



**CenturyLink™**

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December 3, 2018

Patricia Van Gerpen, Executive Director  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Re: Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC  
and Valley Communications, Inc. dba Valley FiberCom for the State of South  
Dakota

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Enclosed for filing for approval by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252 is the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Valley Communications, Inc. dba Valley FiberCom for the State of South Dakota.

Contact information for Valley Communications, Inc. dba Valley FiberCom is as follows:

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Thank you for your help with this matter. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Very truly yours,



Jason D. Topp

JDT/bardm

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Jeff Symens (via email)

200 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 2200  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

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**Interconnection Agreement**

**Terms and Conditions for Interconnection, Unbundled Network Elements,  
Ancillary Services, and Resale of Telecommunications Services**

**Between**

**Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC**

**and**

**Valley Communications, Inc. dba Valley FiberCom**

**For the State of South Dakota**

**Agreement Number  
CDS-180918-0001**

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**Section 1.0 - GENERAL TERMS**

1.1 This Agreement for Interconnection, Unbundled Network Elements, ancillary services, and resale of Telecommunications Services ("Agreement") is between Valley Communications, Inc. dba Valley FiberCom ("CLEC"), incorporated in the state of South Dakota and Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC ("CenturyLink"), a Colorado corporation pursuant to Section 252(f) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, for purposes of fulfilling CenturyLink's obligations under Sections 222, 251(a), (b), and (c), 252, and other relevant provisions of the Act and the rules and regulations promulgated there under.

1.2 Intentionally Left Blank.

1.3 This Agreement sets forth the terms, conditions and pricing under which CenturyLink will provide to CLEC network Interconnection, access to Unbundled Network Elements, ancillary services, and Telecommunications Services available for resale within the geographical areas in which CenturyLink is providing local Exchange Service at that time, and for which CenturyLink is the incumbent Local Exchange Carrier within the state of South Dakota, for purposes of providing local Telecommunications Services.

1.4 Intentionally Left Blank.

1.5 Intentionally Left Blank.

1.6 Intentionally Left Blank.

1.7 Intentionally Left Blank.

1.8 With respect to the terms and provisions of this Agreement, CenturyLink has negotiated the Agreement in its entirety, and the inclusion of any particular provision, or rate, term and condition, is not evidence of the reasonableness thereof when considered apart from all other provisions of the Agreement.

## Section 2.0 - INTERPRETATION AND CONSTRUCTION

2.1 This Agreement includes this Agreement and all Exhibits appended hereto, each of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this Agreement and made a part hereof. All references to Sections and Exhibits shall be deemed to be references to Sections of, and Exhibits to, this Agreement unless the context shall otherwise require. The headings and numbering of Sections and Exhibits used in this Agreement are for convenience only and will not be construed to define or limit any of the terms in this Agreement or affect the meaning and interpretation of this Agreement. Unless the context shall otherwise require, any reference to any statute, regulation, rule, Tariff, technical reference, technical publication, or any publication of Telecommunications industry administrative or technical standards, shall be deemed to be a reference to the most recent version or edition (including any amendments, supplements, addenda, or successor) of that statute, regulation, rule, Tariff, technical reference, technical publication, or any publication of Telecommunications industry administrative or technical standards that is in effect. Provided however, that nothing in this Section 2.1 shall be deemed or considered to limit or amend the provisions of Section 2.2. In the event a change in a law, rule, regulation or interpretation thereof would materially change this Agreement, the terms of Section 2.2 shall prevail over the terms of this Section 2.1. In the case of any material change, any reference in this Agreement to such law, rule, regulation or interpretation thereof will be to such law, rule, regulation or interpretation thereof in effect immediately prior to such change until the processes set forth in Section 2.2 are implemented. The existing configuration of either Party's network may not be in compliance with the latest release of technical references, technical publications, or publications of Telecommunications industry administrative or technical standards.

2.2 The provisions in this Agreement are intended to be in compliance with and based on the existing state of the law, rules, regulations and interpretations thereof, including but not limited to state and federal rules, regulations, and laws as of January 1, 2013 (the Existing Rules). Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed an admission by CenturyLink or CLEC concerning the interpretation or effect of the Existing Rules or an admission by CenturyLink or CLEC that the Existing Rules should not be changed, vacated, dismissed, stayed or modified. Nothing in this Agreement shall preclude or estop CenturyLink or CLEC from taking any position in any forum concerning the proper interpretation or effect of the Existing Rules or concerning whether the Existing Rules should be changed, vacated, dismissed, stayed or modified. To the extent that the Existing Rules are vacated, dismissed, stayed or materially changed or modified, then this Agreement shall be amended to reflect such legally binding modification or change of the Existing Rules. Where the Parties fail to agree upon such an amendment within sixty (60) Days after notification from a Party seeking amendment due to a modification or change of the Existing Rules or if any time during such sixty (60) Day period the Parties shall have ceased to negotiate such new terms for a continuous period of fifteen (15) Days, it shall be resolved in accordance with the Dispute Resolution provision of this Agreement. It is expressly understood that this Agreement will be corrected, or if requested by CLEC, amended as set forth in this Section 2.2, to reflect the outcome of generic proceedings by the Commission for pricing, service standards, or other matters covered by this Agreement. Rates in Exhibit A will reflect legally binding decisions of the Commission and shall be applied on a prospective basis from the effective date of the legally binding Commission decision, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission. Where a Party provides notice to the other Party within thirty (30) Days of the effective date of an order issuing a legally binding change, any resulting amendment shall be deemed effective on the effective date of the legally binding change or modification of the Existing Rules for rates, and to the extent practicable for other terms and conditions, unless otherwise ordered. In the event

neither Party provides notice within thirty (30) Days, the effective date of the legally binding change shall be the Effective Date of the amendment unless the Parties agree to a different date. During the pendency of any negotiation for an amendment pursuant to this Section 2.2 the Parties shall continue to perform their obligations in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement, for up to sixty (60) Days. For purposes of this section, "legally binding" means that the legal ruling has not been stayed, no request for a stay is pending, and any deadline for requesting a stay designated by statute or regulation, has passed.

2.2.1 In addition to, but not in limitation of, Section 2.2 above, nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed an admission by CenturyLink or CLEC concerning the interpretation or effect of any rule, regulation, statute, or interpretations thereof, including but not limited to the FCC's Triennial Review Order and/or its Triennial Review Remand Order and state rules, regulations, and laws as they may be issued or promulgated. Nothing in this Agreement shall preclude or estop CenturyLink or CLEC from taking any position in any forum concerning the proper interpretation or effect of any rule, regulation, or statute, or concerning whether the foregoing should be changed, vacated, dismissed, stayed or modified.

2.3 Unless otherwise specifically determined by the Commission, in cases of conflict between this Agreement and CenturyLink's Tariffs, PCAT, methods and procedures, technical publications, policies, product notifications or other CenturyLink documentation relating to CenturyLink's or CLEC's rights or obligations under this Agreement, then the rates, terms, and conditions of this Agreement shall prevail. To the extent another document abridges or expands the rights or obligations of either Party under this Agreement, the rates, terms and conditions of this Agreement shall prevail.

### **Section 3.0 - CLEC INFORMATION**

3.1 Except as otherwise required by law, CenturyLink will not provide or establish Interconnection, Unbundled Network Elements, ancillary services and/or resale of Telecommunications Services in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement prior to CLEC's execution of this Agreement. The Parties shall complete CenturyLink's "New Customer Questionnaire," as it applies to CLEC's obtaining of Interconnection, Unbundled Network Elements, ancillary services, and/or resale of Telecommunications Services hereunder.

3.2 Prior to placing any orders for services under this Agreement, the Parties will jointly complete the following sections of CenturyLink's "New Customer Questionnaire:"

General Information

Billing and Collection (Section 1)

Credit Information

Billing Information

Summary Billing

OSS and Network Outage Notification Contact Information

System Administration Contact Information



Ordering Information for LIS Trunks, Collocation, and Associated Products (if CLEC plans to order these services)

Design Layout Request – LIS Trunking and Unbundled Loop (if CLEC plans to order these services)

3.2.1 The remainder of this questionnaire must be completed within two (2) weeks of completing the initial portion of the questionnaire. This questionnaire will be used to:

- Determine geographical requirements;

- Identify CLEC identification codes;

- Determine CenturyLink system requirements to support CLEC's specific activity;

- Collect credit information;

- Obtain Billing information;

- Create summary bills;

- Establish input and output requirements;

- Create and distribute CenturyLink and CLEC contact lists; and

- Identify CLEC hours and holidays.

3.2.2 CLECs that have previously completed a Questionnaire need not fill out a New Customer Questionnaire; however, CLEC will update its New Customer Questionnaire with any changes in the required information that have occurred and communicate those changes to CenturyLink. Before placing an order for a new product, CLEC will need to complete the relevant New Product Questionnaire and amend this Agreement.

**Section 4.0 - DEFINITIONS**

"Access Service Request" or "ASR" means the industry guideline forms and supporting documentation used for ordering Access Services. The ASR will be used to order trunking and facilities between CLEC and CenturyLink for Local Interconnection Service.

"Access Services" refers to the interstate and intrastate switched access and private line transport services offered for the origination and/or termination of interexchange traffic.

"Access Tandem Switch" is a Switch used to connect End Office Switches to interexchange Carrier Switches. CenturyLink's Access Tandem Switches are also used to connect and switch traffic between and among Central Office Switches within the same LATA and may be used for the exchange of local traffic.

"Act" means the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. § 151 et. seq.), as amended and as from time to time interpreted in the duly authorized rules and regulations of the FCC or the Commission.

"Advanced Services" refers to high speed, switched, broadband, wireline Telecommunications capability that enables users to originate and receive high-quality, voice, data, graphics or video Telecommunications using any technology.

"Affiliate" means a Person that (directly or indirectly) owns or controls, is owned or controlled by, or is under common ownership or control with, another person. For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'own' means to own an equity interest (or the equivalent thereof) of more than 10 percent.

"AMI T1" is a transmission system sometimes used on loops to transmit DS1 signals (1.544 Mbps) using Alternate Mark Inversion (AMI) line code.

"Applicable Law" means all laws, statutes, common law, ordinances, codes, rules, guidelines, orders, permits and approval of any governmental regulations, including, but not limited to, the Act, the regulations, rules, and final orders of the FCC and the Commission, and any final orders and decisions of a court of competent jurisdiction reviewing the regulations, rules, or orders of the FCC or the Commission.

"Application Date" or "APP" means the date CLEC provides CenturyLink an application for service containing required information as set forth in this Agreement.

"ATIS" or "Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions" is a North American telecommunication industry standards forum which, through its committees and working groups, creates, and publishes standards and guidelines designed to enable interoperability and Interconnection for Telecommunications products and services. ATIS Standards and Guidelines, as well as the standards of other industry fora, are referenced herein.

"Automated Message Accounting" or "AMA" is the structure inherent in Switch technology that initially records telecommunication message information. AMA format is contained in the AMA document, published by Telcordia Technologies, or its successors, as GR-1100-CORE which defines the industry standard for message recording.

"Automatic Location Identification" or "ALI" is the automatic display at the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) of the caller's telephone number, the address/location of the telephone and supplementary emergency services information for Enhanced 911 (E911).

"Automatic Location Identification/Database Management System" or "ALI/DBMS" is an Enhanced 911/ (E911) database containing End User Customer location information (including name, service address, telephone number, and sometimes special information from the local service provider) used to determine to which Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) to route the call and used by the PSAP for emergency call handling (i.e., dispatch of emergency aid).

"Automatic Location Identification Gateway" or "ALI Gateway" is a computer facility into which CLEC delivers Automatic Location Identification (ALI) data for CLEC Customers. Access to the ALI Gateway will be via a dial-up modem using a common protocol.

"Automatic Number Identification" or "ANI" is the Billing telephone number associated with the access line from which a call originates. ANI and Calling Party Number (CPN) usually are the same number.

"Automatic Route Selection" or "ARS" is a service feature that provides for automatic selection of the least expensive or most appropriate transmission facility for each call based on criteria programmed into a circuit Switch routing table or system.

"Basic Exchange Telecommunications Service" means, unless otherwise defined in Commission rules and then it shall have the meaning set forth therein, a service offered to End User Customers which provides the End User Customer with a telephonic connection to, and a unique local telephone number address on, the public switched telecommunications network, and which enables such End User Customer to generally place calls to, or receive calls from, other stations on the public switched telecommunications network. Basic residence and business line services are Basic Exchange Telecommunications Services. As used solely in the context of this Agreement and unless otherwise agreed, Basic Exchange Telecommunications Service includes access to ancillary services such as 911, directory assistance and operator services.

"Bill Date" means the date on which a Billing period ends, as identified on the bill.

"Billing" involves the provision of appropriate usage data by one Telecommunications Carrier to another to facilitate Customer Billing with attendant acknowledgments and status reports. It also involves the exchange of information between Telecommunications Carriers to process claims and adjustments.

"Binder Groups" mean the sub-units of a cable, usually in groups of 25, 50 or 100 color-coded twisted pairs wrapped in colored tape within a cable.

"Bona Fide Request" or "BFR" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 17.

"Bridged Tap" means the unused sections of a twisted pair subtending the Loop between the End User Customer and the Serving Wire Center or extending beyond the End User Customer's location.

"Business Line" means a CenturyLink-owned switched access line used to serve a business customer, whether by CenturyLink itself or by CLEC that leases the line from CenturyLink. The

number of Business Lines in a Wire Center shall equal the sum of all CenturyLink business switched access lines, plus the sum of all UNE loops connected to that Wire Center, including UNE loops provisioned in combination with other unbundled elements. Among these requirements, Business Line tallies (1) shall include only those access lines connecting End User Customers with CenturyLink end-offices for switched services; (2) shall not include non-switched special access lines; and (3) shall account for ISDN and other digital access lines by counting each 64 kbps-equivalent as one line. For example, a DS1 line corresponds to twenty-four (24) 64 kbps-equivalents, and therefore to twenty-four (24) Business Lines.

"CABS" means Carrier Access Billing System or any successor billing system.

"Calling Party Number" or "CPN" is a Common Channel Signaling (CCS) parameter which refers to the ten digit number transmitted through a network identifying the calling party. Reference CenturyLink Technical Publication 77342.

"Carrier" or "Common Carrier" See Telecommunications Carrier.

"Carrier Liaison Committee" or "CLC" is under the auspices of ATIS and is the executive oversight committee that provides direction as well as an appeals process to its subtending fora, the Network Interconnection Interoperability Forum (NIIF), the Ordering and Billing Forum (OBF), the Industry Numbering Committee (INC), and the Toll Fraud Prevention Committee (TFPC). On occasion, the CLC commissions ad hoc committees when issues do not have a logical home in one of the subtending forums. OBF and Network Installation and Maintenance Committee (NIMC) publish business process rules for their respective areas of concern.

"Central Office" means a building or a space within a building where transmission facilities or circuits are connected or switched.

"Central Office Switch" means a Switch used to provide Telecommunications Services, including, but not limited to:

"End Office Switches" which are used to terminate End User Customer Station Loops, or equivalent, for the purpose of interconnecting to each other and to trunks; and

"Tandem Office Switches" (or "Tandem Switches") are used to connect and switch trunk circuits between and among other End Office Switches.

"Centralized Automatic Message Accounting" or "CAMA" trunks are trunks using MF signaling protocol used to record Billing data.

"Centralized Message Distribution System" or "CMDS" means the operation system that Local Exchange Carriers use to exchange outcollect and CABS access messages among each other and other parties connected to CMDS.

"Centrex" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 6.2.2.9.

"Charge Number" is a Common Channel Signaling parameter, which refers to the number, transmitted through the network identifying the Billing number of the calling party. Charge Number frequently is not the Calling Party Number (CPN).

"Collocation" is an arrangement where CenturyLink provides space in CenturyLink Premises for the placement of CLEC's equipment to be used for the purpose of Interconnection or access to CenturyLink Unbundled Network Elements.

