



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Public Utility Commission

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July 28, 2020



BY EMAIL

Qwest Corporation, dba CenturyLink QC

Robyn.m.crichton@centurylink.com

Samantha.ridderbusch@centurylink.com

RE: Advice No. 2153

At the public meeting on July 28, 2020, the Commission adopted Staff's recommendation in this matter docketed as ADV 1135. The Staff Report, a receipted copy of the sheets in your advice filing, and a signed LSN are attached.

Nolan Moser  
Chief Administrative Law Judge  
Public Utility Commission of Oregon  
(503) 378-3098

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON  
STAFF REPORT  
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: July 28, 2020

REGULAR \_\_\_\_\_ CONSENT  X  EFFECTIVE DATE  July 29, 2020

DATE: July 7, 2020

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Malia Brock

THROUGH: Bryan Conway, Michael Dougherty, and Bruce Hellebuyck **SIGNED**

SUBJECT: QWEST CORPORATION:  
(Docket No. ADV 1135/Advice No. 2153)  
Oregon Telephone Assistance Program Revisions.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the filed tariff be allowed to go into effect on Less than Statutory Notice (LSN) for service on and after July 29, 2020.

**DISCUSSION:**

Issue

Whether to allow the revised tariff filed by Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC (Qwest) to go into effect with service on and after July 29, 2020 on LSN.

Applicable Law

Telecommunications utilities are required under ORS 759.175 to submit tariff filings to the Commission whenever they intend to change their rates, terms, or conditions of service. On September 28, 2018, with Order No. 18-359, the Commission approved a Price Plan applicable to Qwest, as allowed by 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.

Filings that propose any change in rates, tolls, charges, rules, or regulations must be filed with the Commission at least 30 days before the effective date of the change. ORS 759.190. Tariff filings to be effective on less than 30 days following notice of the change may be authorized with a waiver of less than statutory notice pursuant to ORS 759.190.

### Analysis

Qwest originally filed on June 26, 2020, to propose revisions to Section 5, Sheets 57 and 57.1 of its Exchange and Network Services Tariff, P.U.C. OR. No. 33. Qwest made subsequent related filings on July 6 and July 9. All of these filings were made to conform Qwest's tariff language to the temporary rule adopted in Commission Order No. 20-204 issued in Docket AR 634. Under the temporary rule, the Commission has temporarily changed the amount of support for the Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP), set forth in OAR 860-033-0035. The support amount was increased to offset the financial burden of the COVID-19 pandemic on low-income Oregonians and enable qualifying low income households to retain or enhance the supported voice and broadband internet access services they receive. The rule amendments increased the amount of OTAP support for customers that are paying a monthly rate, from \$3.50 up to \$12.00 per month, effective July 1, 2020.

As Qwest's second and third supplemental filings were made on July 6, 2020 and July 9, 2020, and advice is effective on January 29, 2020, Qwest also filed an application for less than statutory notice.

Given the need to correct Qwest's reference to the benefit amount of the OTAP credit, Staff finds it appropriate to approve the tariff effective July 29, 2020, and Staff finds that there is good cause for the LSN to quickly correct the information available to customers in the tariff regarding this benefit.

### Conclusion

Staff finds that the filing, with approval of the LSN, complies with the requirements of the Qwest Price Plan and Oregon statutes.

### **PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:**

Allow Qwest Advice No. 2153 to go into effect for service rendered on and after July 29, 2020, on less than statutory notice.

**Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC**

**P.U.C. OREGON NO. 33  
EXCHANGE AND  
NETWORK SERVICES**

**SECTION 5  
4th Revised Sheet 57  
Cancels 3rd Revised Sheet 57**

**5. EXCHANGE SERVICES**

**5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE**

**5.2.6 LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

**B. Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP)**

**3. Terms and Conditions**

- a. To qualify for the OTAP discount, a subscriber must demonstrate eligibility for OTAP by making application to the Oregon Public Utility Commission (OPUC) on an OPUC-approved form.
- b. The Company provides an OTAP-eligible subscriber the OTAP discount in the form of a monthly credit on the subscriber's bill effective with the date specified for the subscriber by the OPUC. The OTAP credit will be prorated on the basis of a 30-day month from the effective date of the subscriber's eligibility.

