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NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

July 28, 2023

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

Dear Mr. Kahl:

Enclosed for filing is Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC's (North Dakota) Annual Report to meet its North Dakota Annual Eligible Telecommunications Carrier filing requirement pursuant to sections 69-09-05-12 and 69-09-05-12.1 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, and section 49-21-01.7(12) of the North Dakota Century Code. In 2015, the company accepted an offer of CAF Phase 2 support in North Dakota. CAF Phase 2 support for North Dakota ended in 2021, and Qwest Corporation (North Dakota) is no longer receiving any federal high-cost support in 2023.

The Company respectfully requests that the Commission notify the FCC and USAC prior to October 1 of this year, that Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC is eligible telecommunications carrier for 2024.

Please contact Al Lubeck at (913) 884-1116 or Ken Buchan at (318) 362-1538 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Amy Allred

Amy Allred
Senior Regulatory Analyst
Lumen

Enclosure

4 **PU-23-74** Filed: 7/31/2023 Pages: 16
ND Admin Code Section 69-09-05-12.1 Annual Report - redacted

Qwest Corporation

Amy Allred, Senior Regulatory Analyst

100 CenturyLink Drive
Monroe, LA 71203

www.lumen.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 28th day of July, 2023, the original and seven copies of the attached were served upon the following party:

Mr. Stephen 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:

Al Lubeck
Director of Public Policy
CenturyLink
13116 W 128th Street
Overland Park, KS 66213
Al.Lubeck@lumen.com

Dianne Barthel

Dianne Barthel

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, on behalf of the telecommunications company named below ("the Company"), does hereby state and certify, as follows:

1. The Company will provide service on a timely basis to requesting customers within the Company's designated service area where the Company's network already passes the potential customer's premises, and

2. The Company will provide service, within a reasonable period of time, if the potential customer is within the Company's designated service area but outside the Company's existing network coverage, if service can be provided at a reasonable cost by:

a. Modifying or replacing the requesting customer's equipment;

b. Deploying a roof-mounted antenna or other equipment;

c. Adjusting the nearest cell tower;

d. Adjusting network or customer facilities;

e. Reselling services from another carrier's facilities to provide service; or

f. Employing, leasing, or constructing an additional cell site, cell extender, repeater, or other similar equipment.

3. The Company is able to remain functional in emergency situations and has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations as noted in the Affidavit Certifying Compliance in Exhibit D.

4. The Company is satisfying and will satisfy applicable consumer protection and service quality standards as noted in the Affidavit Certifying Compliance in Exhibit C.

5. If the Company is a non-incumbent local exchange carrier, it will offer a local usage plan comparable to the one offered by the incumbent local exchange carrier in the designated service area.

6. The Company acknowledges that the North Dakota Public Service Commission may require it to provide equal access to long distance carriers in the event that no other eligible telecommunications carrier is providing equal access within the proposed designated service area. (If wireless carriage is involved, the Company acknowledges that the Federal Communications Commission may require the Company to provide equal access to long distance carriers in the event no other eligible telecommunications carrier is providing equal access within the designated service area.)

7. The Company has met and will meet the requirements of eligible telecommunications carrier advertising. This includes:

a. A full description of available services in the Company's official telephone directory, including the process to be used by customers to qualify for lifeline and link-up service.

b. Advertising of the availability of universal service in media of general circulation in the Company's designated service area. Availability may be advertised in newspapers, company newsletters, company or civic internet sites, bill stuffers, direct mailings, or other means intended to convey availability throughout the designated service area.

Exhibit A Information

The following information is provided in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference:

1. A description of the amount of high-cost universal service support received by the Company in the prior calendar year and a description of how that support was used for the provision, maintenance, or upgrading of the Company's facilities and services. (An explanation of any changes from reports previously provided to the Commission is also included.)

2. An estimate of the amount of federal high-cost universal service support the Company anticipates receiving in the following calendar year (the calendar year following this report) and a description of how that support is projected to be used for the provision, maintenance, or upgrading of the Company's facilities and services pursuant to Section 254 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

3. The number of requests for service from potential customers within the designated service area that were unfilled during the past year. A detail of how the Company attempted to provide service to those potential customers is also included.

4. The number of complaints per thousand handsets or lines.

Confidential Exhibit B Information

The following information is provided in Confidential Exhibit B attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference:

1. Detailed information of any outage, as that term is defined in 47 C.F.R. § 4.5, of at least thirty (30) minutes in duration for each designated service area for any facilities the Company owns, operates, leases, or otherwise utilizes that potentially affect:

a. At least ten percent (10%) of the end users served in a designated service area, or

b. A 911 special facility, as defined in 47 C.F.R. § 4.5(e).