"Collocation – Point of Interconnection" or "C-POI" is the point outside CenturyLink's Wire Center where CLEC's fiber facility meets CenturyLink's Fiber Entrance Facility, except where CLEC uses an Express Fiber Entrance Facility. In either case, CenturyLink will extend or run the Fiber Entrance Facility to CLEC's Collocation Space.

"Commercial Mobile Radio Service" or "CMRS" is defined in 47 U.S.C. § 332 and FCC rules and orders interpreting that statute.

"Commingling" means the connecting, attaching, or otherwise linking of an Unbundled Network Element, or a Combination of Unbundled Network Elements, to one or more facilities or services that a requesting Telecommunications Carrier has obtained at wholesale from CenturyLink, or the combination of an Unbundled Network Element, or a Combination of Unbundled Network Elements, with one or more such facilities or services.

"Commingle" means the act of Commingling.

"Commission" means the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

"Common Channel Signaling" or "CCS" means a method of exchanging call set up and network control data over a digital signaling network fully separate from the Public Switched Network that carries the actual call. Signaling System 7 ("SS7") is currently the preferred CCS method.

"Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act" or "CALEA" refers to the duties and obligations of Carriers to assist law enforcement agencies by intercepting communications and records, and installing pen registers and trap and trace devices.

"Competitive Local Exchange Carrier" or "CLEC" refers to a Party that has submitted a request, pursuant to this Agreement, to obtain Interconnection, access to Unbundled Network Elements, ancillary services, or resale of Telecommunications Services. CLEC is an entity authorized to provide local Exchange Service that does not otherwise qualify as an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC).

"Confidential Information" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 5.16.

"Cross Connection" is a cabling scheme between cabling runs, subsystems, and equipment using patch cords or jumper wires that attach to connection hardware on each end.

"Current Service Provider" means the Party from which an End User Customer is planning to switch its local Exchange Service or the Party from which an End User Customer is planning to port its telephone number(s).

"Custom Calling Features" comprise a group of features provided via a Central Office Switch without the need for special Customer Premises Equipment. Features include, but are not limited to, call waiting, 3-way calling, abbreviated dialing (speed calling), call forwarding, and series completing (busy or no answer).

"Custom Local Area Signaling Service" or "CLASS" is a set of call-management service features consisting of number translation services, such as call forwarding and caller identification, available within a Local Access and Transport Area ("LATA"). Features include, but are not limited to, automatic callback, automatic recall, calling number delivery, Customer originated trace, distinctive ringing/call waiting, selective call forwarding and selective call rejection.

"Customer" is a Person to whom a Party provides or has agreed to provide a specific service or set of services, whether directly or indirectly. Customer includes Telecommunication Carriers. See also, End User Customer.

"Customer Premises Equipment" or "CPE" means equipment employed on the premises of a Person other than a Carrier to originate, route or terminate Telecommunications (e.g., a telephone, PBX, modem pool, etc.).

"Customer Usage Data" means the Telecommunications Service usage data of CLEC's Customer, measured in minutes, sub-minute increments, message units or otherwise, that is recorded by CenturyLink AMA equipment and forwarded to CLEC.

"Dark Fiber" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 9.7.1.

"Data Local Exchange Carrier" or "DLEC" is a CLEC interconnecting primarily for purposes of transporting data.

"Day" means calendar days unless otherwise specified.

"Dedicated Transport" means CenturyLink transmission facilities between Wire Centers or switches owned by CenturyLink, or between Wire Centers or switches owned by CenturyLink and switches owned by CLEC, including, but not limited to, DS1, DS3, and OCn-capacity level services, as well as Dark Fiber, dedicated to a particular End User Customer or carrier.

"Demarcation Point" means the point where CenturyLink owned or controlled facilities cease, and CLEC, End User Customer, premises owner or landlord ownership or control of facilities begin.

"Designed, Verified and Assigned Date" or "DVA" means the date on which implementation groups are to report that all documents and materials have been received and are complete.

"Desired Due Date" means the desired service activation date as requested by CLEC on a service order.

"Dialing Parity" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 14.1.

"Digital Cross Connect System" or "DCS" is a function which provides automated Cross Connection of Digital Signal Level 0 (DS0) or higher transmission bit rate digital channels within physical interface facilities. Types of DCS include but are not limited to DCS 1/0s, DCS 3/1s, and DCS 3/3s, where the nomenclature 1/0 denotes interfaces typically at the DS1 rate or greater with Cross Connection typically at the DS0 rate. This same nomenclature, at the appropriate rate substitution, extends to the other types of DCS specifically cited as 3/1 and 3/3. Types of DCS that cross connect Synchronous Transport Signal level 1 (STS-1 s) or other Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) signals (e.g., STS-3) are also DCS, although not denoted by this same type of nomenclature. DCS may provide the functionality of more than

one of the aforementioned DCS types (e.g., DCS 3/3/1 which combines functionality of DCS 3/3 and DCS 3/1). For such DCS, the requirements will be, at least, the aggregation of requirements on the "component" DCS. In locations where automated Cross Connection capability does not exist, DCS will be defined as the combination of the functionality provided by a Digital Signal Cross Connect (DSX) or Light Guide Cross Connect (LGX) patch panels and D4 channel banks or other DS0 and above multiplexing equipment used to provide the function of a manual Cross Connection. Interconnection is between a DSX or LGX to a Switch, another Cross Connection, or other service platform device.

"Digital Signal Level" means one of several transmission rates in the time-division multiplex hierarchy.

"Digital Signal Level 0" or "DS0" is the 64 Kbps standard speed for digitizing one voice conversation using pulse code modulation. There are twenty-four (24) DS0 channels in a DS1.

"Digital Signal Level 1" or "DS1" means the 1.544 Mbps first-level signal in the time-division multiplex hierarchy. In the time-division multiplexing hierarchy of the telephone network, DS1 is the initial level of multiplexing. There are twenty-eight (28) DS1s in a DS3.

"Digital Signal Level 3" or "DS3" means the 44.736 Mbps third-level signal in the time-division multiplex hierarchy. In the time-division multiplexing hierarchy of the telephone network, DS3 is defined as the third level of multiplexing.

"Digital Subscriber Line Access Multiplexer" or "DSLAM" is a network device that: (i) aggregates lower bit rate DSL signals to higher bit-rate or bandwidth signals (multiplexing) and (ii) disaggregates higher bit-rate or bandwidth signals to lower bit-rate DSL signals (demultiplexing). DSLAMs can connect DSL Loops with some combination of CLEC ATM, Frame Relay, or IP networks. The DSLAM must be located at the end of a copper Loop nearest the Serving Wire Center (e.g., in a Remote Terminal, Central Office, or an End User Customer's premises).

"Digital Subscriber Loop" or "DSL" refers to a set of service-enhancing copper technologies that are designed to provide digital communications services over copper Loops either in addition to or instead of normal analog voice service, sometimes referred to herein as xDSL, including, but not limited to, the following:

"ADSL" or "Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line" is a Passband digital loop transmission technology that typically permits the transmission of up to 8 Mbps downstream (from the Central Office to the End User Customer) and up to 1 Mbps digital signal upstream (from the End User Customer to the Central Office) over one (1) copper pair.

"HDSL" or "High-Data Rate Digital Subscriber Line" is a synchronous baseband DSL technology operating over one or more copper pairs. HDSL can offer 784 Kbps circuits over a single copper pair, T1 service over two (2) copper pairs, or future E1 service over three (3) copper pairs.

"HDSL2" or "High-Data Rate Digital Subscriber Line 2" is a synchronous baseband DSL technology operating over a single pair capable of transporting a bit rate of 1.544 Mbps.

"IDSL" or "ISDN Digital Subscriber Line" or "Integrated Services Digital Network Digital Subscriber Line" is a symmetrical, baseband DSL technology that permits the bi-

directional transmission of up to 128 Kbps using ISDN CPE but not circuit switching.

"SDSL" or "Symmetric Digital Subscriber Line" is a baseband DSL transmission technology that permits the bi-directional transmission from up to 160 kbps to 2.048 Mbps on a single pair.

"VDSL" or "Very High Speed Digital Subscriber Line" is a baseband DSL transmission technology that permits the transmission of up to 52 Mbps downstream (from the Central Office to the End User Customer) and up to 2.3 Mbps digital signal upstream (from the End User Customer to the Central Office). VDSL can also be 26 Mbps symmetrical, or other combination.

"Directory Assistance Database" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 10.5.2.2.

"Directory Assistance Lists" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 10.6.1.1.

"Directory Assistance Service" includes, but is not limited to, making available to callers, upon request, information contained in the Directory Assistance Database. Directory Assistance Service includes, where available, the option to complete the call at the caller's direction.

"Directory Listings" or "Listings" are any information identifying the listed names of subscribers of a Telecommunications Carrier or Provider, as applicable, and such subscribers' telephone numbers, addresses, or primary advertising classifications (as such classifications are assigned at the time of the establishment of such service), or any combination of such listed names, numbers, addresses or classifications: (1) that the Telecommunications Carrier and/or Provider provides or uses for the purpose of publishing the Listings in any directory format; or (2) that the Telecommunications Carrier and/or Provider provides or uses in Directory Assistance Service, Directory Assistance List Service, or for other lawful purposes.

"Disturber" is defined as a technology recognized by industry standards bodies that significantly degrades service using another technology (such as how AMI T1x affects DSL).

"DSX Panel" means a cross connect bay or panel used for the termination of equipment and facilities operating at digital rates.

"Due Date" means the specific date on which the requested service is to be available to CLEC or to CLEC's End User Customer, as applicable.

"Effective Date" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 5.2.1.

"Electronic Bonding" is a real-time and secure electronic exchange of data between information systems in separate companies. Electronic Bonding allows electronic access to services which have traditionally been handled through manual means. The heart of Electronic Bonding is strict adherence to both International and National standards. These standards define the communication and data protocols allowing all organizations in the world to exchange information.

"Electronic File Transfer" means any system or process that utilizes an electronic format and protocol to send or receive data files.



"Emergency Service Number" or "ESN" is a three to five digit number representing a unique combination of Emergency Response Agencies (law enforcement, fire and emergency medical service) designed to serve a specific range of addresses within a particular geographical area. The ESN facilitates Selective Routing and transfer, if required, to the appropriate PSAP and the dispatch of proper Emergency Response Agency(ies).

"End User Customer" means a third party retail Customer that subscribes to a Telecommunications Service provided by either of the Parties or by another Carrier or by two (2) or more Carriers.

"Enhanced Services" means any service offered over Common Carrier transmission facilities that employ computer processing applications that act on the format, content, code, protocol or similar aspects of a subscriber's transmitted information; that provide the subscriber with additional, different or restructured information; or involve End User Customer interaction with stored information.

"Enhanced 911" or "E911" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 10.3.1.

"Environmental Hazard" means any substance the presence, use, transport, abandonment or disposal of which (i) requires investigation, remediation, compensation, fine or penalty under any Applicable Law (including, without limitation, the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act, Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act, Resource Conservation Recovery Act, the Occupational Safety and Health Act and provisions with similar purposes in applicable foreign, state and local jurisdictions) or (ii) poses risks to human health, safety or the environment (including, without limitation, indoor, outdoor or orbital space environments) and is regulated under any Applicable Law.

"Exchange Access" shall have the same meaning as in the Act.

"Exchange Message Interface" or "EMI" means the format used for exchange of Telecommunications message information among Telecommunications Carriers. It is referenced in the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS) document that defines industry guidelines for the exchange of message records.

"Exchange Message Record" or "EMR" is the standard used for exchange of telecommunications message information between telecommunications providers for billable, non-billable, sample, settlement and study data. EMR format is contained in BR-010-200-010 CRIS Exchange Message Record, a Telcordia document that defines industry standards for exchange message records.

"Exchange Service" or "Extended Area Service (EAS)/Local Traffic" means traffic that is originated and terminated within the Local Calling Area as determined by the Commission.

"FCC" means the Federal Communications Commission.

"Fiber-based Collocator" means any carrier, unaffiliated with CenturyLink, that maintains a Collocation arrangement in a CenturyLink Wire Center, with active electrical power supply, and operates a fiber-optic cable or comparable transmission facility that (1) terminates at a Collocation arrangement within the Wire Center; (2) leaves the CenturyLink Wire Center premises; and (3) is owned by a party other than CenturyLink or any affiliate of CenturyLink, except as set forth in this paragraph. Dark fiber obtained from CenturyLink on an indefeasible

right of use basis shall be treated as non- CenturyLink fiber-optic cable. Two (2) or more affiliated Fiber-based Collocators in a single Wire Center shall collectively be counted as a single Fiber-based Collocator. For purposes of this definition, the term "affiliate" is defined by 47 U.S.C. § 153(1).

"Fiber Meet" means an Interconnection architecture method whereby the Parties physically interconnect their networks via an optical fiber interface (as opposed to an electrical interface) at a mutually-agreed-upon location.

"Finished Services" means complete end-to-end services offered by CenturyLink to wholesale customers or retail End User Customers. Finished Services do not include Unbundled Network Elements or combinations of Unbundled Network Elements. Finished Services include Access Services, private lines, retail services, and resold services.

"Firm Order Confirmation" or "FOC" means the notice CenturyLink provides to CLEC to confirm that CLEC's Local Service Order (LSR) has been received and has been successfully processed. The FOC confirms the schedule of dates committed to by CenturyLink for the Provisioning of the service requested.

"Individual Case Basis" or "ICB" shall have the meaning set forth in Exhibit I.

"Information Service" is the offering of a capability for generating, acquiring, storing, transforming, processing, retrieving, utilizing, or making available information via Telecommunications, and includes electronic publishing, but does not include any use of any such capability for the management, control, or operation of a Telecommunications system or the management of a Telecommunications Service.

"Integrated Digital Loop Carrier" means a subscriber loop carrier system, which integrates multiple voice channels within the Switch on a DS1 level signal.

"Integrated Services Digital Network" or "ISDN" refers to a digital circuit switched network service. Basic Rate ISDN (BRI) provides for channelized (two (2) bearer and one (1) data) end-to-end digital connectivity for the transmission of voice or data on either or both bearer channels and packet data on the data channel. Primary Rate ISDN (PRI) provides for twenty-three (23) bearer channels and one (1) data channel. For BRI, the bearer channels operate at 64 Kbps and the data channel at 16 Kbps. For PRI, all twenty-four (24) channels operate at 64 Kbps or 1.5 Mbps.

"Interconnection" is as described in the Act and refers to the connection between networks for the purpose of transmission and routing of telephone Exchange Service traffic, IntraLATA LEC Toll and Jointly Provided Switched Access traffic.

"Interconnection Agreement" or "Agreement" is an agreement entered into between CenturyLink and CLEC for Interconnection, Unbundled Network Elements or other services as a result of negotiations, adoption and/or arbitration or a combination thereof pursuant to Section 252 of the Act. When CLEC signs and delivers a copy of this Agreement to CenturyLink pursuant to the notice provision of the Agreement, it becomes the Interconnection Agreement between the Parties pursuant to Section 252(e) of the Act.

"Interexchange Carrier" or "IXC" means a Carrier that provides InterLATA or IntraLATA Toll services.

"Interexchange Service" means telecommunications service between stations in different exchange areas. *Modification of Final Judgment*, § IV(K), *reprinted in United States v. Am. Tel. & Tel. Co.*, 552 F. Supp. 131, 229 (D.D.C. 1982) (defining "interexchange telecommunications" as "telecommunications between a point or points located in one exchange telecommunications area and a point or points located in one or more other exchange areas or a point outside an exchange area").

"InterLATA Traffic" describes Telecommunications between a point located in a Local Access and Transport Area ("LATA") and a point located outside such area.

