2012

VIA HAND DELIVERY

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

GNR-T-12-06

RE: CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink, ETC Annual Report and Certification of the Use of Universal Service Funds pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.314 and Telecommunications Act §245(e)

Dear Ms. Jewel:

Enclosed for filing with Commission is the CENTURYTEL OF THE GEM STATE, INC. d/b/a CENTURYLINK ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER (ETC) ANNUAL RE-CERTIFICATION. A portion of the information contained in this report, specifically responds to Section 10, Federal USF Two-Year Plan, contains information that is proprietary and confidential to CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink and is, therefore, filed under separate cover, with an attorney's certificate.

CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink ('CenturyLink') hereby requests that the Public Utilities Commission of Idaho submit a letter to the Federal Communications Commission ('FCC') and the Universal Service Administration Company ('USAC') prior to October 1, 2012, verifying that CenturyLink is in compliance with section 245(e) of the Telecommunications Act and notifying them that the Company is eligible to receive federal universal service support in accordance with section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act and 47 C.F.R. §54.314. Attached for filing with the FCC and USAC is an affidavit attesting to the fact that any Federal Universal Service Funds are utilized as intended in compliance with the Telecommunications Act.

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

Very truly yours,



Mary S. Hobson

Enclosures

ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER (ETC) ANNUAL RE-CERTIFICATION

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Section 1: Eligible Telecommunication Carrier Information

Date of ETC Annual Report: **September 1, 2012**

Company Name: **CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink**

Address: **100 CenturyLink Drive
Monroe, LA 71203**

Company Contact Person/Title: **Mary S. Hobson
Attorney for CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a
CenturyLink**

Telephone Number: **(208) 385-8666**

Email Address: **Mary.Hobson@CenturyLink.com**

Service Area Code (SAC): **472223**

Number of Idaho Telephone Service Assistance Program (ITSAP) recipients:
(Use number from last report submitted to the ITSAP Administrator)

Response: CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink reported 47 ITSAP recipients for the month of June 2012.

Section 2: Description of Carrier's Local Usage Plan-- Competitive Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (CETC) Only

ETCs must submit information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline and ITSAP subscribers, including details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan, additional charges, if any, for toll calls, and rates for each such plan. To the extent the ETC offers plans to Lifeline subscribers that are generally available to the public, it may provide summary information regarding such plans, such as a link to a public website outlining the terms and conditions of such plan. C.F.R. § 54.202(a)(5).

Description: Not applicable. CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink is an ILEC.

Section 3: Detailed Outage Information §54.313(a)(2)

Provide detailed information on any outage, as that term is defined in 47 C.F.R. § 4.5, of at least thirty (30) minutes in duration for each service area in which an ETC is designated for any facilities it owns, operates, leases or otherwise uses that potentially affect (a) at least ten percent of the end users served in a designated service area; or (b) a 9-1-1 special facility, as defined in 47 C.F.R. § 4.5(e). Specifically, the annual report must include information detailing: (a) the date and time of onset of the outage; (b) a brief description of the outage and its resolution; (c) the steps taken to prevent a similar situation in the future; and (f) the number of customers affected. Reporting period is January—December. See Order No. 29841, page 18.

Number of outages: 0

Additional outage information: _____

Section 4: Unfulfilled Service Requests §54.313(a)(3)

Provide the number of requests for service from potential customers within the ETC's service area(s) that were unfulfilled in the previous year (January—December). The ETC shall also detail how it attempted to provide service to those potential customers. See Order No. 29841, page 19.

The number of unfulfilled service requests from potential customers within the ETC's service area: CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink does not have any outstanding requests for service that were requested in its service area as of December 31, 2011.

Additional information: _____

Section 5: Customer Complaints §54.313(a)(4)

Provide the number of complaints per 1,000 handsets or lines for the previous year (January—December).

The number of customer complaints per 1,000 handset or working access lines: 1.67

Additional information: _____

Section 6: Service Quality and Consumer Protection Certification §54.313(a)(5)

Provide certification that the carrier is complying with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules.

Response: See Exhibit A.

Section 7: Ability to Remain Functional in Emergencies Certification §54.313(a)(6)

ETCs must demonstrate that it has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, is able to re-route traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations.

Response: See Exhibit A.

