

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Qwest Corporation  
QPAP Payments 2021  
Reports

Case No. PU-21-3

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY REGULAR MAIL

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA  
COUNTY OF BURLEIGH

**Geralyn R. Schmaltz** deposes and says that:

she is over the age of 18 years and not a party to this action and, on the **21st day of October 2021** she deposited in the United States Mail at Bismarck, North Dakota, **one** envelope by first class mail, fully prepaid, securely sealed each containing a photocopy of:

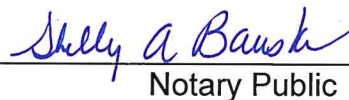
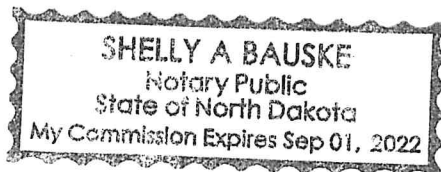
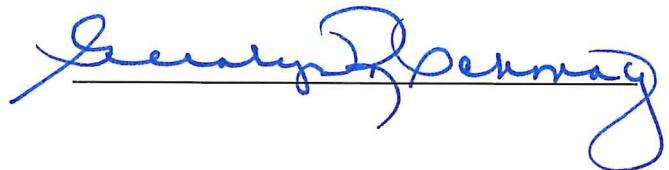
- **Order On Protection Of Information**

The envelope was addressed as follows:

Andrew Schriener  
State Legislative Affairs Director  
CenturyLink  
200 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 2100  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Each address shown is the respective addressee's last reasonably ascertainable post office address.

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this **21st day of October 2021**.



Notary Public

SEAL

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

**Qwest Corporation**  
**QPAP Payments 2021**  
**Reports**

**Case No. PU-21-3**

**ORDER ON PROTECTION OF INFORMATION**

**OCTOBER 20, 2021**

On May 3, 2021, Qwest Corporation (Qwest) filed an application in Case No. PU-21-3, for a protective order to protect against public disclosure of information, which Qwest filed with the Commission, qualifying as an exemption to N.D.C.C. section 44-04-18.

Qwest requests the North Dakota Public Service Commission, pursuant to Chapter 69-02-09 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, to issue a protective order limiting the disclosure of the North Dakota CLEC-specific payment and performance reports that Qwest submits monthly in the captioned case.

The North Dakota CLEC-specific payment and performance reports contain information pertaining to individual and specific customers of Qwest concerning those customers' businesses.

Qwest is responsible for maintaining the confidentiality of this information. In addition, the disclosure of this information to the public would violate the confidentiality interests of the CLEC customers themselves without their permission.

This information provides independent economic value, actual or potential, is not generally known to, and not readily ascertainable by proper means to, other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure.

The information at issue is proprietary to Qwest and is available only to those employees and representatives who have a need to know the information to perform their duties and responsibilities.

Competitors or potential competitors of Qwest that provide local exchange service and other telecommunications service would obtain economic value from disclosure or use of the information.

Competitors and potential competitors of Qwest in North Dakota include AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc., McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services, Inc., MCimetro Access Transmission Services, LLC, Sprint Communications Company L.P.,

Excel Telecommunications, Inc., and any other provider of telecommunications services in North Dakota or any of the other states in which Qwest operates.

North Dakota Administrative Code Section 69-02-09-03 requires that the Commission staff examine the information and application and make a recommendation to the Commission. Commission Staff has reviewed the requests and has recommended that protection of the information be granted.

Having reviewed each application and Commission Staff's recommendation, the Commission determines that the information filed in the captioned case satisfies the requirements of North Dakota Century Code for protection of information.

### ORDER

The Commission Orders that Qwest's May 3, 2021, application for protection of information in Case No. PU-21-3 is GRANTED.

### PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

  
Randy Christmann  
Commissioner

  
Julie Fedorchak  
Chair

  
Brian Kroshus  
Commissioner