"Internet Service Provider-Bound" or "ISP-Bound" refers only to the traffic delivered to an Internet Service provider for which the FCC prescribed intercarrier compensation in the Intercarrier Compensation for ISP-Bound Traffic, CC Docket No. 99-68, Order on Remand and Report and Order, 16 FCC Rcd 9151 (2001)(the "ISP Remand Order"). Such traffic does not include traffic delivered to an Internet Service provider located in a different local calling area than the calling party.

"Interoperability" means the ability of a CenturyLink OSS Function to process seamlessly (i.e., without any manual intervention) business transactions with CLEC's OSS application, and vice versa, by means of secure exchange of transaction data models that use data fields and usage rules that can be received and processed by the other Party to achieve the intended OSS Function and related response. (See also Electronic Bonding.)

"IntraLATA LEC Toll" means IntraLATA Toll traffic carried solely by a Local Exchange Carrier and not by an IXC.

"IntraLATA Toll Traffic" describes IntraLATA Traffic outside the Local Calling Area.

"LERG Reassignment" or "NXX Reassignment" means the reassignment of an entire NXX code shown in the LERG from one Carrier to another Carrier.

"Line Side" refers to End Office Switch connections that have been programmed to treat the circuit as a local line connected to a terminating station (e.g., an End User Customer's telephone station set, a PBX, answering machine, facsimile machine or computer).

"Local Access Transport Area" or "LATA" is as defined in the Act.

"Local Calling Area" is a geographically defined area as established by the effective tariffs of CenturyLink as approved by the Commission.

"Local Exchange Carrier" or "LEC" means any Carrier that is engaged in the provision of telephone Exchange Service or Exchange Access. Such term does not include a Carrier insofar as such Carrier is engaged in the provision of a commercial mobile service under Section 332(c) of the Act, except to the extent that the FCC finds that such service should be included in the definition of such term.

"Local Exchange Routing Guide" or "LERG" means a Telcordia Technologies Reference Document used by LECs and IXCs to identify NPA-NXX routing and homing information as well as Network Element and equipment designations.

"Local Interconnection Service (LIS) Entrance Facility" is a DS1 or DS3 facility that extends from CLEC's Switch location or Point of Interconnection (POI) to the CenturyLink Serving Wire Center. An Entrance Facility may not extend beyond the area served by the CenturyLink Serving Wire Center.

"Local Interconnection Service (LIS)" is the CenturyLink product name for its provision of Interconnection as described in Section 7 of this Agreement.

"Local Number Portability" or "LNP" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 10.2.1.1.

"Local Service Ordering Guide" or "LSOG" is a document developed by the OBF to establish industry-wide ordering and Billing processes for ordering local services.

"Local Service Request" or "LSR" means the industry standard forms and supporting documentation used for ordering local services.

"Local Tandem Switch" is a CenturyLink switch used to connect and switch trunk circuits between End Office Switches for traffic within an EAS/Local calling area.

"Local VoIP-PSTN Traffic" is VoIP-PSTN Traffic that physically originates and terminates within the Local Calling Area as determined by the Commission.

"Location Routing Number" or "LRN" means a unique ten- (10)-digit number assigned to a Central Office Switch in a defined geographic area for call routing purposes. This ten- (10)-digit number serves as a network address and the routing information is stored in a database. Switches routing calls to subscribers whose telephone numbers are in portable NXXs perform a database query to obtain the Location Routing Number that corresponds with the Switch serving the dialed telephone number. Based on the Location Routing Number, the querying Carrier then routes the call to the Switch serving the ported number. The term "LRN" may also be used to refer to a method of LNP.

"Long Distance Service" (see "Interexchange Service").

"Loop" or "Unbundled Loop" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 9.2.1.

"Loop Concentrator/Multiplexer" or "LCM" is the Network Element that does one or more of the following:

- aggregates lower bit rate or bandwidth signals to higher bit rate or bandwidth signals (multiplexing);

- disaggregates higher bit rate or bandwidth signals to lower bit rate or bandwidth signals (demultiplexing);

- aggregates a specified number of signals or channels to fewer channels (concentrating);

- performs signal conversion, including encoding of signals (e.g., analog to digital and digital to analog signal conversion); or

- in some instances performs electrical to optical (E/O) conversion.

LCM includes DLC, and D4 channel banks and may be located in Remote Terminals or Central Offices.

"Main Distribution Frame" or "MDF" means a CenturyLink distribution frame (e.g., COSMIC™ frame) used to connect CenturyLink cable pairs and line and trunk equipment terminals on a CenturyLink switching system.

"Maintenance and Repair" involves the exchange of information between Carriers where one initiates a request for maintenance or repair of existing products and services or Unbundled Network Elements or combinations thereof from the other with attendant acknowledgments and status reports in order to ensure proper operation and functionality of facilities.

"Maintenance of Service charge" is a Miscellaneous Charge that relates to trouble isolation work performed by CenturyLink. Basic Maintenance of Service charges apply when the CenturyLink technician performs work during standard business hours. Overtime Maintenance of Service charges apply when the CenturyLink technician performs work on a business day, but outside standard business hours, or on a Saturday. Premium Maintenance of Service charges apply when the CenturyLink technician performs work on either a Sunday or CenturyLink recognized holiday.

"Master Street Address Guide" or "MSAG" is a database of street names and house number ranges within their associated communities defining particular geographic areas and their associated ESNs to enable proper routing of 911 calls.

"Meet Point" is a point of Interconnection between two (2) networks, designated by two (2) Telecommunications Carriers, at which one Carrier's responsibility for service begins and the other Carrier's responsibility ends.

"Meet-Point Billing" or "MPB" or "Jointly Provided Switched Access" or "JPSA" refers to an arrangement whereby two (2) or more Telecommunications Carriers including an ILEC, CLEC or CMRS carrier receive traffic in the same LATA that the call is to be terminated in or originated from, and jointly provide Switched Access Service to an Interexchange Carrier, with each ILEC, CLEC or CMRS carrier receiving an appropriate share of the revenues from the IXC as defined by their effective Switched Access Tariffs or, if applicable, CMRS contract.

"Mid-Span Meet" means an Interconnection between two (2) networks, designated by two (2) Telecommunications Carriers, whereby each provides its own cable and equipment up to the Meet Point of the cable facilities.

"Mid-Span Meet POI" A Mid-Span Meet POI is a negotiated Point of Interface, limited to the Interconnection of facilities between the CenturyLink Serving Wire Center location and the location of the CLEC switch or other equipment located within the area served by the CenturyLink Serving Wire Center.

"Miscellaneous Charges" mean charges that apply for miscellaneous services provided at CLEC's request or based on CLEC's actions that result in miscellaneous services being provided by CenturyLink, as described in this Agreement.

"Mobile Wireless Service" means all mobile wireless telecommunications services, including commercial mobile radio service (CMRS). CMRS includes paging, air-ground radio, telephone service and offshore radiotelephone services, as well as mobile telephony services, such as the service offerings of carriers using cellular radiotelephone, broadband PCS and SMR licenses.

"Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing" or "MECAB" refers to the document prepared by the Billing Committee of the Ordering and Billing Forum (OBF), which functions under the auspices of the Carrier Liaison Committee (CLC) of the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS). The MECAB document, published by ATIS (0401004-00XX), contains the recommended guidelines for the Billing of an access service provided by two (2) or more LECs (including a LEC and a CLEC), or by one (1) LEC in two (2) or more states within a single LATA.

"Multiple Exchange Carrier Ordering and Design" or "MECOD" Guidelines for Access Services - Industry Support Interface, refers to the document developed by the Ordering/Provisioning Committee under the auspices of the Ordering and Billing Forum (OBF), which functions under the auspices of the Carrier Liaison Committee (CLC) of the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS). The MECOD document, published by ATIS (0404120-00X), contains recommended guidelines for processing orders for access service which is to be provided by two (2) or more LECs (including a LEC and a CLEC).

"N-1 Carrier" means the Carrier in the call routing process immediately preceding the terminating Carrier. The N-1 Carrier is responsible for performing the database queries (under the FCC's rules) to determine the LRN value for correctly routing a call to a ported number.

"National Emergency Number Association" or "NENA" is an association which fosters the technological advancement, availability and implementation of 911 Service nationwide through research, planning, training, certification, technical assistance and legislative representation.

"Near Real Time" means that CenturyLink's OSS electronically receives a transaction from CLEC, automatically processes that transaction, returns the response to that transaction to CLEC in an automatic event driven manner (without manual intervention) via the interface for the OSS function in question. Except for the time it takes to send and receive the transaction between CenturyLink's and CLEC's OSS application, the processing time for CenturyLink's representatives should be the same as the processing time for CLEC's representatives. Current benchmarks using TCIF 98-006 averages between two (2) and four (4) seconds for the connection and an average transaction transmittal. The specific agreed metrics for Near Real Time transaction processing will be contained in the Performance Indicator Definitions (PIDs), where applicable.

"Network Element" is a facility or equipment used in the provision of Telecommunications Service. It also includes features, functions, and capabilities that are provided by means of such facility or equipment, including subscriber numbers, databases, signaling systems, and information sufficient for Billing and collection or used in the transmission, routing, or other provision of a Telecommunications Service.

"Network Installation and Maintenance Committee" or "NIMC" is the ATIS/CLC sub-committee responsible for developing business process rules for Maintenance and Repair or trouble administration.

"Network Interface Device" or "NID" is a Network Element (including all of its features, functions and capabilities) that includes any means of Interconnection of End User Customer premises wiring to CenturyLink's distribution plant, such as a cross connect device used for that purpose.

"New Service Provider" means the Party to which an End User Customer switches its local Exchange Service or the Party to which an End User Customer is porting its telephone number(s).

"911 Service" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 10.3.1.

"911/E911 Interconnection Trunk Groups" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 10.3.7.

"Non-Impaired Facilities" are those network elements identified in an applicable FCC order as no longer available as unbundled network elements ("UNEs") under 47 U.S.C. § 251(c)(3) as reflected in this Agreement based on non-impairment or tier designations.

"Non-impaired Wire Center" means a Wire Center that meets the loop thresholds identified in 47 C.F.R. § 51.319(a)(4)(i) for DS1 Loops and 47 C.F.R. § 51.319(a)(5)(i) for DS3 Loops. Non-impaired Wire Centers also include Tier 1 and Tier 2 Wire Centers as defined in 47 C.F.R. § 51.319(e)(3) and subject to the limitations of 47 C.F.R. § 51.319(e)(2)(ii)(A) for DS1 Dedicated Transport and 47 C.F.R. § 51.319(e)(2)(iii)(A) for DS3 Dedicated Transport.

"North American Numbering Council" or "NANC" means the federal advisory committee chartered by the FCC to analyze, advise, and make recommendations on numbering issues.

"North American Numbering Plan" or "NANP" means the basic numbering plan for the Telecommunications networks located in the United States as well as Canada, Bermuda, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Marianna Islands and certain Caribbean Islands. The NANP format is a 10-digit number that consists of a 3-digit NPA code (commonly referred to as the area code) followed by a 3-digit NXX code and 4-digit line number.

"Number Portability Administration Center" or "NPAC" means one (1) of the seven (7) regional number portability centers involved in the dissemination of data associated with ported numbers. The NPACs were established for each of the seven (7) original Bell Operating Company regions so as to cover the fifty (50) states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. territories in the North American Numbering Plan area.

"Numbering Plan Area" or "NPA" is also sometimes referred to as an area code. It is a unique three-digit indicator that is defined by the "A," "B" and "C" digits of each 10-digit telephone number within the NANP. Each NPA contains 800 possible NXX Codes. There are two (2) general categories of NPA. "Geographic NPA" is associated with a defined geographic area and all telephone numbers bearing such NPA are associated with services provided within that geographic area. A "Non-Geographic NPA," also known as a "Service Access Code" (SAC Code), is typically associated with a specialized Telecommunications Service which may be provided across multiple geographic NPA areas; 500, Toll Free Service NPAs, 700, and 900 are examples of Non-Geographic NPAs.

"NXX," "NXX Code," "Central Office Code," or "CO Code" is the three- (3)-digit Switch entity code which is defined by the "D," "E" and "F" digits of a ten- (10) digit telephone number within the NANP.

"Operational Support Systems" or "OSS" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 12.

"Optional Testing" is testing conducted by CenturyLink, at the request of CLEC, that is in lieu of testing CLEC should complete to isolate trouble to the CenturyLink network prior to submitting a trouble ticket to CenturyLink.

"Ordering and Billing Forum" or "OBF" means the telecommunications industry forum, under the auspices of the Carrier Liaison Committee of the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions, concerned with inter-company ordering and Billing.

"Originating Line Information Parameter" or "OLIP" is a CCS SS7 signaling parameter that identifies the line class of service, i.e., originating screening and routing translation.

"P.01 Transmission Grade of Service" means a circuit switched trunk facility Provisioning standard with the statistical probability of no more than one (1) call in one hundred (100) blocked on initial attempt during the average busy hour.

"Packet Switch" is a router designed to read the destination address in an incoming cell or packet, consult a routing table and route the packet toward its destination. Packetizing is done in originating CPE and reassembly is done in terminating CPE. Multiple packet formats or protocols exist (e.g., x.25, x.75, frame relay, ATM, and IP).

"Parity" means the provision of non-discriminatory access to Interconnection, Resale, Unbundled Network Elements and other services provided under this Agreement to the extent legally required on rates, terms and conditions that are non-discriminatory, just and reasonable. Where Technically Feasible, the access provided by CenturyLink will be provided in "substantially the same time and manner" to that which CenturyLink provides to itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates or to any other party.

"Party" means either CenturyLink or CLEC and "Parties" means CenturyLink and CLEC.

"Performance Indicator Definitions" or "PIDs" shall have the meaning set forth in Exhibit B.

"Person" is a general term meaning an individual or association, corporation, firm, joint-stock company, organization, partnership, trust or any other form or kind of entity.

"Physical Collocation" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 8.1.1.

"Plant Test Date" or "PTD" means the date acceptance testing is performed with CLEC.

"Point of Interface", "Point of Interconnection," or "POI" is a demarcation between the networks of two (2) LECs (including a LEC and CLEC). The POI is that point where the exchange of traffic takes place.

"Point of Presence" or "POP" means the Point of Presence of an IXC.

"Pole Attachment" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 10.8.1.

"Port" means a line or trunk connection point, including a line card and associated peripheral equipment, on a Central Office Switch but does not include Switch features. The Port serves as the hardware termination for line or Trunk Side facilities connected to the Central Office Switch. Each Line Side Port is typically associated with one or more telephone numbers that serve as the Customer's network address.

"POTS" means plain old telephone service.



"Power Spectral Density (PSD) Masks" are graphical templates that define the limits on signal power densities across a range of frequencies to permit divergent technologies to coexist in close proximity within the same Binder Groups.

"Premises" refers to CenturyLink's Central Offices and Serving Wire Centers; all buildings or similar structures owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by CenturyLink that house its network facilities; all structures that house CenturyLink facilities on public rights-of-way, including but not limited to vaults containing Loop Concentrators or similar structures; and all land owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by CenturyLink that is adjacent to these Central Offices, Wire Centers, buildings and structures.

"Product Catalog" or "PCAT" is a CenturyLink document that provides information needed to request services available under this Agreement. CenturyLink agrees that CLEC shall not be held to the requirements of the PCAT. The PCAT is available on CenturyLink's web site:

<http://www.centurylink.com/wholesale/pcat/>

"Project Coordinated Installation" allows CLEC to coordinate installation activity as prescribed in section 9.2.2.9.7, including out of hours coordination.

"Proof of Authorization" or "POA" shall consist of verification of the End User Customer's selection and authorization adequate to document the End User Customer's selection of its local service provider.

"Proprietary Information" shall have the same meaning as Confidential Information.

"Provider" means a service provider that offers services other than Telecommunications Services and that provides Listings to CenturyLink for inclusion in the Directory Assistance Database.

"Provider Subscriber" means a third party retail customer that subscribes to a service provided by a Provider.

