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Mr. Victor Schock
Director, Public Utilities Division
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Blvd. Avenue, Dept 408
Bismark, North Dakota, 58505-0480

RE: Objection of Halstad Telephone Company to Petition for Partial Relinquishment of ETC
Designation by Qwest Corporation, PU-25-233

Dear Mr. Schock:

Halstad Telephone Company ("HTC") hereby files its Objection to the Qwest Corporation a/k/a CenturyLink ("CenturyLink") Petition in the above-referenced proceeding. CenturyLink seeks an Order from this Commission relieving it from its Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") obligations while requesting that its current Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") remain intact.

HTC supports the objections and reasonings set forth in the Griggs County Telephone Company Objection to Century Link's Petition. A Commission inquiry is warranted to examine whether CenturyLink remains qualified as a holder of its CPCN, at least in the rural exchanges where it has been largely replaced by neighboring local exchange carriers. It is our position that the retention of the CPCN is not in the public interest and it should only be retained in those exchanges where Century Link demonstrates that it is maintaining its facilities and providing quality service.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Forseth CEO