Section 8: Additional Voice Rate Data §54.313(h)

All incumbent local exchange carrier recipients of high-cost support must report all of their flat rates for residential local service, as well as state fees as defined pursuant to §54.318(e) of this subpart. Carriers must also report all rates that are below the local urban rate floor as defines in §54.318 of this subpart, and the number of lines for each rate specified. Carriers shall report liens and rates in effect as of June 1.

Response:

In the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Third Order On Reconsideration in the matter of Connect America Fund, et al., FCC 12-52 §19 and §21, the FCC has determined that all incumbent local exchange carrier recipients of high-cost loop or high-cost model support must report residential local rates to the extent that the sum of that rate, and specific state regulated fees is below the effective rate floor, rather than requiring the reporting of all rates. Carriers shall now report lines and rates in effect as of June 1, 2012.

This is not applicable as carrier does not have rates that fall below the effective rate floor.

Section 9: Federal USF High-Cost Support Certification §54.313, §54.314

Pursuant to FCC regulations, in order for ETCs to continue to receive federal USF, the Commission "must file an annual certification with the USAC and the [FCC] stating that all federal high-cost support provided to such carriers within that State will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended."

Response: See Exhibit A.

Section 10: Two-Year Network Improvement Plan and Progress Report

The annual report must include a progress report on the carrier's two-year service quality improvement plan, including maps detailing its progress toward meeting the plan targets, an explanation of how much universal service support was received and how it was used to improve signal quality, coverage, or capacity, and an explanation regarding any network improvement targets that have not been fulfilled. This information shall be submitted at the wire center level. The annual report must also include an updated two-year network improvement plan indicating plans for future investment.

Response: See CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink's Confidential Federal USF Two-Year Plan which is provided under seal pursuant to I.D.A.P.A. 31.01.01 Rule 67.

Exhibit A

State of Louisiana) CERTIFICATION BY ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER
) ss OF COMPLIANCE WITH SERVICE QUALITY AND CUSTOMER
Parish of Ouachita) PROTECTION, ABILITY TO REMAIN FUNCTIONAL IN EMERGENCIES,
AND USE OF FEDERAL HIGH-COST SUPPORT.

AFFIDAVIT OF CENTURYTEL OF THE GEM STATE, INC. D/B/A CENTURYLINK

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission Order No. 29841 requires that Eligible Telecommunications Carriers certify that they are compliant with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules; and ETCs must demonstrate the ability to remain functional in emergencies. In addition, the Commission must file an annual certification with the USAC and the FCC that all federal high-cost support provided to ETCs within the State of Idaho will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. Accordingly, the undersigned states and verifies under oath the following:

1. I am an officer of CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink, an eligible telecommunications carrier for receiving federal universal service support under section 214(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 in the state of Idaho.
2. I am familiar with the Company's day-to-day operations in the state of Idaho and with the State's service quality standards and consumer protection rules as set forth in Commission Order No. 29841.
3. CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink is complying with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules of the Federal Communications Commission. The Company is also complying with the applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission (Commission), with the exception of I.D.A.P.A 31.41.01.502.03. The Company determined that it did not clear at least 90% of out-of-service trouble reports within the intervals prescribed in the months of April 2011 through August 2011. However the Company paid service credits to customers in compliance with I.D.A.P.A 31.41.01.500.02 for the months effected and notified the Commission of its performance results in compliance with I.D.A.P.A 31.41.01.502.01.b.
4. I certify to the Commission that the Company is able to remain functional in emergencies as set forth in Commission Order No. 29841 and in 47 C.F.R. § 54.201(a)(2).
5. I also certify that all federal universal service support funds received by CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink during the current calendar year will be used in a manner consistent with section 254(e); that is, for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. The company will continue to comply for the period of January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013, to be eligible for federal universal service fund support.
6. This verification and affidavit is provided to be the Idaho Public Utilities Commission to enable the IPUC to certify to the FCC that federal universal service support received by the eligible carriers in the state will be used in a manner consistent with Section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

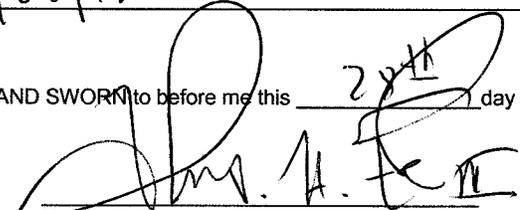


David D. Cole, Senior Vice President and Controller

8/28/12

Date

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 28th day of August 2012.



Notary Public

My Commission Expires: At death

Exhibit B
CONFIDENTIAL
Provided under Attorney's Certificate