"Provisioning" involves the exchange of information between Telecommunications Carriers where one executes a request for a set of products and services or Unbundled Network Elements or combinations thereof from the other with attendant acknowledgments and status reports.

"Pseudo Automatic Number Identification" or "Pseudo-ANI" is a number, consisting of the same number of digits as ANI, that is not a NANP telephone directory number and may be used in place of an ANI to convey special meaning, determined by agreements, as necessary, between the system originating the call, intermediate systems handling and routing the call, and the destination system.

"Public Safety Answering Point" or "PSAP" is the public safety communications center where 911/E911 calls for a specific geographic area are answered.

"Public Switched Network" includes all Switches and transmission facilities, whether by wire or radio, provided by any Common Carrier including LECs, IXCs and CMRS providers that use the NANP in connection with the provision of switched services.

"Rate Center" identifies 1) the specific geographic point identified by specific vertical and horizontal (V&H) coordinates, which are used to measure distance sensitive End User Customer traffic to/from the particular NPA-NXX designations with the specific Rate Center, and 2) the corresponding geographic area which is associated with one or more particular NPA-NXX codes which have been assigned to a LEC for its provision of Telephone Exchange Service.

"Ready for Service" or "RFS" – A Collocation job is considered to be Ready for Service when CenturyLink has completed all operational work in accordance with CLEC Application and makes functional space available to CLEC. Such work includes, but is not necessarily limited to: DC power (fuses available, Battery Distribution Fuse Board (BDFB) is powered, and cables between CLEC and power are terminated), cage enclosures, primary AC outlet, cable racking, and circuit terminations (e.g., fiber jumpers are placed between the outside plant fiber distribution panel and the Central Office fiber distribution panel serving CLEC) and APOT/CFA are complete, telephone service, and other services and facilities ordered by CLEC for Provisioning by the RFS date.

"Records Issue Date" or "RID" means the date that all design and assignment information is sent to the necessary service implementation groups.

"Remote Premises" means all CenturyLink Premises, other than CenturyLink Wire Centers or adjacent to CenturyLink Wire Centers. Such Remote Premises include controlled environmental vaults, controlled environmental huts, cabinets, pedestals and other Remote Terminals.

"Remote Switch" means a switch that directly terminates traffic to and receives traffic from End Users of local Telephone Exchange Services, but does not have the full features, functions and capabilities of an End Office Switch. Such features, functions, and capabilities are provided to a Remote Switch via an intraswitch umbilical from a host End Office.

"Remote Terminal" or "RT" means a cabinet, vault or similar structure at an intermediate point between the End User Customer and CenturyLink's Central Office, where Loops are aggregated and hauled to the Central Office or Serving Wire Center using LCM. A Remote Terminal may contain active electronics such as digital loop carriers, fiber hubs, DSLAMs, etc.

"Reseller" is a category of CLECs who purchase the use of Finished Services for the purpose of reselling those Telecommunications Services to their End User Customers.

"Reserved Numbers" means those telephone numbers which are not in use but which are held in reserve by a Carrier under a legally enforceable written agreement for a specific End User Customer's future use.

"Route" is a transmission path between one of CenturyLink's Wire Centers or switches and another of CenturyLink's Wire Centers or Switches. A route between two (2) points (e.g., Wire Center or Switch "A" and Wire Center or Switch "Z") may pass through one (1) or more intermediate Wire Centers or Switches (e.g., Wire Center or Switch "X"). Transmission paths between identical end points (e.g., Wire Center or Switch "A" and Wire Center or Switch "Z") are the same "route," irrespective of whether they pass through the same intermediate Wire Centers or Switches, if any.

"Scheduled Issued Date" or "SID" means the date the order is entered into CenturyLink's order distribution system.

"Selective Router" means the equipment necessary for Selective Routing.

"Selective Routing" is the automatic routing of 911/E911 calls to the PSAP that has jurisdictional responsibility for the service address of the caller, irrespective of telephone company exchange or Wire Center boundaries. Selective Routing may also be used for other services.

"Service Date" or "SD" means the date service is made available to the End User Customer. This also is referred to as the "Due Date."

"Service Provider Identification" or "SPID" is the number that identifies a service provider to the relevant NPAC. The SPID may be a state-specific number.

"Serving Wire Center" denotes the CenturyLink building from which dial tone for local Exchange Service would normally be provided to a particular End User Customer premises.

"Signaling System 7" or "SS7" is an out-of-band signaling protocol consisting of four basic sub-protocols:

- 1) Message Transfer Part (MTP), which provides functions for basic routing of signaling messages between signaling points;
- 2) Signaling Connection Control Part (SCCP), which provides additional routing and management functions for transfer of messages other than call setup between signaling points;
- 3) Integrated Services Digital Network User Part (ISUP), which provides for transfer of call setup signaling information between signaling points; and
- 4) Transaction Capabilities Application Part (TCAP), which provides for transfer of non-circuit related information between signaling points.

"Special Request Process" or "SRP" shall have the meaning set forth in Exhibit F.

"Spectrum Compatibility" means the capability of two (2) copper loop transmission system technologies to coexist in the same cable without service degradation and to operate satisfactorily in the presence of cross talk noise from each other. Spectrum compatibility is defined on a per twisted pair basis for specific well-defined transmission systems. For the purposes of issues regarding Spectrum Compatibility, service degradation means the failure to meet the Bit Error Ratio (BER) and Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR) margin requirements defined for the specific transmission system for all Loop lengths, model Loops, or loss values within the requirements for the specific transmission system.

"Splitter" means a device used in conjunction with a DSLAM either to combine or separate the high (DSL) and low (voice) frequency spectrums of the Loop in order to provide both voice and data over a single Loop.

"Stand-Alone Test Environment" or "SATE" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 12.2.9.3.2.

"Subloop" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 9.3.1.1.

"Suspended Lines" means subscriber lines that have been temporarily disconnected.

"Switch" means a switching device employed by a Carrier within the Public Switched Network. Switch includes but is not limited to End Office Switches, Tandem Switches, Access Tandem Switches, Remote Switches, and Packet Switches. Switches may be employed as a combination of End Office/Tandem Switches.

"Switched Access Service" means the offering of transmission and switching services to Interexchange Carriers for the purpose of the origination or termination of telephone toll service. Switched Access Services include: Feature Group A, Feature Group B, Feature Group D, 8XX access, and 900 access and their successors or similar Switched Access Services.

"Switched Access Traffic" is traffic that originates at one of the Party's End User Customers and terminates at an IXC Point of Presence, or originates at an IXC Point of Presence and terminates at one of the Party's End User Customers, whether or not the traffic transits the other Party's network.

"Synchronous Optical Network" or "SONET" is a TDM-based (time division multiplexing) standard for high-speed fiber optic transmission formulated by the Exchange Carriers Standards Association (ECSA) for the American National Standards Institute ("ANSI").

"Tariff" as used throughout this Agreement refers to CenturyLink interstate Tariffs and state Tariffs, price lists, and price schedules.

"Technically Feasible" Interconnection, access to Unbundled Network Elements, Collocation, and other methods of achieving Interconnection or access to Unbundled Network Elements at a point in the network shall be deemed Technically Feasible absent technical or operational concerns that prevent the fulfillment of a request by a Telecommunications Carrier for such Interconnection, access, or methods. A determination of technical feasibility does not include consideration of economic, accounting, Billing, space, or site concerns, except that space and site concerns may be considered in circumstances where there is no possibility of expanding the space available. The fact that an incumbent LEC must modify its facilities or equipment to respond to such request does not determine whether satisfying such request is Technically Feasible. An incumbent LEC that claims that it cannot satisfy such request because of adverse network reliability impacts must prove to the Commission by clear and convincing evidence that such Interconnection, access, or methods would result in specific and significant adverse network reliability impacts.

"Telecommunications" means the transmission, between or among points specified by the user, of information of the user's choosing, without change in the form or content of the information as sent and received.

"Telecommunications Carrier" means any provider of Telecommunications Services, except that such term does not include aggregators of Telecommunications Services (as defined in Section 226 of the Act). A Telecommunications Carrier shall be treated as a Common Carrier under the Act only to the extent that it is engaged in providing Telecommunications Services, except that the Federal Communications Commission shall determine whether the provision of fixed and mobile satellite service shall be treated as common carriage.

"Telecommunications Equipment" means equipment, other than Customer Premises Equipment, used by a Carrier to provide Telecommunications Services, and include software integral to such equipment, including upgrades.

"Telecommunications Services" means the offering of Telecommunications for a fee directly to the public, or to such classes of users as to be effectively available directly to the public, regardless of the facilities used.

"Telephone Exchange Service" means a service within a telephone exchange, or within a connected system of telephone exchanges within the same exchange area operated to furnish to End User Customers intercommunicating service of the character ordinarily furnished by a single exchange, and which is covered by the Exchange Service charge, or comparable service provided through a system of Switches, transmission equipment or other facilities (or combinations thereof) by which a subscriber can originate and terminate a Telecommunications Service.

"TELRIC" means Total Element Long-Run Incremental Cost.

"Tier 1 Wire Centers" means those CenturyLink Wire Centers that contain at least four (4) Fiber-based Collocators, at least thirty-eight thousand (38,000) Business Lines, or both. Tier 1 Wire Centers also are those CenturyLink tandem switching locations that have no line-side switching facilities, but nevertheless serve as a point of traffic aggregation accessible by CLEC. Once a Wire Center is determined to be a Tier 1 Wire Center, that Wire Center is not subject to later reclassification as a Tier 2 or Tier 3 Wire Center.

"Tier 2 Wire Centers" means those CenturyLink Wire Centers that are not Tier 1 Wire Centers, but contain at least three (3) Fiber-based Collocators, at least twenty-four thousand (24,000) Business Lines, or both. Once a Wire Center is determined to be a Tier 2 Wire Center, that Wire Center is not subject to later reclassification as a Tier 3 Wire Center.

"Tier 3 Wire Centers" means those CenturyLink Wire Centers that do not meet the criteria for Tier 1 or Tier 2 Wire Centers.

"Toll Free Service" means service provided with any dialing sequence that invokes Toll Free, i.e., 800-like, service processing. Toll Free Service currently includes calls to the Toll Free Service 800/888/877/866 NPA SAC codes.

"Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic" is VoIP-PSTN Traffic that physically originates and terminates in different Local Calling Areas as determined by the Commission.

"Transaction Set" is a term used by ANSI X12 and elsewhere that denotes a collection of data, related field rules, format, structure, syntax, attributes, segments, elements, qualifiers, valid values that are required to initiate and process a business function from one trading partner to another. Some business function events, e.g., pre-order inquiry and response are defined as complimentary Transaction Sets. An example of a Transaction Set is service address validation inquiry and service address validation response.

"Transit Service" is any traffic that originates from one (1) Telecommunications Carrier's network and/or its end user(s), transits another Telecommunications Carrier's network, and terminates to yet another Telecommunications Carrier's network and/or its end user(s).

"Trouble Isolation Charge" – see "Maintenance of Service."

"Trunk Side" refers to Switch connections that have been programmed to treat the circuit as connected to another switching entity.

"Unbundled Network Element" ("UNE") is a Network Element that has been defined by the FCC as a Network Element to which CenturyLink is obligated under Section 251(c)(3) of the Act to provide unbundled access or for which unbundled access is provided under this Agreement. Unbundled Network Elements do not include those Network Elements CenturyLink is obligated to provide only pursuant to Section 271 of the Act.

"UNE Combination" means a combination of two (2) or more Unbundled Network Elements that were or were not previously combined or connected in CenturyLink's network, as required by the FCC, the Commission or this Agreement.

"Virtual Collocation" shall have the meaning set forth in Sections 8.1.1.1 and 8.2.2.1.

"VNXX Traffic" is all traffic originated by a Party's End User Customer and dialed with a local dialing pattern that is not terminated to the other Party's End User Customer physically located within the same CenturyLink Local Calling Area (as approved by the state Commission) as the originating caller, regardless of the NPA-NXX dialed. VNXX does not include originating 8XX traffic.

"VoIP-PSTN Traffic" includes any traffic previously referred to in the Agreement as "VoIP" or "VoIP Traffic" or "IP Enabled Voice Traffic", and is defined as traffic which is exchanged between a CenturyLink end user and the CLEC end user in Time Division Multiplexing ("TDM") format that originates and/or terminates in Internet Protocol ("IP") format, as determined in the Order, and terminates to a Party's End User Customer.

"Voluntary Federal Subscriber Financial Assistance Programs" are Telecommunications Services provided to low-income subscribers, pursuant to requirements established by the Commission or the FCC.

"Waste" means all hazardous and non-hazardous substances and materials which are intended to be discarded, scrapped or recycled, associated with activities CLEC or CenturyLink or their respective contractors or agents perform at Work Locations. It shall be presumed that all substances or materials associated with such activities, that are not in use or incorporated into structures (including without limitation damaged components or tools, leftovers, containers, garbage, scrap, residues or by products), except for substances and materials that CLEC, CenturyLink or their respective contractors or agents intend to use in their original form in connection with similar activities, are Waste. Waste shall not include substances, materials or components incorporated into structures (such as cable routes) even after such components or structures are no longer in current use.

"Wire Center" means the location of a CenturyLink local switching facility containing one or more Central Offices, as defined in the Appendix to Part 36, Chapter 1 of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Wire Center boundaries define the area in which all End User Customers served by a given Wire Center are located.

"Wired and Office Tested Date" or "WOT" means the date by which all intraoffice wiring is completed, all plug-ins optioned and aligned, frame continuity established, and the interoffice facilities, if applicable, are tested. This includes the date that switching equipment, including translation loading, is installed and tested.

"Work Locations" means any real estate that CLEC or CenturyLink, as appropriate, owns, leases or licenses, or in which it holds easements or other rights to use, or does use, in connection with this Agreement.

Section 4  
Definitions

Terms not otherwise defined here but defined in the Act and the orders and the rules implementing the Act, shall have the meaning defined there. The definition of terms that are included here and are also defined in the Act, or its implementing orders or rules, are intended to include the definition as set forth in the Act and the rules implementing the Act.

## Section 5.0 - TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### 5.1 General Provisions

5.1.1 Intentionally Left Blank.

5.1.2 The Parties are each solely responsible for participation in and compliance with national network plans, including the National Network Security Plan and the Emergency Preparedness Plan.

5.1.3 Neither Party shall use any service related to or use any of the services provided in this Agreement in any manner that interferes with other Persons in the use of their service, prevents other Persons from using their service, or otherwise impairs the quality of service to other Carriers or to either Party's End User Customers. In addition, neither Party's provision of or use of services shall interfere with the services related to or provided under this Agreement.

5.1.3.1 If such impairment is material and poses an immediate threat to the safety of either Party's employees, Customers or the public or poses an immediate threat of a service interruption, that Party shall provide immediate notice by email to the other Party's designated representative(s) for the purposes of receiving such notification. Such notice shall include 1) identification of the impairment (including the basis for identifying the other Party's facilities as the cause of the impairment), 2) date and location of the impairment, and 3) the proposed remedy for such impairment for any affected service. Either Party may discontinue the specific service that violates the provision or refuse to provide the same type of service if it reasonably appears that the particular service would cause similar harm, until the violation of this provision has been corrected to the reasonable satisfaction of that Party and the service shall be reinstituted as soon as reasonably possible. The Parties shall work cooperatively and in good faith to resolve their differences. In the event either Party disputes any action that the other Party seeks to take or has taken pursuant to this provision, that Party may pursue immediate resolution by expedited or other Dispute Resolution.

5.1.3.2 If the impairment is service impacting but does not meet the parameters set forth in Section 5.1.3.1, such as low level noise or other interference, the other Party shall provide written notice within five (5) Days of such impairment to the other Party and such notice shall include the information set forth in subsection 5.1.3.1. The Parties shall work cooperatively and in good faith to resolve their differences. If the impairment has not been corrected or cannot be corrected within five (5) business days of receipt of the notice of non-compliance, the other Party may pursue immediate resolution by expedited or other Dispute Resolution.

