ISSUED: March 28, 2023

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

## **OF OREGON**

UM 1908, UM 2206

In the Matters of

LUMEN TECHNOLOGIES, 1

Proposed Commission Action Pursuant to ORS 756.515 to Suspend and Investigate Price Plan (UM 1908), and

QWEST CORPORATION,

Investigation Regarding the Provision of Service in Jacksonville, Oregon and Surrounding Areas (UM 2206).

Price Plan Investigation.

**RULING** 

DISPOSITION: SCHEDULE SUSPENDED PENDING SETTLEMENT

NEGOTIATIONS; STATUS UPDATE OR PROPOSED SCHEDULE

**DUE APRIL 28, 2023** 

On February 21, 2023, I issued a ruling granting a motion from the Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon to suspend the testimony schedule in these proceedings to accommodate settlement negotiations. On March 27, 2023, Lumen Technologies, Inc. (Lumen), filed a joint motion with the support of the other parties to amend Order No. 22-340 to extend the term of Lumen's Price Plan to September 28, 2023, to allow for additional time to negotiate settlement. Lumen stated that the parties would work together and with the Commission to establish a new schedule if the parties are unable to reach settlement. On March 28, 2023, Chief Administrative Law Judge Nolan Moser issued Order No. 23-119 granting an extension for the price plan term through September 28, 2023.

In my February 21, 2023 ruling, I suspended the testimony schedule but left the remainder of the schedule intact pending additional filings from the parties. Based on the March 27, 2023 joint motion and Order No. 23-119, I find that there is good cause to suspend the remainder of the procedural schedule pending settlement negotiations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Formerly known as Qwest Corporation, United Telephone Company of the Northwest, CenturyTel of Oregon, and CenturyTel of Eastern Oregon.

The parties shall file an update on the status of settlement negotiations by April 28, 2023. To the extent that the parties are unable to reach a settlement, the parties shall file a proposed schedule for testimony, hearings, and briefs in these proceedings.

Dated this 28th day of March, 2023, at Salem, Oregon.

Sarah Spruce Administrative Law Judge