## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

## **OF OREGON**

## **UM 1484**

	)	
In the Matter of	)	<b>CUB'S MOTION PURSUANT TO</b>
	)	CONDITION 54 OF ORDER NO. 11-
CENTURYLINK, INC.	)	095 REQUESTING THE ADOPTION
	)	OF PROVISIONS FROM OTHER
Application for Approval of Merger	)	STATES
between CenturyTel, Inc. and Qwest	)	
Communications International, Inc.	)	
	)	

#### INTRODUCTION

On April 28, 2011, CENTURYLINK provided to the OPUC, and to the parties to Docket UM 1484, copies of final orders from the States of Arizona, Colorado, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Utah, Virginia, Washington, and the FCC adopting conditions applicable to the merger that is the subject of this docket. Pursuant to Condition 54 of the Oregon Public Utilities Commission's (OPUC) Order No. 11-095 (Appendix A, at 14.), the OPUC may adopt conditions from other states and the FCC related to addressing harms of the transaction so long as they do not result in the combined company being required to provide a "net benefit" and either:

- i. "The Commission or Staff has not previously identified the harm to Oregon ratepayers and such harm is applicable to Oregon; or
- ii. The commitments or conditions in a final order of another state and the FCC are more effective at preventing a harm previously identified by the Commission or its Staff." *Id.*

Condition 54 further states that, within thirty days after the service of such filings, parties may file response as to whether any of the "covenants, commitments and conditions from the other jurisdictions (without modification of the language thereof except such non-substantive changes as are necessary to make the commitment or condition applicable to Oregon), meets the requirements set forth above, and should be adopted in Oregon." *Id.* 

CUB appreciates adoption of the "Most Favored State" condition in this docket.

Specifically CUB appreciates that Staff and Intervenors were permitted to review conditions from all States and the FCC regardless of the date of adoption. CUB notes, with some pride, that Oregon has already included a robust set of terms and conditions which offer many protections for customers leaving few ends to tidy up on the residential customer side in this filing.

In this context, CUB hereby proposes adoption of the very few conditions put forth by other states which it feels meet the requirements of subsections i. or ii. as quoted above in regard to residential customers.

#### PROPOSED CONDITIONS

The Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) in Docket No. UT-100820, imposed the following condition:

CenturyLink will file notification with the Commission upon the completion of any OSS system conversions or integrations for which advance notification was required under the Retail or Wholesale OSS conditions.<sup>1</sup>

CUB requests that the OPUC also adopt this provision pursuant to Condition 54. This provision should be adopted because it satisfies the requirements of the "Most Favored"

\_

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> WUTC Docket No. UT-100820, Appendix A to Staff/Public Counsel, Settlement Agreement, at.11.

State" provision. It does not result in the combined company being required to provide a net benefit. The harm sought to be prevented by this provision is the concern that Oregon OSS conditions and requirements impose no post-completion notification obligations on the Merged Company. CUB believes this additional information better equips OPUC Staff to assess progress and compliance with regard to OSS conversions and integration changes. CUB does not believe this issue was considered in this docket and finds that no provision in the OPUC Order adequately provides for this information.

The WUTC also imposed the following condition:

CenturyLink will retain Qwest WUTC complaint staff in Washington state for a period of no less than two years following the close of the Transaction.

On an ongoing basis, CenturyLink shall ensure that its executive complaint functions are sufficiently staffed with adequately trained personnel who will provide a level of service that is consistent with WAC 480-120-166, with particular focus on punctuality of response; accessibility during the Commission operating hours; thorough investigation with complete responses; and internal communication methods to reach appropriate operations personnel to respond to and resolve consumer issues, with particular emphasis on service affecting situations.<sup>2</sup>

CUB requests that the OPUC also adopt this provision, pursuant to Condition 54, as modified below:

CenturyLink will retain Qwest WUTC complaint staff in Washington state Oregon for a period of no less than two years following the close of the Transaction.