5.1.3.3 If either Party causes non-service impacting impairment the other Party shall provide written notice within fifteen (15) Days of the impairment to the other Party and such notice shall include the information set forth in subsection 5.1.3.1. The Parties shall work cooperatively and in good faith to resolve their differences. If either Party fails to correct any such impairment within fifteen (15) Days of written notice, or if such non-compliance cannot be corrected within fifteen (15) Days of written notice of non-compliance, and if the impairing Party fails to take all appropriate steps to correct as soon as reasonably possible, the other Party may pursue immediate resolution by expedited or other Dispute Resolution.



5.1.3.4 It is the responsibility of either Party to inform its End User Customers of service impacting impairment that may result in discontinuance of service as soon as the Party receives notice of same.

5.1.4 Each Party is solely responsible for the services it provides to its End User Customers and to other Telecommunications Carriers. This provision is not intended to limit the liability of either Party for its failure to perform under this Agreement.

5.1.5 The Parties shall work cooperatively to minimize fraud associated with third-number billed calls, calling card calls, and any other services related to this Agreement.

5.1.6 Nothing in this Agreement shall prevent either Party from seeking to recover the costs and expenses, if any, it may incur in (a) complying with and implementing its obligations under this Agreement, the Act, and the rules, regulations and orders of the FCC and the Commission, and (b) the development, modification, technical installation and maintenance of any systems or other infrastructure which it requires to comply with and to continue complying with its responsibilities and obligations under this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, CenturyLink shall not assess any charges against CLEC for services, facilities, Unbundled Network Elements, ancillary services and other related work or services covered by this Agreement, unless the charges are expressly provided for in this Agreement. All services and capabilities currently provided hereunder (including resold Telecommunications Services, Unbundled Network Elements, UNE Combinations and ancillary services) and all new and additional services or Unbundled Network Elements to be provided hereunder, shall be priced in accordance with all applicable provisions of the Act and the rules and orders of the Federal Communications Commission and orders of the Commission.

## 5.2 Term of Agreement

5.2.1 This Agreement shall become effective on the date of Commission Approval ("Effective Date"); however the Parties may agree to implement the provisions of this Agreement upon execution in which event neither Party will bring a dispute to require that an obligation incurred after execution must be fulfilled under the terms of the prior Agreement as long as this Agreement ultimately receives Commission Approval and so long as such obligations are fulfilled under the terms of this Agreement. This Agreement shall be binding upon the Parties for a term of three (3) years. This Agreement will terminate on the date a successor agreement is approved by the Commission. However, nothing relieves CLEC from fulfilling the obligations incurred under the prior Agreement unless such obligation was incurred following execution of this Agreement and the Parties agreed to implement this Agreement such obligations are fulfilled under this Agreement consistent with this paragraph.

5.2.2 Upon expiration of the term of this Agreement, this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect until superseded by a successor agreement in accordance with this Section 5.2.2. Any Party may request negotiation of a successor agreement by written notice to the other Party no earlier than one hundred sixty (160) Days prior to the expiration of the term, or the Agreement shall renew on a month to month basis. The date of this notice will be the starting point for the negotiation window under Section 252 of the Act. This Agreement will terminate on the date a successor agreement is approved by the Commission. However, nothing relieves CLEC from fulfilling the obligations incurred under the prior Agreement.

### 5.3 Proof of Authorization

5.3.1 Each Party shall be responsible for obtaining and maintaining Proof of Authorization (POA) as required by applicable federal and state law, as amended from time to time.

5.3.1.1 The End User Customer's electronic or written Letter of Authorization.

5.3.1.2 The End User Customer's electronic authorization by use of an 8XX number.

5.3.1.3 The End User Customer's oral authorization verified by an independent third party (with third party verification as POA).

5.3.2 The Parties shall make POAs available to each other upon request in the event of an allegation of an unauthorized change in accordance with all Applicable Laws and rules and shall be subject to any penalties contained therein.

### 5.4 Payment

5.4.1 Amounts payable under this Agreement are due and payable within thirty (30) Days after the date of invoice (Payment Due Date). If a Payment Due Date falls on a Sunday, or on a holiday which is observed on a Monday, the payment date shall be the first non-holiday day following such Sunday or holiday. If a Payment Due Date falls on a Saturday or on a holiday which is observed on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, the payment date shall be the last non-holiday day preceding such Saturday or holiday. For invoices distributed electronically, the date of invoice date is the same as if the invoice were billed on paper, not the date the electronic delivery occurs. If either Party fails to make payment on or before the Payment Due Date, the other Party may invoke all available rights and remedies.

5.4.2 One Party may discontinue processing orders for the failure of the other Party to make full payment for the services, less any good faith disputed amount as provided for in Section 5.4.4 of this Agreement, for the services provided under this Agreement within thirty (30) Days following the payment due date provided the Billing Party has notified the other Party in writing at least ten (10) business days prior to discontinuing the processing of orders for services. If the Billing Party does not refuse to accept additional orders for the services on the date specified in the ten (10) business days' notice, and the other Party's non-compliance continues, nothing contained herein shall preclude the Billing Party's right to refuse to accept additional orders for the services from the non-complying Party without further notice. For order processing to resume, the billed Party will be required to make full payment of all charges for the services not disputed in good faith under this Agreement. Additionally, the Billing Party may require a deposit (or additional deposit) from the billed Party, pursuant to this section. In addition to other remedies that may be available at law or equity, the billed Party reserves the right to seek equitable relief, including injunctive relief and specific performance.

5.4.3 The Billing Party may disconnect services for failure by the billed Party to make full payment, less any good faith disputed amount as provided for in Section 5.4.4 of this Agreement, for the services provided under this Agreement within sixty (60) Days following the payment due date. The billed Party will pay the applicable reconnect charge set forth in Exhibit A required to reconnect each service disconnected pursuant to this paragraph. The Billing Party will notify the billed Party at least ten (10) business days prior to disconnection of the service(s).

In case of such disconnection, all applicable undisputed charges, including termination charges, shall become due. If the Billing Party does not disconnect the billed Party's service(s) on the date specified in the ten (10) business days notice, and the billed Party's noncompliance continues, nothing contained herein shall preclude the Billing Party's right to disconnect services of the non-complying Party without further notice. For reconnection of the services to occur, the billed Party will be required to make full payment of all past and current undisputed charges under this Agreement for the services. Additionally, the Billing Party will request a deposit (or recalculate the deposit) as specified in Section 5.4.5 and 5.4.7 from the billed Party, pursuant to this Section. If the billed Party is a new CLEC customer of CenturyLink, the application of this provision will be suspended for the initial three (3) Billing cycles of this Agreement and will not apply to amounts billed during those three (3) cycles. In addition to other remedies that may be available at law or equity, each Party reserves the right to seek equitable relief, including injunctive relief and specific performance.

5.4.4 Should CLEC or CenturyLink dispute, in good faith, any portion of the charges under this Agreement, the Parties will notify each other in writing within fifteen (15) Days following the payment due date identifying the amount, reason and rationale of such dispute. At a minimum, CLEC and CenturyLink shall pay all undisputed amounts due. Both CLEC and CenturyLink agree to expedite the investigation of any disputed amounts, promptly provide reasonably requested documentation regarding the amount disputed, and work in good faith in an effort to resolve and settle the dispute through informal means prior to invoking any other rights or remedies.

5.4.4.1 If a Party disputes charges and does not pay such charges by the payment due date, such charges may be subject to late payment charges. If the disputed charges have been withheld and the dispute is resolved in favor of the Billing Party, the withholding Party shall pay the disputed amount and applicable late payment charges no later than the next Bill Date following the resolution. If the disputed charges have been withheld and the dispute is resolved in favor of the disputing Party, the Billing Party shall credit the bill of the disputing Party for the amount of the disputed charges and any late payment charges that have been assessed no later than the second Bill Date after the resolution of the dispute. If a Party pays the disputed charges and the dispute is resolved in favor of the Billing Party, no further action is required.

5.4.4.2 If a Party pays the disputed charges and the dispute is resolved in favor of the Billing Party, no further action is required. If a Party pays the charges disputed at the time of payment or at any time thereafter pursuant to Section 5.4.4.3, and the dispute is resolved in favor of the disputing Party, the Billing Party will adjust the Billing, usually within two (2) Billing cycles, after the resolution of the dispute, as follows:

- (1) The Billing Party will credit the Billed Party's bill for the disputed amount and any associated interest; or
- (2) If the disputed amount is greater than the bill to be credited, pay the remaining amount to the Billed Party.
- (3) The interest calculated on the disputed amounts will be the same rate as late payment charges. In no event, however, will any late payment charges be assessed on any previously assessed late payment charges.

5.4.4.3 If the Billed Party fails to dispute a rate or charge within sixty (60) Days

following the invoice date on which the rate or charge appeared, adjustment will be made on a going-forward basis only, beginning with the date of the dispute.

5.4.5. CenturyLink reserves the right to secure the account at any time with a suitable security deposit in the form and amounts set forth herein. If payment of the security deposit is not made within thirty (30) Days of the request, Carrier will be considered in material breach of the Agreement and CenturyLink may stop processing orders for service.

5.4.6. In the event of a material change in CLEC's financial condition subsequent to the Effective Date of this Agreement, CenturyLink may request a security deposit. A "material change in financial condition" means CLEC is a new CLEC with no established credit history, or is a CLEC that has not established satisfactory credit with CenturyLink, or the Party is repeatedly delinquent in making its payments, or is being reconnected after a disconnection of Service or discontinuance of the processing of orders by CenturyLink due to a previous failure to pay undisputed charges in a timely manner. CenturyLink may require a deposit to be held as security for the payment of charges before the orders from CLEC will be provisioned and completed or before reconnection of Service. "Repeatedly delinquent" means any payment of a material amount of total monthly Billing under the Agreement received after the Payment Due Date, three (3) or more times during the last twelve (12) month period.

5.4.7. The deposit amount may not exceed the estimate total monthly charges for a two (2) month period based upon recent or projected Billing. The deposit may be adjusted by CLEC's actual monthly average charges, payment history under this Agreement, or other relevant factors, but in no event will the security deposit exceed five million dollars (\$5,000,000.00). The deposit may be an irrevocable bank letter of credit, a letter of credit with terms and conditions acceptable to CenturyLink, or some other form of mutually acceptable security such as a cash deposit. Required deposits are due and payable within thirty (30) Days after demand. Non-payment is subject to Sections 5.4.2 and 5.4.3 of this Agreement.

5.4.8 CenturyLink may exercise its right to credit any cash deposit to CLEC's account, or to demand payment from the issuing bank or bonding company of any irrevocable bank letter of credit, upon the occurrence of any one of the following events:

5.4.8.1. when CLEC's undisputed balances due to CenturyLink are more than thirty (30) Days past due; and/or

5.4.8.2. to the extent permitted by Applicable Laws, when CLEC files for protection under the bankruptcy laws; and/or

5.4.8.3. to the extent permitted by Applicable Laws, when an involuntary petition in bankruptcy is filed against CLEC and is not dismissed within sixty (60) Days; and/or

5.4.8.4. when this Agreement expires or terminates.

5.4.9 If any security deposit held by CenturyLink is applied as a credit toward payment of CLEC's balances due to CenturyLink, then CenturyLink may require CLEC to provide a new deposit. If payment of the new deposit is not made within thirty (30) Days of the request, CenturyLink may stop processing orders for service and CLEC will be considered in breach of the Agreement.

5.4.10 Interest will be paid on cash deposits at the rate applying to deposits under applicable Commission regulations. Cash deposits and accrued interest will be credited to CLEC's account or refunded, as appropriate, upon the earlier of the expiration of the term of the Agreement or the establishment of satisfactory credit with CenturyLink, which will generally be

one full year of timely payments of undisputed amounts in full by CLEC. Upon a material change in financial standing, CLEC may request and CenturyLink will consider a recalculation of the deposit. The fact that a deposit has been made does not relieve CLEC from any requirements of this Agreement.

5.4.11 CenturyLink may review CLEC's credit standing and modify the amount of deposit required but in no event will the maximum amount exceed the amount stated hereinabove.

5.4.12 The late payment charge for amounts that are billed under this Agreement shall be in accordance with Commission requirements.

5.4.13 CLEC shall be responsible for notifying its End User Customers of any pending disconnection of a service by CLEC, if necessary, to allow those End User Customers to make other arrangements for such services.

## **5.5 Taxes**

5.5.1 Any federal, state, or local sales, use, excise, gross receipts, transaction or similar taxes, fees or surcharges resulting from the performance of this Agreement shall be borne by the Party upon which the obligation for payment is imposed under Applicable Law, even if the obligation to collect and remit such taxes is placed upon the other Party. However, where the selling Party is permitted by law to collect such taxes, fees or surcharges, from the purchasing Party, such taxes, fees or surcharges shall be borne by the Party purchasing the services. Each Party is responsible for any tax on its corporate existence, status or income. Whenever possible, these amounts shall be billed as a separate item on the invoice. To the extent a sale is claimed to be for resale tax exemption, the purchasing Party shall furnish the providing Party a proper resale tax exemption certificate as authorized or required by statute or regulation by the jurisdiction providing said resale tax exemption. Until such time as a resale tax exemption certificate is provided, no exemptions will be applied. If either Party (the Contesting Party) contests the application of any tax collected by the other Party (the Collecting Party), the Collecting Party shall reasonably cooperate in good faith with the Contesting Party's challenge, provided that the Contesting Party pays any costs incurred by the Collecting Party. The Contesting Party is entitled to the benefit of any refund or recovery resulting from the contest, provided that the Contesting Party is liable for and has paid the tax contested.

## **5.6 Insurance**

5.6.1 Each Party shall at all times during the term of this Agreement, at its own cost and expense, carry and maintain the insurance coverage listed below with insurers having a "Best's" rating of A-VII with respect to liability arising from that Party's operations for which that Party has assumed legal responsibility in this Agreement. If either Party or its parent company has assets equal to or exceeding ten billion dollars (\$10,000,000,000), that Party may utilize an Affiliate captive insurance company in lieu of a "Best's" rated insurer. To the extent that the parent company of a Party is relied upon to meet the ten billion dollar (\$10,000,000,000) asset threshold, such parent shall be responsible for the insurance obligations contained in this Section 5.6.1, to the extent its affiliated Party fails to meet such obligations.

5.6.1.1 Workers' Compensation with statutory limits as required in the state of operation and Employers' Liability insurance with limits of not less than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) each accident.

5.6.1.2 Commercial General Liability insurance covering claims for bodily injury, death, personal injury or property damage occurring or arising out of the use or occupancy of the premises, including coverage for independent contractor's protection (required if any work will be subcontracted), premises-operations, products and/or completed operations and contractual liability with respect to the liability assumed by each Party hereunder. The limits of insurance shall not be less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) each occurrence and two million dollars (\$2,000,000) general aggregate limit.

5.6.1.3 Business automobile liability insurance covering the ownership, operation and maintenance of all owned, non-owned and hired motor vehicles with limits of not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage.

5.6.1.4 Umbrella/Excess Liability insurance in an amount of three million dollars (\$3,000,000) excess of Commercial General Liability insurance specified above. These limits may be obtained through any combination of primary and excess or umbrella liability insurance so long as the total limit is four million dollars (\$4,000,000).

5.6.1.5 "All Risk" Property coverage on a full replacement cost basis insuring all of CLEC personal property situated on or within the Premises or Remote Premises.

5.6.2 Each Party will initially provide certificate(s) of insurance evidencing coverage, and thereafter will provide such certificate(s) upon request. Such certificates shall (1) name the other Party as an additional insured under commercial general liability coverage; (2) indicate that coverage is primary and not excess of, or contributory with, any other valid and collectible insurance purchased by the other Party; and (3) acknowledge severability of interest/cross liability coverage.

