

**OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE**

**DATE:** February 23, 2021

**TO:** File through Michael Dougherty and Bruce Hellebuyck

**FROM:** Scott Shearer

**SUBJECT:** UNITED TELEPHONE COMPANY OF THE NORTHWEST: (Docket No. PL 162/Advice No. 21.001) Introduces a new promotion in exchanges services for existing business customers.

I have reviewed this filing and recommend that an acknowledgement letter be sent. With this filing, United Telephone Company of the Northwest (CenturyLink) proposes a new promotion available to existing business customers and makes other housekeeping changes to OR PUC Price List No. 102. The filing was submitted on February 19, 2021, and went into effect on February, 22, 2021.

Applicable Rule or 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. CenturyLink is also regulated under a Price Plan pursuant to ORS 759.255 and Order No. 18-359, issued September 28, 2018.

Section 8a11 of the Price Plan requires CenturyLink to file notice of all Price List changes with the Commission at least one day prior to the effective date of the change.

Section 9 of CenturyLink's Price Plan explains that CenturyLink may offer promotions for residential Primary Line Basic Service and other regulated services pursuant to ORS 759.182 and 759.267.

OAR 860-026-0025 governs a utility's ability to offer promotional concessions. Under Section 13 of the Price Plan, CenturyLink was granted a partial waiver of that rule to enable CenturyLink to run promotions for up to 9 months in any 12-month period, rather than the 180 days in any 12-month period specified in the rule.

Analysis

This filing creates a new promotion for existing business customers. None of these changes affect the intent of the price list.

Specifically, from February 22, 2021 through August 21, 2021, existing business customers who do not qualify for a term discount plan for local exchange service may be eligible for a bill credit when they agree to retain their basic local exchange service(s) for at least one year.

To be eligible, customers must not have had service disconnected with the Company for non-payment in the past, must not have any past due bills for services owed to the Company, and must have a satisfactory credit rating.

Customers must also be subscribed to business local exchange service or a bundle that includes local exchange service. Eligible customers who agree to retain service for one year will receive a bill credit equal to the monthly charge for the local exchange or bundled services retained. Customers who agree to retain service for two years will receive two consecutive bill credits equal to the monthly charge associated with the eligible services. Taxes and surcharges applied against the regular monthly charges will not be credited.

If a customer discontinues service prior to the end of agreed upon service period, credits issued under this promotion will be rescinded, and charges for credits issued will be reflected on the customer's final invoice. This promotion does not apply to moves, changes, or additions to an existing customer's service and may not be combined with any other promotion.

The filing was submitted more than one day prior to its effective date.

### Conclusion

This filing complies with all applicable laws, rules, Commission orders, and CenturyLink's Price Plan. The filing has already gone into effect, and an acknowledgement letter should be sent. No further action is necessary.