



**Consolidated**  
*Reach the World, from here.*

507 South Main  
P.O. Box 1408  
Dickinson, ND 58601

701-483-4000  
1-888-225-5282  
consolidatednd.com

October 10, 2025

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 Consolidated Telcom to Petition for Partial Relinquishment of ETC  
Designation by Qwest Corporation, PU-25-233

Dear Mr. Schock:

Consolidated Telcom (“Consolidated”) 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.

Consolidated supports the objections and reasonings set forth in the Griggs County Telephone Company Objection to CenturyLink’s Petition. Our experience with CenturyLink’s service in the Belfield exchange mirrors that of Grigg’s in Leonard. It is why we obtained a Reconnect grant to overbuild the Belfield exchange 100% and obtained ETC status for the exchange. CenturyLink has all but abandoned those North Dakota citizens. These facts ring true across the entire state in the rural exchanges where CenturyLink still has a presence. 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 CenturyLink demonstrates that it is maintaining its facilities and providing quality service.

Respectfully submitted,



Bryan W. Personne  
Chief Executive Officer & General Manager  
Consolidated Telcom

Writers Direct No.s  
Telephone 701-483-7328  
Facsimile 701-483-7346