## **5.7 Force Majeure**

5.7.1 Neither Party shall be liable for any delay or failure in performance of any part of this Agreement from any cause beyond its control and without its fault or negligence including, without limitation, acts of nature, acts of civil or military authority, government regulations, embargoes, epidemics, terrorist acts, riots, insurrections, fires, explosions, earthquakes, nuclear accidents, floods, work stoppages, power blackouts, volcanic action, other major environmental disturbances, or unusually severe weather conditions (collectively, a Force Majeure Event). Inability to secure products or services of other Persons or transportation facilities or acts or omissions of transportation carriers shall be considered Force Majeure Events to the extent any delay or failure in performance caused by these circumstances is beyond the Party's control and without that Party's fault or negligence. The Party affected by a Force Majeure Event shall give prompt notice to the other Party, shall be excused from performance of its obligations hereunder on a day to day basis to the extent those obligations are prevented by the Force Majeure Event, and shall use reasonable efforts to remove or mitigate the Force Majeure Event. In the event of a labor dispute or strike the Parties agree to provide service to each other at a level equivalent to the level they provide themselves.

## **5.8 Limitation of Liability**

5.8.1 Each Party's liability to the other Party for any loss relating to or arising out of any act or omission in its performance under this Agreement, whether in contract, warranty, strict

liability, or tort, including (without limitation) negligence of any kind, shall be limited to the total amount that is or would have been charged to the other Party by such breaching Party for the service(s) or function(s) not performed or improperly performed. Payments pursuant to the PAP shall not be counted against the limit provided for in this Section.

5.8.2 Neither Party shall be liable to the other for indirect, incidental, consequential, or special damages, including (without limitation) damages for lost profits, lost revenues, lost savings suffered by the other Party regardless of the form of action, whether in contract, warranty, strict liability, tort, including (without limitation) negligence of any kind and regardless of whether the Parties know the possibility that such damages could result. If the Parties enter into a Performance Assurance Plan under this Agreement, nothing in this Section 5.8.2 shall limit amounts due and owing under any Performance Assurance Plan.

5.8.3 Intentionally Left Blank.

5.8.4 Nothing contained in this Section shall limit either Party's liability to the other for (i) willful or intentional misconduct or (ii) damage to tangible real or personal property proximately caused solely by such Party's negligent act or omission or that of their respective agents, subcontractors, or employees.

5.8.5 Nothing contained in this Section 5.8 shall limit either Party's obligations of indemnification specified in this Agreement, nor shall this Section 5.8 limit a Party's liability for failing to make any payment due under this Agreement.

## **5.9 Indemnity**

5.9.1 The Parties agree that unless otherwise specifically set forth in this Agreement the following constitute the sole indemnification obligations between and among the Parties:

5.9.1.1 Each of the Parties agrees to release, indemnify, defend and hold harmless the other Party and each of its officers, directors, employees and agents (each an Indemnitee) from and against and in respect of any loss, debt, liability, damage, obligation, claim, demand, judgment or settlement of any nature or kind, known or unknown, liquidated or unliquidated including, but not limited to, reasonable costs and expenses (including attorneys' fees), whether suffered, made, instituted, or asserted by any Person or entity, for invasion of privacy, bodily injury or death of any Person or Persons, or for loss, damage to, or destruction of tangible property, whether or not owned by others, resulting from the Indemnifying Party's breach of or failure to perform under this Agreement, regardless of the form of action, whether in contract, warranty, strict liability, or tort including (without limitation) negligence of any kind.

5.9.1.2 In the case of claims or loss alleged or incurred by an End User Customer of either Party arising out of or in connection with services provided to the End User Customer by the Party, the Party whose End User Customer alleged or incurred such claims or loss (the Indemnifying Party) shall defend and indemnify the other Party and each of its officers, directors, employees and agents (collectively the Indemnified Party) against any and all such claims or loss by the Indemnifying Party's End User Customers regardless of whether the underlying service was provided or Unbundled Network Element was provisioned by the Indemnified Party, unless the loss was caused by the willful misconduct of the Indemnified Party. The obligation to indemnify with respect to claims of the Indemnifying Party's End User Customers shall not extend to any claims for

physical bodily injury or death of any Person or persons, or for loss, damage to, or destruction of tangible property, whether or not owned by others, alleged to have resulted directly from the negligence or intentional conduct of the employees, contractors, agents, or other representatives of the Indemnified Party.

**5.9.2** The indemnification provided herein shall be conditioned upon:

**5.9.2.1** The Indemnified Party shall promptly notify the Indemnifying Party of any action taken against the Indemnified Party relating to the indemnification. Failure to so notify the Indemnifying Party shall not relieve the Indemnifying Party of any liability that the Indemnifying Party might have, except to the extent that such failure prejudices the Indemnifying Party's ability to defend such claim.

**5.9.2.2** If the Indemnifying Party wishes to defend against such action, it shall give written notice to the Indemnified Party of acceptance of the defense of such action. In such event, the Indemnifying Party shall have sole authority to defend any such action, including the selection of legal counsel, and the Indemnified Party may engage separate legal counsel only at its sole cost and expense. In the event that the Indemnifying Party does not accept the defense of the action, the Indemnified Party shall have the right to employ counsel for such defense at the expense of the Indemnifying Party. Each Party agrees to cooperate with the other Party in the defense of any such action and the relevant records of each Party shall be available to the other Party with respect to any such defense.

**5.9.2.3** In no event shall the Indemnifying Party settle or consent to any judgment pertaining to any such action without the prior written consent of the Indemnified Party. In the event the Indemnified Party withholds consent, the Indemnified Party may, at its cost, take over such defense, provided that, in such event, the Indemnifying Party shall not be responsible for, nor shall it be obligated to indemnify the relevant Indemnified Party against, any cost or liability in excess of such refused compromise or settlement.

**5.10 Intellectual Property**

**5.10.1** Except for a license to use any facilities or equipment (including software) solely for the purposes of this Agreement or to receive any service solely (a) as provided in this Agreement or (b) as specifically required by the then-applicable federal and state rules and regulations relating to Interconnection and access to Telecommunications facilities and services, nothing contained within this Agreement shall be construed as the grant of a license, either express or implied, with respect to any patent, copyright, trade name, trade mark, service mark, trade secret, or other proprietary interest or intellectual property, now or hereafter owned, controlled or licensable by either Party. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as the grant to the other Party of any rights or licenses to trade or service marks.

**5.10.2** Subject to Section 5.9.2, each Party (the Indemnifying Party) shall indemnify and hold the other Party (the Indemnified Party) harmless from and against any loss, cost, expense or liability arising out of a claim that the use of facilities of the Indemnifying Party or services provided by the Indemnifying Party provided or used pursuant to the terms of this Agreement misappropriates or otherwise violates the intellectual property rights of any third party. In addition to being subject to the provisions of Section 5.9.2, the obligation for indemnification recited in this paragraph shall not extend to infringement which results from (a) any combination of the facilities or services of the Indemnifying Party with facilities or services of any other



Person (including the Indemnified Party but excluding the Indemnifying Party and any of its Affiliates), which combination is not made by or at the direction of the Indemnifying Party or (b) any modification made to the facilities or services of the Indemnifying Party by, on behalf of or at the request of the Indemnified Party and not required by the Indemnifying Party. In the event of any claim, the Indemnifying Party may, at its sole option (a) obtain the right for the Indemnified Party to continue to use the facility or service; or (b) replace or modify the facility or service to make such facility or service non-infringing. If the Indemnifying Party is not reasonably able to obtain the right for continued use or to replace or modify the facility or service as provided in the preceding sentence and either (a) the facility or service is held to be infringing by a court of competent jurisdiction or (b) the Indemnifying Party reasonably believes that the facility or service will be held to infringe, the Indemnifying Party shall notify the Indemnified Party and the Parties shall negotiate in good faith regarding reasonable modifications to this Agreement necessary to (1) mitigate damage or comply with an injunction which may result from such infringement or (2) allow cessation of further infringement. The Indemnifying Party may request that the Indemnified Party take steps to mitigate damages resulting from the infringement or alleged infringement including, but not limited to, accepting modifications to the facilities or services, and such request shall not be unreasonably denied.

5.10.3 To the extent required under applicable federal and state law, CenturyLink shall use its best efforts to obtain, from its vendors who have licensed intellectual property rights to CenturyLink in connection with facilities and services provided hereunder, licenses under such intellectual property rights as necessary for CLEC to use such facilities and services as contemplated hereunder and at least in the same manner used by CenturyLink for the facilities and services provided hereunder. CenturyLink shall notify CLEC immediately in the event that CenturyLink believes it has used its best efforts to obtain such rights, but has been unsuccessful in obtaining such rights.

5.10.3.1 CenturyLink covenants that it will not enter into any licensing agreements with respect to any CenturyLink facilities, equipment or services, including software, that contain provisions that would disqualify CLEC from using or interconnecting with such facilities, equipment or services, including software, pursuant to the terms of this Agreement. CenturyLink warrants and further covenants that it has not and will not knowingly modify any existing license agreements for any network facilities, equipment or services, including software, in whole or in part for the purpose of disqualifying CLEC from using or interconnecting with such facilities, equipment or services, including software, pursuant to the terms of this Agreement. To the extent that providers of facilities, equipment, services or software in CenturyLink's network provide CenturyLink with indemnities covering intellectual property liabilities and those indemnities allow a flow-through of protection to third parties, CenturyLink shall flow those indemnity protections through to CLEC.

5.10.4 Except as expressly provided in this Intellectual Property Section, nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as the grant of a license, either express or implied, with respect to any patent, copyright, logo, trademark, trade name, trade secret or any other intellectual property right now or hereafter owned, controlled or licensable by either Party. Neither Party may use any patent, copyright, logo, trademark, trade name, trade secret or other intellectual property rights of the other Party or its Affiliates without execution of a separate agreement between the Parties.

5.10.5 Neither Party shall without the express written permission of the other Party, state or imply that: 1) it is connected, or in any way affiliated with the other or its Affiliates; 2) it

is part of a joint business association or any similar arrangement with the other or its Affiliates; 3) the other Party and its Affiliates are in any way sponsoring, endorsing or certifying it and its goods and services; or 4) with respect to its marketing, advertising or promotional activities or materials, the resold goods and services are in any way associated with or originated from the other or any of its Affiliates. Nothing in this paragraph shall prevent either Party from truthfully describing the Network Elements it uses to provide service to its End User Customers, provided it does not represent the Network Elements as originating from the other Party or its Affiliates in any marketing, advertising or promotional activities or materials.

5.10.6 For purposes of resale only and notwithstanding the above, unless otherwise prohibited by CenturyLink pursuant to an applicable provision herein, CLEC may use the phrase "CLEC is a Reseller of CenturyLink Services" (the Authorized Phrase) in CLEC's printed materials provided:

5.10.6.1 The Authorized Phrase is not used in connection with any goods or services other than CenturyLink services resold by CLEC.

5.10.6.2 CLEC's use of the Authorized Phrase does not cause End User Customers to believe that CLEC is CenturyLink.

5.10.6.3 The Authorized Phrase, when displayed, appears only in text form (CLEC may not use the CenturyLink logo) with all letters being the same font and point size. The point size of the Authorized Phrase shall be no greater than one fourth the point size of the smallest use of CLEC's name and in no event shall exceed 8 point size.

5.10.6.4 CLEC shall provide all printed materials using the Authorized Phrase to CenturyLink for its prior written approval.

5.10.6.5 If CenturyLink determines that CLEC's use of the Authorized Phrase causes End User Customer confusion, CenturyLink may immediately terminate CLEC's right to use the Authorized Phrase.

5.10.6.6 Upon termination of CLEC's right to use the Authorized Phrase or termination of this Agreement, all permission or right to use the Authorized Phrase shall immediately cease to exist and CLEC shall immediately cease any and all such use of the Authorized Phrase. CLEC shall either promptly return to CenturyLink or destroy all materials in its possession or control displaying the Authorized Phrase.

5.10.7 CenturyLink and CLEC each recognize that nothing contained in this Agreement is intended as an assignment or grant to the other of any right, title or interest in or to the trademarks or service marks of the other (the Marks) and that this Agreement does not confer any right or license to grant sublicenses or permission to third parties to use the Marks of the other and is not assignable. Neither Party will do anything inconsistent with the other's ownership of their respective Marks, and all rights, if any, that may be acquired by use of the Marks shall inure to the benefit of their respective Owners. The Parties shall comply with all Applicable Law governing Marks worldwide and neither Party will infringe the Marks of the other.

5.10.8 Upon request, for all intellectual property owned or controlled by a third party and licensed to CenturyLink associated with the Unbundled Network Elements provided by CenturyLink under this Agreement, either on the Effective Date or at any time during the term of the Agreement, CenturyLink shall within ten (10) business days, unless there are extraordinary

circumstances in which case CenturyLink will negotiate an agreed upon date, then disclose to CLEC in writing (i) the name of the Party owning, controlling or licensing such intellectual property, (ii) the facilities or equipment associated with such intellectual property, (iii) the nature of the intellectual property, and (iv) the relevant agreements or licenses governing CenturyLink's use of the intellectual property. Except to the extent CenturyLink is prohibited by confidentiality or other provisions of an agreement or license from disclosing to CLEC any relevant agreement or license within ten (10) business days of a request by CLEC, CenturyLink shall provide copies of any relevant agreements or licenses governing CenturyLink's use of the intellectual property to CLEC. To the extent CenturyLink is prohibited by confidentiality or other provisions of an agreement or license from disclosing to CLEC any relevant agreement or license, CenturyLink shall immediately, within ten (10) business days (i) disclose so much of it as is not prohibited, and (ii) exercise best efforts to cause the vendor, licensor or other beneficiary of the confidentiality provisions to agree to disclosure of the remaining portions under terms and conditions equivalent to those governing access by and disclosure to CenturyLink.

## **5.11 Warranties**

5.11.1 EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY SET FORTH IN THIS AGREEMENT, THE PARTIES AGREE THAT NEITHER PARTY HAS MADE, AND THAT THERE DOES NOT EXIST, ANY WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE AND THAT ALL PRODUCTS AND SERVICES PROVIDED HEREUNDER ARE PROVIDED "AS IS," WITH ALL FAULTS.

## **5.12 Assignment**

5.12.1 Neither Party may assign or transfer (whether by operation of law or otherwise) this Agreement (or any rights or obligations hereunder) to a third party without the prior written consent of the other Party. Notwithstanding the foregoing, either Party may assign or transfer this Agreement to a corporate Affiliate or an entity under its common control; without the consent of the other Party, provided that the performance of this Agreement by any such assignee is guaranteed by the assignor. Any attempted assignment or transfer that is not permitted is void ab initio. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, this Agreement shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of the Parties' respective successors and assigns.

5.12.2 In the event that CenturyLink transfers to any unaffiliated party exchanges including End User Customers that CLEC serves in whole or in part through facilities or services provided by CenturyLink under this Agreement, the transferee shall be deemed a successor to CenturyLink's responsibilities hereunder for a period of ninety (90) Days from notice to CLEC of such transfer or until such later time as the Commission may direct pursuant to the Commission's then applicable statutory authority to impose such responsibilities either as a condition of the transfer or under such other state statutory authority as may give it such power. In the event of such a proposed transfer, CenturyLink shall use its best efforts to facilitate discussions between CLEC and the transferee with respect to transferee's assumption of CenturyLink's obligations pursuant to the terms of this Agreement.

5.12.3 Nothing in this section is intended to restrict CLEC's rights to opt into interconnection agreements under Section 252(i) of the Act and 47 C.F.R. § 51.809.

### **5.13 Default**

5.13.1 If either Party defaults in the payment of any amount due hereunder, or if either Party violates any other material provision of this Agreement, and such default or violation shall continue for thirty (30) Days after written notice thereof, the other Party may seek relief in accordance with the Dispute Resolution provision of this Agreement. The failure of either Party to enforce any of the provisions of this Agreement or the waiver thereof in any instance shall not be construed as a general waiver or relinquishment on its part of any such provision, but the same shall, nevertheless, be and remain in full force and effect.

