



NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

News Release Contact:
Terry Bote, 303-894-2827

PUC TO TAKE PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED CENTURYLINK ACQUISITION OF QWEST

DENVER – The Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) will take public comment on Monday, Nov. 8, on CenturyLink’s proposed acquisition of Qwest Communications International.

The public comment hearing will begin at 4 p.m. in Hearing Room A, 1560 Broadway, Denver, Suite 250.

The two companies filed an application on May 27 requesting to transfer Qwest’s local and long-distance operating subsidiaries to CenturyLink in a \$10.6 billion stock swap. The merger requires numerous federal and state regulatory approvals. A decision in Colorado is expected by the end of the year.

As of Dec. 31, 2009, CenturyLink and Qwest served local markets in 37 states with approximately 5 million broadband customers, 17 million local access lines, 1.4 million video subscribers and 850,000 wireless customers. The companies overlap in 10 states, including Colorado.

Qwest, which acquired U S West in 2000, is the largest local phone provider in Colorado. CenturyLink, which acquired PTI Communications in 1997, is the second-largest provider, serving primarily rural exchanges. Most of the territory currently served by CenturyLink was obtained when U S West sold 45 exchanges in Colorado to PTI in 1994.

DORA is dedicated to preserving the integrity of the marketplace and is committed to promoting a fair and competitive business environment in Colorado. Consumer protection is our mission

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