On an ongoing basis, CenturyLink shall ensure that its executive complaint functions are sufficiently staffed with adequately trained personnel who will provide a level of service that is consistent with WAC 480-120-166, with particular focus on punctuality of response; accessibility during the Commission operating hours; thorough investigation with complete responses; and internal communication methods to reach appropriate

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> WUTC Docket No. UT-100820, *Appendix A to Settlement Agreement - Conditions*, at.8.

operations personnel to respond to and resolve consumer issues, with particular emphasis on service affecting situations.

CUB believes that part one of the above cited provision should be adopted because it satisfies the requirements of the "Most Favored State" provision. It does not result in the combined company being required to provide a net benefit. The harm sought to be prevented by this provision is the concern that knowledgeable complaint personnel may be let go resulting in a drop in satisfactory response to customer complaints – a deterioration of the company's service quality obligations. CUB believes that if this specific issue was identified it went undocumented and thus it is CUB's belief that no provision in the OPUC Order adequately protects against this potential harm identified in part one. CUB notes that the changes made to part one of this provision are non-substantive and are necessary only to make the commitment applicable to Oregon.

CUB further believes that part two of this provision should be adopted in Oregon, however, CUB notes that adoption of part two of the provision would require the deletion a small amount of text. Notwithstanding the above, CUB respectfully requests that part two of this condition also be adopted.

The Colorado Public Utilities Commission in Docket No. 10A-350T, imposed the following condition:

Nothing in this Agreement shall reduce or impair existing service quality obligations, standards, or reporting by Joint Applicants, nor shall this Agreement impair the right of the Trial Staff or the OCC to seek information within the scope of their statutory authority, to initiate complaints or any other right or remedy regarding service quality existing in Colorado law, Commission rules, or Commission orders applicable to the Joint Applicants.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> CPUC Docket No. 10A-350T, Stipulation and Settlement Agreement Between Joint Applicants and Commission Trial Staff, at 8.

CUB requests that the OPUC also adopt this provision, pursuant to Condition 54, as modified below:

Nothing in this Agreement shall reduce or impair existing service quality obligations, standards, or reporting by Joint Applicants, nor shall this Agreement impair the right of the Trial Staff OPUC Staff or the OCC CUB to seek information within the scope of their statutory authority, to initiate complaints or any other right or remedy regarding service quality existing in Colorado Oregon law, Commission rules, or Commission orders applicable to the Joint Applicants.

This provision should be adopted because it satisfies the requirements of the "Most Favored State" provision. It does not result in the combined company being required to provide a net benefit. The harm sought to be prevented by this provision is the concern that the Merged Company may seek to construe some portion of the Agreement so as to impair the rights of OPUC Staff or CUB to seek and obtain information needed to ensure satisfaction of the company's service quality obligations. CUB does not believe this issue was considered in this docket and finds that no provision in the OPUC Order adequately protects access to this information. CUB notes that the changes made to this provision are non-substantive and are necessary only to make the commitment applicable to Oregon.

#### **CONCLUSION**

CUB urges the Commission to adopt the WUTC and CPUC provisions, cited above, as

Oregon conditions to this merger.

Dated this 27th Day of May, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

G. Catriona McCracken

General Counsel, Regulatory Program Director

Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon

610 SW Broadway, Ste. 400

Portland, OR 97205

(503)227-1984

Catriona@oregoncub.org

## **UM 1484 – CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that, on this 27<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2011, I served the foregoing **CUB'S MOTION PURSUANT TO CONDITION 54 OF ORDER NO. 11-095 REQUESTING THE ADOPTION OF PROVISIONS FROM OTHER STATES** in docket UM 1484 upon each party listed in the UM 1484 PUC Service List by email and, where paper service is not waived, by U.S. mail, postage prepaid, and upon the Commission by email and by sending one original and one copy by U.S. mail, postage prepaid, to the Commission's Salem offices.