### **5.14 Disclaimer of Agency**

5.14.1 Except for provisions herein expressly authorizing a Party to act for another, nothing in this Agreement shall constitute a Party as a legal representative or agent of the other Party, nor shall a Party have the right or authority to assume, create or incur any liability or any obligation of any kind, express or implied, against or in the name or on behalf of the other Party unless otherwise expressly permitted by such other Party. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, no Party undertakes to perform any obligation of the other Party whether regulatory or contractual, or to assume any responsibility for the management of the other Party's business.

### **5.15 Severability**

5.15.1 In the event that any one or more of the provisions contained herein shall for any reason be held to be unenforceable or invalid in any respect under law or regulation, the Parties will negotiate in good faith for replacement language as set forth herein. If any part of this Agreement is held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, such invalidity or unenforceability will affect only the portion of this Agreement which is invalid or unenforceable. In all other respects, this Agreement will stand as if such invalid or unenforceable provision had not been a part hereof, and the remainder of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

### **5.16 Nondisclosure**

5.16.1 All information, including but not limited to specifications, microfilm, photocopies, magnetic disks, magnetic tapes, drawings, sketches, models, samples, tools, technical information, data, employee records, maps, financial reports, and market data, (i) furnished by one Party to the other Party dealing with business or marketing plans, End User Customer specific, facility specific, or usage specific information, other than End User Customer information communicated for the purpose of providing Directory Assistance or publication of directory database, or (ii) in written, graphic, electromagnetic, or other tangible form and marked at the time of delivery as "Confidential" or "Proprietary", or (iii) communicated and declared to the receiving Party at the time of delivery, or by written notice given to the receiving Party within ten (10) Days after delivery, to be "Confidential" or "Proprietary" (collectively referred to as "Proprietary Information"), shall remain the property of the disclosing Party. A Party who receives Proprietary Information via an oral communication may request written confirmation that the material is Proprietary Information. A Party who delivers Proprietary Information via an oral communication may request written confirmation that the Party receiving the information understands that the material is Proprietary Information. Each Party shall have the right to correct an inadvertent failure to identify information as Proprietary Information by giving written notification within thirty (30) Days after the information is disclosed. The receiving Party shall from that time forward, treat such information as Proprietary Information. To the extent

permitted by Applicable Law, either Party may disclose to the other proprietary or confidential customer, technical or business information.

5.16.2 Upon request by the disclosing Party, the receiving Party shall return all tangible copies of Proprietary Information, whether written, graphic or otherwise, except that the receiving Party may retain one copy for archival purposes.

5.16.3 Each Party shall keep all of the other Party's Proprietary Information confidential and will disclose it on a need to know basis only. Each Party shall use the other Party's Proprietary Information only in connection with this Agreement and in accordance with Applicable Law, including but not limited to, 47 U.S.C. § 222. In accordance with Section 222 of the Act, when either Party receives or obtains Proprietary Information from the other Party for purposes of providing any Telecommunications Services, that Party shall use such information only for such purpose, and shall not use such information for its own marketing efforts. Neither Party shall use the other Party's Proprietary Information for any other purpose except upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between the Parties in writing. Violations of these obligations shall subject a Party's employees to disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment. If either Party loses, or makes an unauthorized disclosure of, the other Party's Proprietary Information, it will notify such other Party immediately and use reasonable efforts to retrieve the information.

5.16.4 Unless otherwise agreed, the obligations of confidentiality and non-use set forth in this Agreement do not apply to such Proprietary Information as:

- a) was at the time of receipt already known to the receiving Party free of any obligation to keep it confidential evidenced by written records prepared prior to delivery by the disclosing Party; or
- b) is or becomes publicly known through no wrongful act of the receiving Party; or
- c) is rightfully received from a third Person having no direct or indirect secrecy or confidentiality obligation to the disclosing Party with respect to such information; or
- d) is independently developed by an employee, agent, or contractor of the receiving Party which individual is not involved in any manner with the provision of services pursuant to the Agreement and does not have any direct or indirect access to the Proprietary Information; or
- e) is disclosed to a third Person by the disclosing Party without similar restrictions on such third Person's rights; or
- f) is approved for release by written authorization of the disclosing Party; or
- g) is required to be disclosed by the receiving Party pursuant to Applicable Law or regulation provided that the receiving Party shall give sufficient notice of the requirement to the disclosing Party to enable the disclosing Party to seek protective orders.

5.16.5 Nothing herein is intended to prohibit a Party from supplying factual information about its network and Telecommunications Services on or connected to its network to regulatory agencies including the Federal Communications Commission and the Commission so long as any confidential obligation is protected. In addition either Party shall have the right to disclose

Proprietary Information to any mediator, arbitrator, state or federal regulatory body, the Department of Justice or any court in the conduct of any proceeding arising under or relating in any way to this Agreement or the conduct of either Party in connection with this Agreement, including without limitation the approval of this Agreement, or in any proceedings concerning the provision of InterLATA services by CenturyLink that are or may be required by the Act. The Parties agree to cooperate with each other in order to seek appropriate protection or treatment of such Proprietary Information pursuant to an appropriate protective order in any such proceeding.

5.16.6 Effective Date of this Section. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the Proprietary Information provisions of this Agreement shall apply to all information furnished by either Party to the other in furtherance of the purpose of this Agreement, even if furnished before the Effective Date.

5.16.7 Each Party agrees that the disclosing Party could be irreparably injured by a breach of the confidentiality obligations of this Agreement by the receiving Party or its representatives and that the disclosing Party shall be entitled to seek equitable relief, including injunctive relief and specific performance in the event of any breach of the confidentiality provisions of this Agreement. Such remedies shall not be deemed to be the exclusive remedies for a breach of the confidentiality provisions of this Agreement, but shall be in addition to all other remedies available at law or in equity.

5.16.8 Nothing herein should be construed as limiting either Party's rights with respect to its own Proprietary Information or its obligations with respect to the other Party's Proprietary Information under Section 222 of the Act.

5.16.9 Forecasts provided by either Party to the other Party shall be deemed Confidential Information and the Parties may not distribute, disclose or reveal, in any form, this material other than as allowed and described in subsections 5.16.9.1 and 5.16.9.2.

5.16.9.1 The Parties may disclose, on a need to know basis only, CLEC individual forecasts and forecasting information disclosed by CenturyLink, to CenturyLink's legal personnel in connection with their representation of CenturyLink in any dispute regarding the quality or timeliness of the forecast as it relates to any reason for which CLEC provided it to CenturyLink under this Agreement, as well as to CLEC's wholesale account managers, wholesale LIS and Collocation product managers, network and growth planning personnel responsible for preparing or responding to such forecasts or forecasting information. In no case shall retail marketing, sales or strategic planning have access to this forecasting information. The Parties will inform all of the aforementioned personnel with access to such Confidential Information, of its confidential nature and will require personnel to execute a nondisclosure agreement which states that, upon threat of termination, the aforementioned personnel may not reveal or discuss such information with those not authorized to receive it except as specifically authorized by law. Violations of these requirements shall subject the personnel to disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment.

5.16.9.1.1 Upon the specific order of the Commission, CenturyLink may provide the forecast information that CLEC has made available to CenturyLink under this Agreement, provided that CenturyLink shall first initiate any procedures necessary to protect the confidentiality and to prevent the public release of the information pending any applicable Commission procedures and

further provided that CenturyLink provides such notice as the Commission directs to CLEC involved, in order to allow it to prosecute such procedures to their completion.

5.16.9.2 The Parties shall maintain confidential forecasting information in secure files and locations such that access to the forecasts is limited to the personnel designated in subsection 5.16.9.1 above and such that no other personnel have computer access to such information.

## **5.17 Survival**

5.17.1 Any liabilities or obligations of a Party for acts or omissions prior to the termination of this Agreement, and any obligation of a Party under the provisions regarding indemnification, Confidential or Proprietary Information, limitations of liability, and any other provisions of this Agreement which, by their terms, are contemplated to survive (or to be performed after) termination of this Agreement, shall survive cancellation or termination hereof.

## **5.18 Dispute Resolution**

5.18.1 The Parties will attempt in good faith to resolve through negotiation any dispute, claim or controversy arising out of, or relating to, this Agreement. Either Party may give written notice to the other Party of any dispute not resolved in the normal course of business. Each Party will within seven (7) Days after delivery of the written notice of dispute, designate a vice-president level employee or a representative with authority to make commitments to review, meet, and negotiate, in good faith, to resolve the dispute. The Parties intend that these negotiations be conducted by non-lawyer, business representatives, and the locations, format, frequency, duration, and conclusions of these discussions will be at the discretion of the representatives. By mutual agreement, the representatives may use other procedures to assist in these negotiations. The discussions and correspondence among the representatives for the purposes of these negotiations will be treated as Confidential Information (Confidential Information) developed for purposes of settlement, and will be exempt from discovery and production, and not be admissible in any subsequent proceedings without the concurrence of both Parties.

5.18.2 If the designated representatives have not reached a resolution of the dispute within fifteen (15) Days after the written notice (or such longer period as agreed to in writing by the Parties), then either Party may commence an action which will be brought before the Commission or the FCC. If the claims are not within the jurisdiction or the scope of the statutory authority of the Commission or the FCC, or if the Party commencing the action seeks a judgment for money damages, including, but not limited to, payment of amounts billed, any action will be brought in the United States District Court for the District of Colorado if it has subject matter jurisdiction over the action, and if not, in the Denver District Court for the State of Colorado. The Parties agree that such courts have personal jurisdiction over them.

5.18.3 Waiver of Jury Trial and Class Action. Each Party, to the extent permitted by law, knowingly, voluntarily, and intentionally waives its right to a trial by jury and any right to pursue any claim or action arising out of or relating to this Agreement on a class or consolidated basis or in a representative capacity.

5.18.4 No cause of action, including disputes raised pursuant to Section 5.4.4, regardless of the form, arising out of or relating to this Agreement, may be brought by either Party more than two (2) years after the cause of action arises.

## **5.19 Controlling Law**

5.19.1 This Agreement is offered by CenturyLink and accepted by CLEC in accordance with applicable federal law and the state law of South Dakota. It shall be interpreted solely in accordance with applicable federal law and the state law of South Dakota.

## **5.20 Responsibility for Environmental Contamination**

5.20.1 Neither Party shall be liable to the other for any costs whatsoever resulting from the presence or release of any Environmental Hazard that either Party did not introduce to the affected Work Location. Both Parties shall defend and hold harmless the other, its officers, directors and employees from and against any losses, damages, claims, demands, suits, liabilities, fines, penalties and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) that arise out of or result from (i) any Environmental Hazard that the Indemnifying Party, its contractors or agents introduce to the Work Locations or (ii) the presence or release of any Environmental Hazard for which the Indemnifying Party is responsible under Applicable Law.

5.20.2 In the event any suspect materials within CenturyLink-owned, operated or leased facilities are identified to be asbestos containing, CLEC will ensure that to the extent any activities which it undertakes in the facility disturb such suspect materials, such CLEC activities will be in accordance with applicable local, state and federal environmental and health and safety statutes and regulations. Except for abatement activities undertaken by CLEC or equipment placement activities that result in the generation of asbestos-containing material, CLEC does not have any responsibility for managing, nor is it the owner of, nor does it have any liability for, or in connection with, any asbestos-containing material. CenturyLink agrees to immediately notify CLEC if CenturyLink undertakes any asbestos control or asbestos abatement activities that potentially could affect CLEC personnel, equipment or operations, including, but not limited to, contamination of equipment.



## 5.21 Notices

5.21.1 Any notices required by or concerning this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be sufficiently given if delivered personally, delivered by prepaid overnight express service, or sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by email where specified in this Agreement to CenturyLink and CLEC at the addresses shown below:

Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC  
Director Sales Support  
700 West Mineral Avenue – Room MN D 18.30  
Littleton, CO 80120  
Email: [intagree@centurylink.com](mailto:intagree@centurylink.com)  
Phone: 303-992-5906

With copy to CenturyLink at the address shown below:

CenturyLink Legal Department  
Wholesale Interconnection  
700 West Mineral Avenue – Room L14.08  
Littleton, CO 80120  
Email: [Legal.Interconnection@centurylink.com](mailto:Legal.Interconnection@centurylink.com)  
Phone: 303-992-5599

and with a copy to CLEC at the address shown below:

Valley Communications, Inc. dba Valley FiberCom  
Attn: Jeff Symens, CEO/GM  
102 Main Street S, PO Box 7  
Herreid, SD 57632  
Email: [jeff.s@allevtel.coop](mailto:jeff.s@allevtel.coop)  
Phone: 605-437-2615

If personal delivery is selected to give notice, a receipt acknowledging such delivery must be obtained. Each Party shall inform the other of any change in the above contact Person and/or address using the method of notice called for in this Section 5.21.

## 5.22 Responsibility of Each Party

5.22.1 Each Party is an independent contractor, and has and hereby retains the right to exercise full control of and supervision over its own performance of its obligations under this Agreement and retains full control over the employment, direction, compensation and discharge of all employees assisting in the performance of such obligations. Each Party will be solely responsible for all matters relating to payment of such employees, including compliance with social security taxes, withholding taxes and all other regulations governing such matters. Each Party will be solely responsible for proper handling, storage, transport and disposal at its own expense of all (i) substances or materials that it or its contractors or agents bring to, create or assume control over at Work Locations, and (ii) Waste resulting there from or otherwise generated in connection with its or its contractors' or agents' activities at the Work Locations. Subject to the limitations on liability and except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, each Party shall be responsible for (i) its own acts and performance of all obligations imposed by Applicable Law in connection with its activities, legal status and property, real or personal, and

(ii) the acts of its own Affiliates, employees, agents and contractors during the performance of that Party's obligations hereunder.

### **5.23 No Third Party Beneficiaries**

5.23.1 The provisions of this Agreement are for the benefit of the Parties and not for any other Person. This Agreement will not provide any Person not a Party to this Agreement with any remedy, claim, liability, reimbursement, claim of action, or other right in excess of those existing by reference in this Agreement.

### **5.24 Intentionally Left Blank**

### **5.25 Publicity**

5.25.1 Neither Party shall publish or use any publicity materials with respect to the execution and delivery or existence of this Agreement without the prior written approval of the other Party. Nothing in this section shall limit a Party's ability to issue public statements with respect to regulatory or judicial proceedings.

### **5.26 Executed in Counterparts**

5.26.1 This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original; but such counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

### **5.27 Compliance**

5.27.1 Each Party shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules and regulations applicable to its performance under this Agreement. Without limiting the foregoing, CenturyLink and CLEC agree to keep and maintain in full force and effect all permits, licenses, certificates, and other authorities needed to perform their respective obligations hereunder.

### **5.28 Compliance with the Communications Assistance Law Enforcement Act of 1994**

5.28.1 Each Party represents and warrants that any equipment, facilities or services provided to the other Party under this Agreement comply with the CALEA. Each Party shall indemnify and hold the other Party harmless from any and all penalties imposed upon the other Party for such noncompliance and shall at the non-compliant Party's sole cost and expense, modify or replace any equipment, facilities or services provided to the other Party under this Agreement to ensure that such equipment, facilities and services fully comply with CALEA.

### **5.29 Cooperation**

5.29.1 The Parties agree that this Agreement involves the provision of CenturyLink services in ways such services were not previously available and the introduction of new processes and procedures to provide and bill such services. Accordingly, the Parties agree to work jointly and cooperatively in testing and implementing processes for pre-ordering, ordering, maintenance, Provisioning and Billing and in reasonably resolving issues which result from such implementation on a timely basis. Electronic processes and procedures are addressed in Section 12 of this Agreement.

