

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

**In the Matter of the Request of Qwest Corporation Docket No. TC23-035
dba CenturyLink QC for Certification Regarding
Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support
(Study Area: 395145)**

**QWEST CORPORATION DBA CENTURYLINK QC'S RESPONSES TO THE SOUTH
DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION STAFF'S FIRST DATA REQUESTS**

Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC ("CenturyLink"), for its responses to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Staff's First Data Requests, states as follows:

- 1-1. Provide an update regarding the Valentine Fiber Project and Deadwood projects noted in last year's response letter to Commissioner Nelson.

Response:

Valentine Fiber Project:

At the end of 2022, CenturyLink QC received a 2 year extension on the project from the Nebraska Public Service Commission. During the second quarter of 2023, CenturyLink QC began construction efforts once all approvals were provided by the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. As of the end of July, construction along roadways was about halfway complete. Beginning in late August, there will be a new construction crew on site to place fiber drops to the homes within the project area. Weather permitting, CenturyLink QC hopes to complete construction by the end of 2023.

Deadwood:

Construction is complete, and CenturyLink QC is currently removing utility poles that are no longer needed.

- 1-2. Confirm that new customers received information on Lifeline and Link-Up services within 30 days of starting services.

Response:

CenturyLink confirms that its South Dakota customers receive information on Lifeline and Link-Up services within 30 days of starting new service.

- 1-3. If available, provide deployment plans for the 10 locations to be funded via RDOF. Include when the locations are anticipated to be served and what service type will be used.

Response:

CenturyLink's RDOF plans are still under development. Under the RDOF program, however, CenturyLink is obligated to deploy to 40% of the locations by the end-of-year 2025.

CenturyLink will deploy Fiber-to-the-Home service to RDOF locations.

- 1.4. Referring to Attachment B, it appears the projected capital expenditures for 2024 and 2025 for outside plant are drastically different from 2022 and 2023. Are the column labels on this attachment accurate as we go into 2024 and 2025? Please confirm or submit revised attachments as needed.

Response:

See updated Confidential Attachment B. The columns for the 2022-2023 worksheets have been changed so the column headings match with the source file. The amounts stayed the same. The information provided in the 2024-2025 worksheets is accurate.

Dated this 3rd day of August, 2023.

QWEST CORPORATION DBA
CENTURYLINK QC



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