

OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
(INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE)

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JUN 06 2019

DATE: May 30, 2019

TO: File through Bryan Conway and Bruce Hellebuyck

FROM: Stephen Hayes

Public Utility Commission of Oregon
Administrative Hearings Division

SUBJECT: CENTURYTEL OF OREGON, INC. AND CENTURYTEL OF EASTERN OREGON, INC.:

(Docket No. ADV 898/Advice No. 362): Increases the rates for Business and Residence Non-Published Number Service and for Business Non-Listed Service and Residence Non-sufficient Funds Check.

I have reviewed this filing and recommend that an acknowledgement letter be sent.

With this filing, CenturyTel of Oregon, Inc., and CenturyTel of Eastern Oregon, Inc. dba CenturyLink (CenturyTel) d/b/a CenturyLink proposes to increase the rates for Business and Residence Non-Published Number Service from \$1.00 to \$2.00. The Company also proposes to increase the Business Non-listed Number Service rate from \$1.00 to \$2.00. Finally, the Company proposes to increase Residential Non-sufficient Funds Check rate from \$7.50 to \$11.25.

On September 28, 2018, the Commission issued its Order No. 18-359, in docket No. UM 1908, approving a Price Plan for CenturyTel under ORS 759.255. Section (8)(a)(i) of Qwest's Price Plan requires tariff changes to be filed at least thirty days prior to their effective dates and allows price decreases to be filed on one-day notice. Furthermore, telecommunications utilities are required under ORS 759.175 to submit filings to the Commission whenever they intend to change their rates, terms, or conditions of service. This filing was submitted on December 14, 2018, and went into effect on February 1, 2019, and therefore complies with the applicable filing requirements. Staff held this report until all noticing issues were resolved in a similar Qwest filing in Docket No. ADV 899. Qwest satisfied noticing issues with the filing of Advice No. 2019-005-PL (Docket No. PL 127) on May 30, 2019.

Non-published and Non-listed services are included in Section (4)(j) Toll Restriction/Call Trace/Unlisted Numbers. Residential Non-listed (also called Unlisted) numbers are capped at pre-plan rates; the filing complies with the Plan. Business Non-Listed numbers along with Residential and Business Non-published numbers are allowed to increase by \$1.00 in any plan year and not increase more than \$3.00 for any plan year; the filing complies with the Plan.

Staff considers the Residential Non-sufficient Funds Check charge to be included in the "Other Services" category of the Price Plan, which is defined as "any other residential or business services contained in CenturyLink's Rate Schedules that are not specifically addressed in this Price Plan and does not include Packages and Bundles." The Plan allows Other Services to increase by 50 percent or \$0.50 annually, whichever is greater; the filing complies with the Plan. The Plan also states that the cumulative price increase over the term of the Price Plan is not to exceed 200 percent for residential customers; the filing complies with the Plan.

All of the proposed increases satisfy the Price Plan limits and noticing requirements.