This report includes:

a. The date and time of the onset of the outage,

b. A brief description of the outage and its resolution,

c. The particular services affected,

d. The geographic areas affected by the outage,

e. Steps taken to prevent a similar outage in the future, and

f. The number of customers affected.

(If applicable, a copy of the FCC outage report that includes this information may be attached.)

Exhibit C Information

The following information is provided in Exhibit C attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference:

1. Certification that the Company will satisfy applicable consumer protection and service quality standards

Exhibit D Information

The following information is provided in Exhibit D attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference:

1. Certification that the Company is able to remain functional in an emergency situations.

I hereby certify that the above information is true and correct and is submitted on behalf of the Company named below. The information is submitted in the year 2023.

QWEST CORPORATION D/B/A
CENTURYLINK QC

Al Lubeck
Director of Public Policy
13116 W 128th Street
Overland Park, KS 66213
(913) 884-1116
Al.Lubeck@lumen.com

Exhibit A

Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC ("CenturyLink")

1. **The amount of high-cost universal support the Company received in the prior calendar year and estimate of the amount of high-cost universal support it anticipates receiving in the next calendar year (the calendar year following the date of this report) are listed below:**

   No high-cost support received so this is no longer applicable.

2. **Detailed information on any outage, as that term is defined in 47 C.F.R. section 4.5, of at least thirty minutes in duration for each designated service area for any facilities it owns, operates, leases, or otherwise utilizes that potentially affect at least ten percent of the end users served in a designated service area, or a 911 special facility, as defined in 47 C.F.R. section 4.5(e):**

   Please see confidential Exhibit B.

3. **The number of requests for service from potential customers within the designated service area that were unfulfilled during the past year. The carrier shall also detail how it attempted to provide service to those potential customers.**

   CenturyLink had 0 unfilled order as of the date of this filing.

4. **The number of complaints per one thousand handsets or lines.**

   There were approximately 2 complaints per 1000 voice customers.

5. **Certification that it is complying with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules.**

   Please see Exhibit C.

6. **Certification that the carrier is able to function in emergency situations.**

   Please see Exhibit D for the Affidavit Certifying Compliance from CenturyLink FCC Form 481.

7. **Certification that the carrier is offering a local usage plan comparable to that offered by the incumbent LEC in the relevant designated service area.**

   CenturyLink is an incumbent LEC in its designated service area.

8. **Certification that the carrier acknowledges that the commission may require it to provide equal access to long-distance carriers in the event that no other eligible telecommunications carrier is providing equal access within the designated service area.**

See Attached Certification of Alan L. Lubeck.

Confidential Exhibit B

Confidential Exhibit B

Has Been Redacted

In Its Entirety

Exhibit C

Exhibit C

AFFIDAVIT CERTIFYING COMPLIANCE

I am employed by Lumen Technologies Service Group, LLC, as Senior Manager Regulatory Finance, a subsidiary of Lumen Technologies, Inc. ("Parent"). Under Parent's policies and a delegation of signing authority by an officer of Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink (North Dakota) ("Company") which is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Parent, I am authorized to execute this affidavit on behalf of the Company.

The Company hereby certifies:

1) The Company has established operational procedures designed to facilitate compliance with applicable consumer protection rules, and
2) The Company has established operational procedures designed to facilitate compliance with service quality standards which may include customer remedies and improvement plans. The Company also reports service quality metrics to State Commissions as applicable.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

Kenneth W Buchan

DATED this 30th day of June 2023

Kenneth W. Buchan
Senior Manager Regulatory Finance

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 30th day of June 2023

Notary Public: Amy G Allred

My Commission Expires: upon death

AMY G. ALLRED NOTARY PUBLIC NOTARY NO. 58514 UNION PARISH, LA

Exhibit D

Exhibit D

AFFIDAVIT CERTIFYING COMPLIANCE
WITH 47 C.F.R. §54.313(a)(1), §54.313(a)(2), and §54.313(a)(3)

Section (600) – Emergency Functionality Certification
Section (1000) – Voice and Broadband Service Rate Comparability Certifications;
Accuracy of Annual Reporting of CAF Recipients Certification

For the Lumen Technologies, Inc. ETCs as listed in Appendix A, I, Andrea Genschaw, being of lawful age and duly sworn, on my oath and under penalty of perjury, state that I am the Senior Vice President Controller for Lumen Technologies, Inc. ("Lumen") and that I am authorized to execute this affidavit on behalf of the Lumen ETCs.

