

January 16, 2020

Mr. Steven Kahl
Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue, 12th Floor
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Dear Mr. Kahl:

The attached letter serves as notice that, based on preliminary data, CenturyLink may not have reached the year-end 2019 Connect America Fund Phase II (CAF II) location deployment milestone of 80 percent in North Dakota. CenturyLink continues to deploy broadband to CAF II locations in North Dakota and remains committed to meeting its CAF II obligations.

Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Andrew R. Schriener

Andrew R. Schriener

ARS/bardm

Enclosure

200 South 5th Street, Room 2100
Minneapolis MN 55402

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 17th day of January, 2020, the foregoing letter was served upon the following party:

Mr. Steven Kahl
Executive Secretary
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 East Boulevard Avenue, 12th Floor
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

and copies sent electronically, addressed to the following:

Andrew Schriener
State Legislative Affairs Director
CenturyLink
200 South 5th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402



Dianne Barthel



Jeffrey S. Lanning

Vice President – Federal Regulatory Affairs
1099 New York Avenue NW
Suite 250
Washington, DC 20001
202-429-3113
Jeffrey.S.Lanning@CenturyLink.com

Via ECFS

January 15, 2020

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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

Dear Ms. Dortch:

In August 2015, CenturyLink accepted Connect America Fund (CAF) Phase II support to deploy broadband service to over one million locations in thirty-three states. Using that support, CenturyLink has now enabled broadband service at speeds of at least 10/1 Mbps or higher to nearly 900,000 locations in CAF II census blocks in those states. On a state-by-state basis, CenturyLink's current year-end data reflect that it met or exceeded the program's December 31, 2018 interim broadband deployment milestone in ten states.

CenturyLink may not have reached the deployment milestone in other states. Thus, in accord with 47 C.F.R. § 54.320(d),¹ CenturyLink provides this notice that, based on preliminary year-end data, it may not have met the CAF Phase II eighty-percent interim deployment milestone in twenty-three states. Those states are Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin. CenturyLink continues its process to review, validate and confirm the data. By March 1, we will provide the requisite information to the HUBB portal in accord with 47 C.F.R. § 54.316.

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 54.320(d) states that “[e]ligible telecommunications carriers subject to defined build-out milestones must notify the Commission and USAC, and the relevant state, U.S. Territory, or Tribal government, if applicable, within 10 business days after the applicable deadline if they have failed to meet a build-out milestone.”

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CenturyLink continues to deploy broadband to CAF II locations under the program and remains committed to meeting its CAF II obligations. In accord with section 54.320(d), CenturyLink is also providing this notice to the Universal Service Administrative Company and to state commissions and relevant Tribal Governments in the impacted states. Please contact the undersigned with any questions regarding this notice.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jeffrey S. Lanning

cc: Alex Minard, FCC, alexander.minard@fcc.gov
hccerts@usac.org