(W denotes waiver of paper service) (HC denotes highly confidential material authorized) (C denotes service of Confidential material authorized)

- W CHARLES L BEST
  HC ATTORNEY AT LAW
  1631 NE BROADWAY #538
  PORTLAND OR 97232-1425
  chuck@charleslbest.com
- W 360 NETWORKS(USA) INC MICHEL SINGER NELSON 370 INTERLOCKEN BLVD STE 600 BROOMFIELD CO 80021-8015 mnelson@360.net
- W ATER WYNNE LLP
  JOEL PAISNER
  601 UNION ST STE 1501
  SEATTLE WA 98101-2327
  jrp@aterwynne.com
- W CENTURY FARM COURT JOHN FELZ 5454 W 110TH ST KSOPKJ0502 OVERLAND PARK KS 66211 john.felz@centurylink.com
- W CENTURYLINK, INC.
  C WILLIAM E HENDRICKS
  805 BROADWAY ST
  VANCOUVER WA 98660-3277
  tre.hendricks@centurylink.com

- W 360 NETWORKS(USA) INC PENNY STANLEY 370 INTERLOCKEN BLVD STE 600 BROOMFIELD CO 80021-8015 penny.stanley@360.net
- W ATER WYNNE LLP
  C ARTHUR A BUTLER
  HC 601 UNION STREET, STE 1501
  SEATTLE WA 98101-3981
  aab@aterwynne.com
- W CENTRAL TELEPHONE INC RICHARD STEVENS PO BOX 25 GOLDENDALE WA 98620 rstevens@gorge.net
- W CENTURYLINK
  RHONDA KENT
  805 BROADWAY 8TH FL
  VANCOUVER WA 98660
  rhonda.kent@centurylink.com
- W CHARTER FIBERLINK OR
  MICHAEL R MOORE
  12405 POWERSCOURT DR
  ST LOUIS MO 63131
  michael.moore@chartercom.com

# W CITY OF LINCOLN CITY DAVID HAWKER 801 SW HIGHWAY 101

LINCOLN CITY OR 97367 davidh@lincolncity.org

## W COMM. CONNECTION

CHARLES JONES 14250 NW SCIENCE PARK DR STE B PORTLAND OR 97229 charlesjones@cms-nw.com

#### W CORPORATE LAWYERS PC

FRANK G PATRICK PO BOX 231119 PORTLAND OR 97281 fgplawpc@hotmail.com

#### W DAVIS WRIGHT TREMAINE LLP

C KC HALM

HC 1919 PENN AVE NW 2ND FL WASHINGTON DC 20006-3458 kchalm@dwt.com

#### W DAVIS WRIGHT TREMAINE LLP

C BRIAN NIXON

HC 1919 PENNSYLVANIA AVE STE 200 WASHINGTON DC 20006 briannixon@dwt.com

#### W DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

C JASON W JONES

HC 1162 COURT ST NE SALEM OR 97301-4096 jason.w.jones@state.or.us

#### W GRAY PLANT MOOTY

C GREGORY MERZ

HC 500 IDS CENTER, 80 S EIGHTH ST MINNEAPOLIS MN 55402 gregory.merz@gpmlaw.com

## W HOLBROOK & SEIFERT LLC

DOUGLAS R HOLBROOK PO BOX 2087 NEWPORT OR 97365 doug@lawbyhs.com

#### W CONVERGE COMMUNICATIONS

MARSHA SPELLMAN 10425 SW HAWTHORNE LN PORTLAND OR 97225 marsha@convergecomm.com

#### **COVAD COMMUNICATIONS CO**

KATHERINE K MUDGE 7000 N MOPAC EXPWY 2ND FL AUSTIN TX 78731 kmudge@covad.com

#### W DAVIS WRIGHT TREMAINE LLP

C MARK P TRINCHERO

HC 1300 SW FIFTH AVE STE 2300 PORTLAND OR 97201-5682 marktrinchero@dwt.com

#### W GRAHAM & DUNN PC

C JUDITH ENDEJAN 2801 ALASKIAN WAY STE 300 SEATTLE WA 98121 jendejan@grahamdunn.com

