

Decision No. R14-1191-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 14U-0446T

IN THE MATTER OF CENTURLINK COMMUNICATIONS, LLC F/K/A QWEST COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY DBA CENTURLINK QCC PETITION FOR THE DECLARATION OF INTENT TO SERVE WITHIN TERRITORIES OF RURAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROVIDERS.

**INTERIM ORDER OF
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
PAUL C. GOMEZ
REQUIRING FILING OF ANSWERS
IN FORM OF AFFIDAVITS TO
POSED QUESTIONS**

Mailed Date: September 30, 2014

I. STATEMENT

1. On May 9, 2014, CenturyLink Communications, LLC, formerly known as Qwest Communications Company, doing business as CenturyLink QCC (CenturyLink) filed a Petition for the Declaration of Intent to Provide Local Exchange Services within Territories of Rural Telecommunications Providers (Petition).

2. In its Petition, CenturyLink states that it intends to provide telecommunications services in the service territory of Rural Telecommunications Providers, specifically, in the service territory of CenturyTel of Colorado, CenturyTel of Eagle, and El Paso Telephone Company. CenturyLink indicates that it intends to provide Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) and data services within the designated service territories. CenturyLink intends to utilize facilities based and unbundled element telecommunications services to provide the proposed services. In a subsequent filing, CenturyLink explains that it makes its Declaration of Intent in

order to obtain numbering resources for the provisioning of voice services in the proposed service territories.

3. On May 12, 2014, the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (Commission) provided notice of the Application to all interested parties. The notice also provided 30 days from the date of the notice for any interested party to file a petition to intervene to participate as a party in this proceeding pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

4. On May 28, 2014, Union Telephone Company (Union) filed a Petition for Leave to Intervene in this proceeding. Union states that it has previously been certified by the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (Commission) to provide rural local exchange service in a defined certificated area. Union indicates that as a telecommunications provider providing rural local exchange services within its certificated territory, it seeks to intervene in this proceeding to ensure that any activities do not adversely impact its entitlement to a rural exemption, or that any rulings impact its present or future entitlement.

5. On May 30, 2014, CenturyLink responded to a Deficiency Letter issued by Commission Telecommunications Staff providing additional information required by Commission regulations.

6. On June 18, 2014, the Commission, at its regularly scheduled weekly meeting, deemed the application complete and referred the matter to an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) for disposition. The matter was subsequently assigned to the undersigned ALJ.

7. As Union does not actively seek to oppose the Petition, the matter may be considered unopposed. However, in order to determine whether to approve the Petition, additional information is required which was not initially provided by CenturyLink. Therefore, CenturyLink shall provide answers to the following questions:

1.) Please provide a copy of any interconnection agreement CenturyLink has entered into with the underlying local exchange carrier in the El Paso Telephone Company service territory in order to offer service in that area. If no interconnection agreement is in place, please state CenturyLink's position as to why this is the case.

2.) Does CenturyLink intend to collect, remit and report on the Colorado High Cost Support Mechanism funds on its voice services regardless of the technology used to provide such service in the extended service area?

3.) After October 1, 2015, does CenturyLink intend to continue to collect and remit the CHCSM in the rural and non-rural service area on its voice services regardless of the technology used to provide such service?

4.) Does CenturyLink intend to provide the number of new numbers it placed in service in the extended rural service area for each six month reporting requirement period?

5.) Does CenturyLink intend to provide the number of port-in and port-out requests in the extended rural service area for each six month reporting requirement period, and report why any port-ins and port-outs were not successful?

8. CenturyLink is to provide answers to the above questions in the form of an affidavit executed by the company representative answering each question. Responses to the questions are to be filed no later than the close of business on October 10, 2014. Upon receipt of the affidavits from CenturyLink, a Recommended Decision will be issued shortly thereafter.

II. ORDER

A. It Is Ordered That:

1. CenturyLink Communications, LLC, formerly known as Qwest Communications Company, doing business as CenturyLink QCC (CenturyLink) shall provide answers to the questions enumerated above in Paragraph No. 7.

2. The answers to the enumerated questions shall be in the form of an affidavit from the CenturyLink representative answering the question.

3. The answers in the form of affidavits to the enumerated questions shall be filed no later than the close of business on October 10, 2014.

4. This Order shall be effective immediately.

(S E A L)



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PAUL C. GOMEZ

Administrative Law Judge

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doug Dean".

Doug Dean,
Director