

September 14, 2020

Ms. Lorena Reichert
Staff Analyst
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

**Re: In the Matter of the Request of Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 395145)
Docket No. TC20-016**

Dear Ms. Reichert:

At the September 1, 2020 Commission meeting, Commissioner Nelson asked CenturyLink to file information in this docket about its 2021 plans for completing its CAF build in South Dakota. As we have indicated in prior filings, CenturyLink establishes its capital investment plans in the winter months and therefore has not finalized its plans for 2021. Thus, the information contained in this letter is tentative in nature and subject to change.

Overall, CenturyLink's plan is to evaluate how many living units remain to be built at the conclusion of the 2020 construction season. We anticipate that the number will be less than 10% of our obligation. To the extent necessary, CenturyLink then intends to complete its obligation by enabling fixed wireless towers to serve the remainder of its required customers. We are in the process of having the necessary preparations to construct and enable a number of fixed wireless towers if needed to meet our obligation. The exact towers we deploy will depend on our ability to obtain appropriate permits, reach appropriate agreements and the efficiency and effectiveness of each tower to enable CAF eligible living units. The general location of the towers in process is identified on Confidential Attachment A.

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We hope this letter provides Commissioner Nelson with the information he sought at the Commission meeting. If the Commission needs additional information, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason D. Topp". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jason D. Topp

JDT/bardm

Enclosures

cc: Service List (via e-mail)