



**Jason D. Topp**  
Senior Corporate Counsel - Regulatory  
(651) 312-5364

November 5, 2013



Mr. Darrell Nitschke  
Executive Secretary  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 East Boulevard Avenue, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

**Re: USF Certification – Case Nos. PU-439-01-460 and PU-439-02-441**

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Enclosed for filing in accordance with the Commission's Order of August 28, 2002, in the above-referenced proceeding, is an affidavit certifying that all federal high-cost support provided to CenturyLink, Inc. ("CenturyLink") was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. In making this filing, CenturyLink is at this time neither contesting nor conceding the jurisdiction of the North Dakota Public Service Commission to act in this proceeding.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "J. D. Topp", written over the typed name.

Jason D. Topp

JDT/bardm

Enclosure

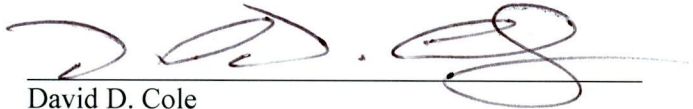
**AFFIDAVIT CERTIFYING USE OF  
FEDERAL HIGH-COST AND CONNECT AMERICA FUND SUPPORT**

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF OUACHITA

I, the undersigned, under penalty of perjury, state as follows:

1. I am the Executive Vice President of Operations Support and Controller of CenturyLink Inc. ("Carrier")
2. I am a corporate officer of the above mentioned Carrier authorized to certify use of Federal High-Cost and Connect America Fund ("CAF") Support.
3. Carrier is an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") within the meaning of §214(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, has been designated by the North Dakota Public Service Commission as an ETC, and is eligible to receive universal service support pursuant to §254(e) of the Act.
4. Carrier files this affidavit in compliance with the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC's") Order of May 23, 2001, in Docket No. 96-45, and WC Docket No. 10-90 released in FCC 11-191, November 18, 2011, which requires that each state certify to the FCC that all Federal High-Cost and CAF Support was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the new calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, regardless of the rule under which that support is provided.
5. Carrier hereby attests that it has used Federal High-Cost and CAF Support Funds from the preceding calendar year and will use said funds in the new calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to §254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, regardless of the rule under which that support is provided.
6. Further affiant sayeth not.

  
\_\_\_\_\_

David D. Cole

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2013

Carick B. Inabnett  
Notary Public Carick B. Inabnett - Bar No. 21635

Ouachita  
Parish/County

Death  
My Commission Expires