

**STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA**  
**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Qwest Corporation**  
**PIDs & PAP**  
**Revision**

**Case No. PU-20-087**

**ORDER**

**July 23, 2020**

**Preliminary Statement**

Under the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, Qwest Corporation, dba CenturyLink QC, (CenturyLink) is required to provide open access to its networks, facilities and services to other providers of telecommunications services, such as competitive local exchange carriers (CLECs). Measures known as Performance Indicator Definitions (PIDs) provide specific data about the quality of the open access provided by CenturyLink to other carriers, and a Performance Assurance Plan (PAP) applies specific standards or goals that the performance measures must accomplish.

On February 25, 2020, CenturyLink filed an application with the Commission for approval of amendments to its PIDs and PAP. The proposed amendments were prompted by the Federal Communications Commission's 2019 Forbearance Orders, which eliminate the obligation to provide unbundled analog loops and avoided cost retail discounts to resellers of telecommunications services that the incumbent local exchange carrier offers at retail to non-carrier customers. CenturyLink is requesting approval of the amendments and requesting that existing interconnection agreements be modified to incorporate these amendments without the need for further filings or approvals, effective May 1, 2020.

On March 18, 2020, the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing (Notice) providing until May 4, 2020 for comments and requests for hearing. No comments or request for hearing were received. The Notice identified the issues to be considered in this matter are whether the amended PIDs and PAP should be approved, and if so, whether all existing interconnection agreements with CenturyLink should be modified to incorporate applicable amendments without the need for further filings or approvals. The Notice stated that, if deemed appropriate, the Commission can determine the matter without a hearing.

The Commission has authority under N.D.C.C. §49-21-09 and N.D.C.C. § 49-21-01.7(9) to approve or disapprove agreements for interconnection services or network elements which may include PIDs and PAP.

On June 10, 2020, the Commission held an Informal Hearing to discuss the filing with Qwest Corporation and Commission staff.

Having allowed all interested persons an opportunity to be heard, and having heard, reviewed, and considered all testimony and evidence presented, the Commission makes the following:

**Order**

The Commission orders:

1. The amendments to CenturyLink's Performance Assurance Plan and Performance Indicator Definitions filed by CenturyLink on February 25, 2020 are approved and effective beginning July 23, 2020.
2. All existing interconnection agreements with CenturyLink are modified to incorporate these revisions without need for further filings or approvals, effective July 23, 2020.

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

 _____ <b>Julie Fedorchak</b> Commissioner	 _____ <b>Brian Kroshus</b> Chairman	 _____ <b>Randy Christmann</b> Commissioner
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