

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

**In the Matter of the Request of
CenturyLink QC for Certification
Regarding its Use of Federal Universal
Service Support**

Docket No. TC14-071

**CENTURYLINK QC'S RESPONSES TO SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION STAFF'S DATA REQUESTS**

CenturyLink QC, for its responses to the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

Staff's Data Requests, states as follows:

1.1. Per ARSD 20:10:32:57(2), please provide an explanation of how much universal service support was received in 2013. More specifically, provide actual 2013 support receipts by USAC support category.

Response:

Please see Exhibit 1.1.

1.2. How much of the 2013 capital expenditures listed in Attachment C went toward spending broadband services? Please provide information by wire center.

Response:

See Confidential Exhibit 1.2.

1.3. What geographic area did the reported outage on 4/18/13 affect?

Response:

The geographic area is Huron, South Dakota.

1.4. What specific preventative measures can be taken to ensure an outing like the one reported in FCC Form 481 on 4/18/13 isn't repeated.

Response:

Through its operational procedures and environmental systems CenturyLink QC strives to maintain the cleanest environment possible to proactively prevent outages such as this. However, DSX jacks are mechanical devices. Each DSX jack assembly has three individual jacks – in, out, and monitor; and each of these three jacks have mechanical contact points that complete the electrical circuit. The combination of humidity and dust particles in the air, along with airflow, could lead to the DSX contacts becoming dirty causing the contact to be lost. Proactively removing and cleaning each jack would reduce the probability of service interruptions.

1.5. Was Lifeline and Link-Up advertised in any local newspapers? If so, please provide name(s) and date(s) of publication.

Response:

Yes. Please refer to Exhibit 1.5 for a list of each newspaper and date of publication.

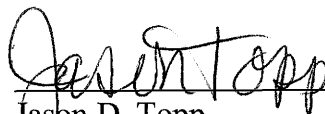
1.6. Please confirm that pursuant to ARSD 20:10:30:55, customers receive written notification of Lifeline availability within 30 days of receiving service.

Response:

CenturyLink sends a Lifeline brochure to all new customers. The brochure is attached as Exhibit 1.6.

Dated this 1st day of August, 2014.

CENTURYLINK QC

 by: JDT

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