**4. Monthly Credit**

	Credit USOC	Credit Amount	
State Credit for the exchange access line and broadband internet access service for OTAP participants	ASGSX	11121	(C)

(M)  
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(M)

<sup>[1]</sup> Effective January 1, 2020, this credit also applies to broadband internet access service.

<sup>[2]</sup> **Oregon Public Utility Commission Authorized Rate.**  
**This credit amount is available in section 5.2.6 of the [Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC Exchange and Network Services Catalog No. 3.](#)**

(N)  
|  
(N)

**(M) Material moved to Original Sheet 57 of this section.**

Received

Filing Center  
JUL 9 2020

# Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC

**P.U.C. OREGON NO. 33  
EXCHANGE AND  
NETWORK SERVICES**

**SECTION 5**

Original Sheet 57.1

## **5. EXCHANGE SERVICES**

### **5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE**

#### **5.2.6 LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

##### **C. Tribal Lands Lifeline Program**

###### **1. Description**

The Tribal Lands Lifeline Program provides a monthly credit in addition to the Federal Lifeline Program credit for qualifying low-income individuals who reside on Tribal Lands defined in paragraph (e) of Title 47 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 54.400.

###### **2. Eligibility Requirements**

- a. To receive Tribal Lands Lifeline credit, applicants must meet the eligibility criteria specified in 5.2.6.A.2 preceding or must demonstrate participation by the applicant, applicant's dependent(s) or a member of applicant's household in one of the following qualifying programs:

- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) general assistance program
- Tribally administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Head Start programs (under income qualifying eligibility provision only)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

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JUL 9 2020

Advice No. 2153  
Issued by Qwest Corporation

Effective: July 29, 2020

OR2020-09

ADV 1135  
Advice No. 2153

# LESS THAN STATUTORY NOTICE APPLICATION

This document may be electronically filed by sending it as an attachment to an electronic mail message addressed to the Commission's Filing Center at [puc.filingcenter@state.or.us](mailto:puc.filingcenter@state.or.us).

## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF  Qwest Corportation ADV 1135/Advice No. 2153 _____ (UTILITY COMPANY)  TO WAIVE STATUTORY NOTICE.	) ) ) ) )	UTILITY L.S.N. APPLICATION  NO. <u>2262</u> _____ (LEAVE BLANK)
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**NOTE:** ATTACH EXHIBIT IF SPACE IS INSUFFICIENT.

1. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE(S) ADDITION, DELETION, OR CHANGE. (SCHEDULE INCLUDES ALL RATES, TOLLS AND CHARGES FOR SERVICE AND ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS AFFECTING THE SAME)  
 Changes to OTAP Credit Language

2. APPLICANT DESIRES TO CHANGE THE SCHEDULE(S) NOW ON FILE KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS: (INSERT SCHEDULE REFERENCE BY NUMBER, PAGE, AND ITEM)  
 Section 5, Sheets 57 and 57.1 of its Exchange and Network Services Tariff, P.U.C. OR. No. 33

3. THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE(S) SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS: (INSERT SCHEDULE REFERENCE BY NUMBER, PAGE AND ITEM)  
 n/a

4. REASONS FOR REQUESTING A WAIVER OF STATUTORY NOTICE:  
 As previously discussed with Oregon Public Utility Commission Sr. Utility Analyst, Ms. Malia Brock, this filing replaces the existing Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP) discount with a footnote that says "Oregon Public Utility Commission Authorized Rate."

5. REQUESTED EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE NEW SCHEDULE(S) OR CHANGE(S): July 29, 2020

. AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE <i>Robyn Crichton</i>	TITLE Government Operations Manager	DATE July 9, 2020
PUC USE ONLY		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> DENIED	EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED SCHEDULE(S) OR CHANGE July 29, 2020	
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE <i>Malia Brock</i>	DATE July 28, 2020	