The Lumen ETCs hereby certify pursuant to the requirements under 47 C.F.R. §54.313(a)(1), §54.313(a)(2), and §54.313(a)(3) that:

1) Lumen ETCs are substantially able to remain functional in emergency situations as set forth in §54.202(a)(2),
2) The pricing of voice services provided by Lumen ETCs listed in Appendix A is no more than two standard deviations above the national average urban rate for voice service,
3) The pricing of broadband services provided by Lumen ETCs listed in Appendix A, that meet the Commission's broadband public interest obligation is no more than the most recent applicable benchmark rates announced by the Wireline Competition Bureau, and
4) To the best of my knowledge and belief, the information reported on this form including attachments is accurate.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

DATED this 27 day of April 2023

Andrea Genschaw
SVP – Controller
Lumen Technologies, Inc.
1025 Eldorado Boulevard Interlocken 4000
Broomfield, Colorado 80021

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this 27th day of April 2023

Notary Public: _____

My Commission Expires: MAY 9, 2023

PATRICIA ECHELBERGER
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF COLORADO
NOTARY ID 20194017652
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES MAY 9, 2023

Appendix A

Listing of Lumen Technologies, Inc. Eligible Telecommunications Carriers

COMPANY NAME	DBA NAME	Study Area Code	State(s) of Operation
Qwest Corporation (Arizona)	CenturyLink QC	455101	AZ
CenturyTel of Colorado, Inc.	CenturyLink	462208	CO
Qwest Corporation (Colorado)	CenturyLink QC	465102	CO
The El Paso County Telephone Company	None	462187	CO
CenturyTel of Eagle, Inc.	CenturyLink	462185	CO, UT
CenturyLink of Florida, Inc.	CenturyLink	210341	FL
Qwest Corporation (Iowa)	CenturyLink QC	355141	IA
CenturyTel of Postville, Inc.	CenturyLink	351274	IA
CenturyTel of Chester, Inc.	CenturyLink	351126	IA, MN
CenturyTel of Idaho, Inc.	CenturyLink	472225	ID
CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. (Idaho)	CenturyLink	472223	ID
Qwest Corporation (Northern Idaho)	CenturyLink QC	475162	ID
Qwest Corporation (Southern Idaho)	CenturyLink QC	475103	ID
CenturyTel of Minnesota, Inc.	CenturyLink	361445	MN
CenturyLink Minnesota, Inc.	CenturyLink	361456	MN
Qwest Corporation (Minnesota)	CenturyLink QC	365142	MN
CenturyTel of Montana, Inc.	CenturyLink	482249	MT
Qwest Corporation (Montana)	CenturyLink QC	485104	MT
Qwest Corporation (North Dakota)	CenturyLink QC	385144	ND
Qwest Corporation (Nebraska)	CenturyLink QC	375143	NE
United Telephone Company of the West (Nebraska)	CenturyLink	371595	NE
CenturyTel of the Southwest, Inc.	CenturyLink	492274	NM
Qwest Corporation (New Mexico)	CenturyLink QC	495105	NM
CenturyLink of Nevada, LLC.	CenturyLink	552348	NV
CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc. (Nevada)	CenturyLink	552223	NV
CenturyTel of Oregon, Inc.	CenturyLink	532361	OR
Qwest Corporation (Oregon)	CenturyLink QC	535163	OR
United Telephone Company of the Northwest (Oregon)	CenturyLink	532400	OR
CenturyTel of Eastern Oregon, Inc.	CenturyLink	532361	OR, CA
Qwest Corporation (South Dakota)	CenturyLink QC	395145	SD

COMPANY NAME	DBA NAME	Study Area Code	State(s) of Operation
Qwest Corporation (Utah)	CenturyLink QC	505107	UT
CenturyTel of Inter-Island, Inc.	CenturyLink	522408	WA
CenturyTel of Washington, Inc.	CenturyLink	522408	WA
Qwest Corporation (Washington)	CenturyLink QC	525161	WA
United Telephone Company of the Northwest (Washington)	CenturyLink	522400	WA
CenturyTel of Cowiche, Inc.	CenturyLink	522410	WA
Telephone USA of Wisconsin, LLC	CenturyLink	331155	WI
CenturyTel of Wyoming, Inc.	CenturyLink	512299	WY
Qwest Corporation (Wyoming)	CenturyLink QC	515108	WY
United Telephone Company of the West (Wyoming)	CenturyLink of the West	511595	WY
CenturyLink Communications, LLC (Florida)	CenturyLink	Pending	FL
CenturyLink Communications, LLC (Idaho)	CenturyLink	Pending	ID
CenturyLink Communications, LLC (Minnesota)	CenturyLink	Pending	MN
CenturyLink Communications, LLC (Montana)	CenturyLink	Pending	MT
CenturyLink Communications, LLC (Oregon)	CenturyLink	Pending	OR
CenturyLink Communications, LLC (Washington)	CenturyLink	Pending	WA