#### W INTEGRA TELCOM INC

C KAREN L CLAUSON 6160 GOLDEN HILLS DR GOLDEN VALLEY MN 55416-1020 klclauson@integratelecom.com

#### W LINCOLN COUNTY COUNSEL

WAYNE BELMONT 225 W OLIVE ST, RM 110 NEWPORT OR 97365 wbelmont@co.lincoln.or.us

## W LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATION

GREG L ROGERS SR CORPORATE COUNSEL 1025 ELDORADO BLVD BROOMFIELD CO 80021 greg.rogers@level3.com

## W MCDOWELL RACKNER GIBSON

ADAM LOWNEY HC 419 SW 11TH AVE, STE 400 PORTLAND OR 97205 adam@mcd-law.com

## W MCDOWELL RACKNER GIBSON

LISA F RACKNER 419 SW 11TH AVE., SUITE 400 PORTLAND OR 97205 lisa@mcd-law.com

#### W PACIFIC NW PAYPHONE

RANDY LINDERMAN PMB 300, 2373 NW 185TH AVE HILLSBORO OR 97124-7076 rlinderman@gofirestream.com

## W PRIORITYONE TELECOM. INC

KELLY MUTCH PO BOX 758 LA GRANDE OR 97850-6462 managers@p1tel.com

## W PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

MICHAEL DOUGHERTY  $\mathbf{C}$ **HC** PO BOX 2148 SALEM OR 97308-2148 michael.dougherty@state.or.us

## W SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS

**DIANE BROWNING** 6450 SPRINT PKWY **OVERLAND PARK KS 66251** diane.c.browning@sprint.com

## W MCDOWELL RACKNER GIBSON

WENDY MCINDOO OFFICE MANAGER 419 SW 11TH AVE., SUITE 400 PORTLAND OR 97205 wendy@mcd-law.com

## W NW PUBLIC COMM. COUNCIL

GREG MARSHALL 2373 NW 185TH AVE - # 310 HILLSBORO OR 97124 gmarshall@corbantechnologies.com

## W PARKER TELECOM.

EDWIN B PARKER PO BOX 402 **GLENEDEN BEACH OR 97388** edparker@teleport.com

#### W PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

C **BRYAN CONWAY HC** PO BOX 2148 SALEM OR 97308-2148 bryan.conway@state.or.us

## C OSI CONSULTING, INC

**HC** PATRICK L PHIPPS 3504 SUNDANCE DR SPRINGFIELD IL 62711

## W QWEST CORPORATION RON L TRULLINGER

310 SW PARK AVE, #11 PORTLAND OR 97205

ron.trullinger@centurylink.com

## W SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS

KENNETH SCHIFMAN 6450 SPRINT PKWY OVERLAND PARK KS 66251 kenneth.schifman@sprint.com

#### W SPRINT NEXTEL

C KRISTIN L JACOBSON 201 MISSION ST STE 1500 SAN FRANCISCO CA 94105 kristin.l.jacobson@sprint.com

# W TILLAMOOK COUNTY

WILLIAM SARGENT 1134 MAIN AVE TILLAMOOK OR 97141 wsargent@oregoncoast.com

## UNITED TELCO OF THE NW

BARBARA YOUNG 902 WASCO ST ORHDRA0305 HOOD RIVER OR 97031 barbara.c.young@centurylink.com

# XO COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES INC REX M KNOWLES 7050 UNION PARK AVE - STE 400

MIDVALE UT 84047 rex.knowles@xo.com

## T-MOBILE USA INC

DAVE CONN 12920 SE 38TH ST BELLEVUE WA 98006 dave.conn@t-mobile.com

#### W WSTC

ADAM HAAS 10425 SW HAWTHORNE LN PORTLAND OR 97225 adamhaas@convergecomm.com

Respectfully submitted,

1.C.M

G. Catriona McCracken

General Counsel, Regulatory Program Director Citizens' Utility Board of Oregon

610 SW Broadway, Ste. 400

Portland, OR 97205

(503)227-1984

Catriona@oregoncub.org