



Jason D. Topp
Senior Counsel - Regulatory
(651) 312-5364

August 31, 2018

Patricia Van Gerpen
Executive Director
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. TC18-041

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Pursuant to discussions at the Commission meeting that took place on August 22, enclosed please find the Confidential Supplement to Attachment B to CenturyLink's ETC application. This analysis is a high level and preliminary overview of the company's potential approach to meeting its Connect America Fund investments in those years. As is spelled out in Note D to Attachment C of the application, actual decisions about such investments are made as a part of the company's capital planning process that takes place six to eight months prior to actual construction.

We believe our approach to deploying capital is in the best interest of our customers. We are constantly exploring the best approach to meet our commitments to expand broadband pursuant to the Connect America Fund and to meet all other needs of South Dakota customers. By making decisions as late as possible, we believe we can best serve our customers.

I will attend the September 4 Commission meeting by telephone and will be available to discuss these issues.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jason D. Topp", written over a printed name "Jason D. Topp".

Jason D. Topp

JDT/bardm
Enclosures

cc: Service List (via e-mail)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 31st day of August, 2018, the foregoing CenturyLink QC letter, Confidential Supplement to Attachment B and Request for Confidential Treatment of Information was E-Filed upon the following party:


Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen
Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501
patty.vangerpen@state.sd.us

and copies sent electronically or via U.S. mail, addressed to the following:

Ms. Amanda Reiss
Staff Attorney
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501
amanda.reiss@state.sd.us

Ms. Lorena Reichert
Staff Analyst
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501
lorena.reichert@state.sd.us

Mr. Jason D. Topp
Senior Counsel - Regulatory
CenturyLink Communications Company LLC
200 S. Fifth St., Rm. 2200
Minneapolis, MN 55402
jason.topp@centurylink.com


Dianne Barthel