# OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

**DATE:** October 18, 2021

**TO:** File through John Crider and Bruce Hellebuyck

**FROM:** Joseph Bartholomew

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

OREGON, INC.: (Docket No. PL 173/Advice No. 21-005) introduces a new

optional service package, Simply Unlimited Business for business

customers.

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. (CenturyLink) proposes a new optional service package available to business customers called Simply Unlimited Business and makes other changes to OR PUC Price List No. 101. The following revisions will be made:

Section 5, page 55, original Section 5, page 56, 5<sup>th</sup> revision Section 5, page 57, 5<sup>th</sup> revision Section 5, page 58, 5<sup>th</sup> revision

The filing was submitted on August 13, 2021, and went into effect on August, 16, 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 1(d) of CenturyLink's Price Plan defines Packages and Bundles as any combination of services, which may include residential or business basic local exchange service as well as other services at a combined prices. Section 4(r) states that CenturyLink may combine any regulated telecommunications service with any other service(s) to offer Packages and Bundles of services, which may include residential Primary Line Basic Service and EAS, at any price/ subject to: i) All regulated telecommunications services offered as part of a package or bundle shall remain separately available for purchase from CenturyLink's Rate Schedules. ii) The package or bundle price shall not exceed the sum of the stand-alone retail prices of all available services in the package or bundle.

### <u>Analysis</u>

This filing creates a new optional package for business customers called Simply Unlimited Business. None of these changes affect the intent of the price list.

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Simply Unlimited Business is an optional enrollment plan that permits business customers who subscribe to qualifying products and services to receive Local Exchange Service and additional features and services for a flat monthly rate.

Simply Unlimited Business is available for a maximum of twenty business lines and/or key trunks at a given customer location, not to exceed twenty-five lines across all customer locations in territories served by a CenturyLink incumbent local exchange carrier.

Customers must also subscribe to companion long distance service provided by CenturyLink Communications, LLC for the initial and each additional bundle.

There is no minimum service period for the Local Exchange Service and features provided in Simply Unlimited Business. Customers who discontinue this service within thirty days after establishment of service will be charged only for the number of days of service.

If customers discontinue any of the required services or features, the remaining components of the Simply Unlimited Business selected by the customer will be converted to a la carte rates. If optional High-Speed Internet service is discontinued at any bundle location, the discounted monthly rate will no longer apply and all Simply Unlimited Business lines at that location will be converted to the applicable monthly rate.

Simply Unlimited Business is not available to customers who are or become toll restricted. Service Connection Charges will not apply for those existing lines converted, in-place, to business exchange service due to company-initiated toll restrictions. Such customers will not be permitted to re-enroll in this plan until such time as all associated unpaid balances are satisfactorily paid in full. It cannot be combined with any other discounts unless otherwise specified.

Simply Unlimited Business includes a rate stability plan which allows customers to pay a fixed monthly rate that is not subject to rate changes over a fixed period. Customers will pay the tariffed rate in effect as of the service establishment date for the first twelve months after service is established. On the service establishment anniversary date, the customer's monthly rate will increase to the lesser of the then-prevailing tariffed rate or a rate that is \$5.00 higher than the rate in effect on the service establishment date. Thereafter, on each subsequent anniversary date, the monthly rate may increase by no more than \$5.00, not to exceed the then-prevailing tariffed rate.

Customers will be notified at least thirty days prior to any service anniversary date rate increase. Such notice will include the actual amount by which customer's Simply Unlimited Business will increase.

## Rates and Charges are as follows:

	Monthly Rate		
Option	Initial Bundle, Per Locations	Each Additional Bundle, Per Location	Activation Fee
Simply Unlimited Business with Long Distance	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Simply Unlimited Business with Long Distance and High-Speed Internet	\$40.00	\$35.00	N/A

The above monthly rates do not include applicable charges for non-regulated High-Speed Internet provided by the Company. However, the charges listed and the rate for High-Speed Internet will appear as a single line item on the customer's bill.

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.

CenturyTel.21-005.Simply Unlimited Business Optional Package.