OREGON PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

- DATE: February 27, 2024
- **TO:** File thru Marc Hellman
- **FROM:** Joseph Bartholomew
- SUBJECT: <u>CENTURYTEL OF OREGEN INC dba CENTURYLINK and</u> <u>CENTURYTEL OF EASTERN OREGON INC dba CENTURYLINK.</u>: (Docket No. PL 229/Advice No. 23-002). Grandfathers New Number Referral and Customized Referral Intercept Services.

I have reviewed this filing and recommend that an acknowledgement letter be sent. With this filing, CenturyTel of Oregon Inc dba CenturyLink and CenturyTel of Eastern Oregon dba CenturyLink (CenturyLink) proposes to grandfather New Number Referral and Customized Referral Intercept Services. The following changes have been made to the CenturyLink Price List 101:

Section 5, Sheet 22, 1st revised sheet Section 5, Sheet 23, 1st revised sheet

The filing was submitted on December 27, 2023, with a proposed effective date of December 31, 2023.

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 (Docket No. UM 1908), the Commission approved a Price Plan applicable to both CenturyLink and its affiliates, United Telephone Company of the Northwest d/b/a CenturyLink, CenturyTel of Oregon d/b/a CenturyLink, and CenturyTel of Eastern Oregon d/b/a CenturyLink, as allowed by ORS 759.255. Section 8aii of CenturyLink's Price Plan requires price list changes to be filed with the Commission at least one day prior to the effective date of the change. Section 8.b of the Price Plan requires CenturyLink to provide customers with 30-day notice of changes to terms or conditions of service.

Pursuant to OAR 860-032-0020(1)(d), "grandfather" means "to discontinue or cease offering a service to new customers and to continue offering the service to existing customers." OAR 860-036-0020(1)(k) defines "sunset date" as "the day a telecommunications provider will abandon a grandfathered service being provided to existing customers."

Pursuant to OAR 860-032-0020(15)(a), grandfathering a service without a sunset date

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is not considered abandonment of service. OAR 860-032-0020(15)(b) allows a telecommunications utility to grandfather a regulated service without a sunset date by filing a tariff which designates the service as grandfathered. Normal tariff filing and review requirements apply to Staffs consideration of such filings, including review for compliance with any applicable Price Plan.

<u>Analysis</u>

This filing grandfathers New Number Referral and Customized Referral Intercept Services effective December 31, 2023, on existing customers at existing locations.

Compliance

This filing complies with all applicable laws, rules, and Commission orders and was submitted at least one day prior to its effective date therefore complies with the requirements of ORS 759.175 and Section 8aii of CenturyLink's Price Plan.

Conclusion

The filing should be allowed to go into effect, and an acknowledgment letter should be sent. No further action is necessary.

CenturyLink.PL229.Grandfathering.