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Kent Blickensderfer  
State Legislative Affairs Director



June 6, 2017

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



Re: CenturyLink's Notification in Accord with FCC Rule 54.312(c)(4) of Census Blocks in Which It Does Not Plan to Deploy Broadband, As Filed with the FCC in WC Docket No. 10-90, *In the Matter of Connect America Fund*

Dear Mr. Nitschke:

Enclosed with this correspondence is a copy of a letter filed June 2, 2017 by CenturyLink with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in WC Docket No. 10-90, *In the Matter of Connect America Fund*, regarding the above-referenced matter. Appended to the letter filed with the FCC is a list of census blocks that were removed from CenturyLink's Connect America Fund Phase I, Round 2 support deployment plans.

For context, in light of subsequent changes to CenturyLink's initial Round 2 deployment plans and in accord with FCC rule 54.312(c)(4), CenturyLink is also providing today to the Commission the attached list of census blocks in North Dakota for which we previously had identified locations to which we would deploy broadband service using Round 2 Support but for which we now know we will not be deploying broadband service using that support. The list only reflects the previously-identified Round 2-eligible census blocks to which CenturyLink did not deploy broadband using Round 2 support solely due to changes in CenturyLink's deployment plans. The list does not reflect census blocks that CenturyLink previously identified for Round 2 deployment but were removed from Round 2 deployment due to challenge process determinations or assertions that the census blocks were already served. The final list of census blocks where CenturyLink deployed broadband using Round 2 support will be included with CenturyLink's Form 481 to be filed on or before July 3, 2017 with the Commission.

CenturyLink is providing the list of census blocks in PDF format and can provide the list in Excel file format upon request.

Mr. Darrell Nitschke  
June 6, 2017  
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Please contact me via the above contact information if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "KA Blick", written in a cursive style.

Kent Blickensderfer  
State Legislative Affairs Director

KB/bardm

Enclosures


**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 7th day of June, 2017, the original and seven copies of the attached were served upon the following party:

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

and copies sent electronically, addressed to the following:

Kent P. Blickensderfer  
State Legislative Affairs Director  
CenturyLink  
220 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bismarck, ND 58501  
[Kent.blickensderfer@centurylink.com](mailto:Kent.blickensderfer@centurylink.com)

  
Dianne Barthel  
Dianne Barthel



**Tiffany West Smink**  
931 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1230  
Denver, CO 80202  
Phone (303) 992-2506  
Tiffany.Smink@centurylink.com

Senior Counsel

Via ECFS

June 2, 2017

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: *In the Matter of Connect America Fund*; WC Docket No. 10-90

Dear Ms. Dortch:

CenturyLink, on behalf of its incumbent local exchange carriers accepted 2013 Connect America Fund (CAF) Phase I Incremental Support (Round 2 Support) on August 20, 2013 and at that time submitted a list of census blocks to which it intended to deploy broadband service using that support.<sup>1</sup> That list encompassed locations in 12,893 census blocks. Subsequently, in January 2014 the FCC Wireline Bureau issued an order resolving the Round 2 challenge process which reduced the census block total for which CenturyLink received support to 10,544 census blocks.<sup>2</sup> About one year later, CenturyLink made a supplemental filing regarding its Round 2 deployment plans reflecting the specific locations to which it anticipated deploying broadband using Round 2 support.<sup>3</sup> The supplemental filing reflected a total of 10,345 census blocks. In September 2016 CenturyLink identified an additional 9703 census blocks for its Round 2 deployment, but after challenges the additional census blocks total was reduced to 7854.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See CenturyLink's Notice of Acceptance of 2013 Connect America Fund Phase I Incremental Support, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 05-337, Letter from Melissa E. Newman, CenturyLink to Marlene H. Dortch, FCC (Aug. 20, 2013).

<sup>2</sup> *Connect America Fund*, WC Docket No. 10-90, Order, 29 FCC Rcd 181 (Wireline Bur. Jan. 10, 2014).

<sup>3</sup> Supplement to CenturyLink's Acceptance of Connect America Fund Phase I Round 2 Incremental Support, WC Docket No. 10-90, Letter from Jeffrey S. Lanning, CenturyLink to Marlene H. Dortch, FCC (Feb. 24, 2015).

<sup>4</sup> Rule 54.312(c)(4) Notice of CenturyLink's; *Connect America Fund*, WC Docket No. 10-90, Letter from Jeffrey S. Lanning, CenturyLink to Marlene H. Dortch, FCC (Sep. 13, 2016); Rule 54.312(c)(4) & (5) Notice of CenturyLink's; *Connect America Fund*, WC Docket No. 10-90, Letter from Jeffrey S. Lanning, CenturyLink to Marlene H. Dortch, FCC (Dec. 19, 2016).

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch

June 2, 2017

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In light of these changes to CenturyLink's initial Round 2 deployment plans and in accord with Commission rule 54.312(c)(4) CenturyLink is providing the attached list of census blocks for which we previously had identified locations to which we would deploy broadband service using Round 2 Support but for which we now know we will not be deploying broadband service using that support. The attached list only reflects the previously-identified Round 2-eligible census blocks to which CenturyLink did not deploy broadband using Round 2 support solely due to changes in CenturyLink's deployment plans. The list does not reflect census blocks that CenturyLink previously identified for Round 2 deployment but were removed from Round 2 deployment due to challenge process determinations or assertions that the census blocks were already served.

CenturyLink is also providing this information to the Universal Service Administrative Company, relevant state commissions, and affected Tribal governments, as appropriate.

Please contact me via the above contact information or Jeff Lanning in CenturyLink's Federal Regulatory Affairs office (202-429-3113) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Tiffany West Smink

Enclosure

**List of Census Blocks Removed from CenturyLink Round 2 Support Deployment Plans**

<b>State</b>	<b>Census Block</b>
ND	380170403003353
ND	380590203004034
ND	380590203004092
ND	380899640001014
ND	380939673002018
ND	380939675001039