### **5.30 Amendments**

5.30.1 Either Party may request an amendment to this Agreement at any time by providing to the other Party in writing information about the desired amendment and proposed language changes. If the Parties have not reached agreement on the requested amendment within sixty (60) Days after receipt of the request, either Party may pursue resolution of the amendment through the Dispute Resolution provisions of this Agreement.

5.30.2 Intentionally Left Blank.

5.30.3 The provisions of this Agreement, including the provisions of this sentence, may not be amended, modified or supplemented, and waivers or consents to departures from the provisions of this Agreement may not be given without the written consent thereto by both Parties' authorized representative. No waiver by any party of any default, misrepresentation, or breach of warranty or covenant hereunder, whether intentional or not, will be deemed to extend to any prior or subsequent default, misrepresentation, or breach of warranty or covenant hereunder or affect in any way any rights arising by virtue of any prior or subsequent such occurrence.

### **5.31 Entire Agreement**

This Agreement (including the documents referred to herein and any amendments to the Agreement) constitutes the full and entire understanding and agreement between the Parties with regard to the subjects of this Agreement and supersedes any prior understandings, agreements, or representations by or between the Parties, written or oral, to the extent they relate in any way to the subjects of this Agreement.

## **Section 6.0 – RESALE**

### **6.1 Description**

6.1.1 CenturyLink shall offer for resale at wholesale rates any Telecommunications Services that it provides at retail to subscribers who are not Telecommunications Carriers, subject to the terms and conditions of this Section. All CenturyLink retail Telecommunications Services are available for resale from CenturyLink pursuant to the Act and will include terms and conditions (except prices) in CenturyLink's applicable product Tariffs, catalogs, price lists, or other retail Telecommunications Services offerings. To the extent, however, that a conflict arises between the terms and conditions of the Tariff, catalog, price list, or other retail Telecommunications Services offering and this Agreement, this Agreement shall be controlling.

6.1.2 While this Section 6.0 of this Agreement addresses the provision of certain CenturyLink services to CLEC for resale by CLEC, the Parties also acknowledge that CLEC is required to provide its Telecommunications Services to CenturyLink for resale by CenturyLink. Upon request by CenturyLink, CLEC shall make its Telecommunications Services available to CenturyLink for resale pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, the FCC's relevant orders and rules, and the Commission's relevant orders and rules.

6.1.3 Certain CenturyLink services are not available for resale under this Agreement, as noted in Section 6.2. The applicable discounts for services available for resale are identified in Exhibit A.

### **6.2 Terms and Conditions**

6.2.1 CenturyLink shall offer introductory training on procedures that CLEC must use to access CenturyLink's OSS at no cost to CLEC. If CLEC asks CenturyLink personnel to travel to CLEC's location to deliver training, CLEC will pay CenturyLink's reasonable travel related expenses. CenturyLink may also offer to CLEC other training at reasonable costs.

6.2.2 Services available for resale under this Agreement may be resold only to the same class of End User Customers to which CenturyLink sells such services where such restrictions have been ordered or approved by the Commission. Such restrictions are listed below in this Section 6.2.2.

6.2.2.1 Promotional offerings of ninety (90) Days or less are available for resale. Such promotions are available for resale under the same terms and conditions that are available to CenturyLink retail End User Customers, with no wholesale discount. Should CenturyLink re-offer any promotion for a sequential ninety (90) Day or less promotion period following the initial ninety (90) Day or less promotion period, then the initial and subsequent promotion(s) will be available to CLEC for resale with any applicable wholesale discount.

6.2.2.2 Market trials of ninety (90) days or less are not available for resale.

6.2.2.3 Intentionally Left Blank.

6.2.2.4 Universal Emergency Number Service is not available for resale. Universal Emergency Number Service (E911/911 service) is provided with each local Exchange Service line resold by CLEC whenever E911/911 service would be provided

on the same line if provided by CenturyLink to a CenturyLink retail End User Customer.

6.2.2.5 Inside wiring maintenance plans are available for resale at CenturyLink retail rates with no wholesale discount. Other non-Telecommunications Services such as inside wiring installation, calling cards and CPE, are not available for resale.

6.2.2.6 Voice messaging service is available for resale at the retail rate with no discount. Enhanced Services and information services, other than voice messaging, are not available for resale.

6.2.2.7 CenturyLink will make retail Contract Service Arrangements (CSA) available for resale at the wholesale discount rate specified in Exhibit A of this Agreement. All terms and conditions (except prices) in CenturyLink's applicable Tariffs, catalogs, price lists, or other retail Telecommunications Services offerings will apply to resale of CSAs, including early termination liability. Nothing in this Agreement shall affect any obligation of any CenturyLink retail End User Customer that early terminates a CSA, including payment of any early termination charges. Where CLEC seeks to continue serving an End User Customer presently served through a resold CenturyLink CSA, but wishes to provide such service through alternate resale arrangements, CenturyLink shall provide CLEC the same waivers of early termination liabilities as it makes to its own End User Customers in similar circumstances. In any case where it is required to offer such a waiver, CenturyLink shall be entitled to apply provisions that provide CenturyLink substantially the same assurances and benefits that remained to it under the resold agreement as of the time it is changed.

6.2.2.8 Grandfathered services are available for resale by CLEC to existing End User Customers of the grandfathered product or service.

6.2.2.9 Centrex terms and conditions related to calculation of charges for, and Provisioning of common blocks, station lines and optional features will be based on the Centrex definition of a system and CLEC's serving location.

6.2.2.9.1 Where a common block is applicable, a Centrex system is defined by a single common block or multiple common blocks for a single CLEC within a single Central Office switching system. A common block defines the dialing plan for intercom calling, access to the Public Switched Network and/or private facilities, station line and system restrictions and feature access arrangements and functionality. CLEC may purchase multiple common blocks within a single Central Office switching system when CLEC requires different dialing plans, feature access arrangements and station line or system restrictions within a single system operation. CLEC with multiple common blocks within the same Central Office Switch may have network access register and private facility trunk groups aggregated across multiple common blocks. Centrex system based optional features (i.e., Automatic Route Selection) may not be aggregated across multiple common blocks. A Centrex system must provide station lines to at least one (1) location and may provide station lines to multiple locations.

6.2.2.9.2 Centrex station lines are provisioned and charges are calculated based on serving CLEC's location. A location is defined as the site where CenturyLink facilities (cable plant from the serving Central Office Switch) meet CLEC facilities (inside wire). In a multi-tenant building, CenturyLink may bring

facilities directly to a single Point of Interconnection with CLEC facilities, typically in a basement equipment room, which would be considered a single location for this multi-tenant building. Should CenturyLink bring service to multiple floors or offices within a multi-tenant building each floor or office with a separate CLEC facilities termination point is considered a location. Where CLEC has multiple buildings within contiguous property (campus), such buildings will be provisioned and billed as a single location. Contiguous property is defined as property owned or leased by CLEC and not separated by public thoroughfare, river or railroad rights-of-way. Property will be considered contiguous when connected via connecting passageways or conduit acceptable to CenturyLink for its facilities. Where CLEC has Centrex station lines from multiple Central Office switching systems, within the same CenturyLink Wire Center, and provisioned to the same location, CLEC will not be charged for service or provisioned as if service was originating from a single Centrex system. For example, station lines may only be aggregated from a single CLEC Centrex system to a single CLEC serving location for rating purposes. CLEC may not specify a Central Office as CLEC's location for the termination of Centrex station lines.

6.2.2.10 Private line service used for Special Access is available for resale but not at a discount.

6.2.2.11 Intentionally Left Blank.

6.2.2.12 Telecommunications Services provided directly to CLEC for its own use and not resold to End User Customers must be identified by CLEC as such, and CLEC will pay CenturyLink retail prices for such services.

6.2.3 CenturyLink shall provide to CLEC Telecommunications Services for resale that are at least equal in quality and in substantially the same time and manner that CenturyLink provides these services to itself, its subsidiaries, its Affiliates, other Resellers, and CenturyLink's retail End User Customers. CenturyLink shall also provide resold services to CLEC in accordance with the Commission's retail service quality requirements, if any. CenturyLink further agrees to reimburse CLEC for credits or fines and penalties assessed against CLEC as a result of CenturyLink's failure to provide service to CLEC, subject to the understanding that any payments made pursuant to this provision will be an offset and credit toward any other penalties voluntarily agreed to by CenturyLink as part of a performance assurance plan, and further subject to the following provisions:

6.2.3.1 CenturyLink shall provide service credits to CLEC for resold services in accordance with the Commission's retail service requirements that apply to CenturyLink retail services, if any. Such credits shall be limited in accordance with the following:

- a) CenturyLink's service credits to CLEC shall be subject to the wholesale discount;
- b) CenturyLink shall only be liable to provide service credits in accordance with the resold services provided to CLEC. CenturyLink is not required to provide service credits for service failures that are the fault of CLEC;
- c) Intentionally Left Blank.

d) Intentionally Left Blank.

e) In no case shall CenturyLink's credits to CLEC exceed the amount CenturyLink would pay a CenturyLink End User Customer under the service quality requirements, less any wholesale discount applicable to CLEC's resold services; and

f) In no case shall CenturyLink be required to provide duplicate reimbursement or payment to CLEC for any service quality failure incident.

6.2.3.2 Fines and Penalties - CenturyLink shall be liable to pay to CLEC fines and penalties for resold services in accordance with the Commission's retail service requirements that apply to CenturyLink retail services, if any. Such credits shall be limited in accordance with the following:

a) CenturyLink's fines and penalties paid to CLEC shall be subject to the wholesale discount;

b) CenturyLink shall only be liable to provide fines and penalties in accordance with the resold services provided to CLEC. CenturyLink is not required to pay fines and penalties for service failures that are the fault of CLEC;

c) Intentionally Left Blank.

d) In no case shall CenturyLink's fines and penalties to CLEC exceed the amount CenturyLink would pay the Commission under the service quality plan, less any wholesale discount applicable to CLEC's resold services; and

e) In no case shall CenturyLink be required to provide duplicate reimbursement or payment to CLEC for any service quality failure incident.

6.2.4 In the event that there are existing agreements between CLEC and CenturyLink for resale under CenturyLink retail Tariffs, catalogs, price lists, or other retail Telecommunications Services offerings, CLEC may elect to continue to obtain services for resale under the existing agreements and such retail Tariffs, catalogs, price lists, or other retail Telecommunications Services offerings, or CLEC may elect to terminate such existing agreements and obtain such services by adopting this Agreement pursuant to the General Terms of this Agreement. If CLEC so adopts this Agreement, the associated wholesale discount specified in Exhibit A of this Agreement will apply.

6.2.5 Intentionally Left Blank.

6.2.6 The Parties may not reserve blocks of telephone numbers except as allowed by Applicable Law or regulation.

6.2.7 CenturyLink will accept at no charge one (1) primary white pages Directory Listing for each main telephone number belonging to CLEC's End User Customer based on End User Customer information provided to CenturyLink by CLEC. CenturyLink will place CLEC's End User Customer's Listings in CenturyLink's Directory Assistance Database and will include such Listings in CenturyLink's Directory Assistance Service. Additional terms and conditions

with respect to Directory Listings are described in the Ancillary Services Section and the CenturyLink's Official Directory Publisher Section of this Agreement.

6.2.8 CenturyLink shall provide to CLEC, for CLEC's End User Customers, E911/911 call routing to the appropriate Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). CenturyLink shall not be responsible for any failure of CLEC to provide accurate End User Customer information for listings in any databases in which CenturyLink is required to retain and/or maintain such information. CenturyLink shall provide CLEC's End User Customer information to the Automatic Location Identification/Database Management System (ALI/DMS). CenturyLink shall use its standard process to update and maintain CLEC's End User Customer service information in the ALI/DMS used to support E911/911 services on the same schedule that it uses for its retail End User Customers. CenturyLink assumes no liability for the accuracy of information provided by CLEC.

6.2.9 If CenturyLink provides and CLEC accepts CenturyLink's Directory Assistance Service or operator services for CLEC's resold local Exchange Service lines, such Directory Assistance and operator services may be provided with branding as provided in this Agreement in Sections 10.5 for Directory Assistance Service, and 10.7 for operator services.

6.2.10 CLEC shall designate the Primary Interexchange Carrier (PIC) assignments on behalf of its End User Customers for InterLATA and IntraLATA services. CLEC and CenturyLink shall follow all Applicable Laws, rules and regulations with respect to PIC changes. CenturyLink shall disclaim any liability for CLEC's improper InterLATA and IntraLATA PIC change requests, and CLEC shall disclaim any liability for CenturyLink's improper InterLATA (when applicable) and IntraLATA PIC change requests.

6.2.11 When End User Customers switch from CenturyLink to CLEC, or to CLEC from any other Reseller and if they do not change their service address to an address served by a different Rate Center, such End User Customers shall be permitted to retain their current telephone numbers if they so desire and if such number retention is not prohibited by Applicable Laws or regulations for number administration and Local Number Portability (LNP).

6.2.12 In the event CenturyLink properly terminates the Provisioning of any resold services to CLEC for any reason, CLEC shall be responsible for providing any and all necessary notice to its End User Customers of the termination. In no case shall CenturyLink be responsible for providing such notice to CLEC's End User Customers. CenturyLink will provide notice to CLEC of CenturyLink's termination of a resold service on a timely basis consistent with Commission rules and notice requirements.

6.2.13 The underlying network provider of a resold service shall be entitled to receive, from the purchaser of Switched Access, the appropriate access charges pursuant to its then effective Switched Access Tariff.

6.2.14 Resold services are available where facilities currently exist and are capable of providing such services without construction of additional facilities or enhancement of existing facilities. However, if CLEC requests that facilities be constructed or enhanced to provide resold services, CenturyLink will construct facilities to the extent necessary to satisfy its obligations to provide basic local Exchange Service as set forth in CenturyLink's retail Tariffs, catalogs, price lists, or other retail Telecommunications Services offerings and Commission rules. Under such circumstances, CenturyLink will develop and provide to CLEC a price quotation for the construction. Construction charges associated with resold services will be



applied in the same manner that construction charges apply to CenturyLink retail End User Customers. If the quotation is accepted by CLEC, CLEC will be billed the quoted price and construction will commence after receipt of payment.

### **6.3 Rates and Charges**

6.3.1 Wholesale discounts for resold Telecommunications Services offerings are provided in Exhibit A. The Telecommunications Services offerings available for resale but excluded from the wholesale pricing arrangement in the Agreement are available at the retail Tariff, price list, catalog, or other retail Telecommunications Services offering rates. Telecommunications Services available for resale with or without a wholesale discount are subject to Commission-approved change, and any such changes shall apply from the effective date of such change on a going-forward basis only.

6.3.2 The Customer Transfer Charges (CTC) as specified in Exhibit A apply when transferring services to CLEC.

6.3.3 A Subscriber Line Charge (SLC), or any subsequent federally mandated charge to End User Customers, will continue to be paid by CLEC without discount for each local exchange line resold under this Agreement. All federal and state rules and regulations associated with SLC as found in the applicable CenturyLink Tariffs, catalogs, price lists, or other retail Telecommunications Services offerings also apply.

6.3.4 CLEC will pay to CenturyLink the Primary Interexchange Carrier (PIC) change charge without discount for CLEC End User Customer changes of Interexchange or IntraLATA Carriers. Any change in CLEC's End User Customer's Interexchange or IntraLATA Carrier must be requested by CLEC on behalf of its End User Customer, and CenturyLink will not accept changes to CLEC's End User Customer's Interexchange or IntraLATA Carrier(s) from anyone other than CLEC.

6.3.5 CLEC agrees to pay CenturyLink when its End User Customer activates any services or features that are billed on a per use or per activation basis (e.g., continuous redial, last call return, call back calling, call trace) subject to the applicable discount in Exhibit A as such may be amended pursuant to this Section. With respect to all such charges, CenturyLink shall provide CLEC with sufficient information to enable CLEC to bill its End User Customers.

6.3.6 Miscellaneous Charges applicable to services ordered for resale by CLEC will apply if such Miscellaneous Charges apply for equivalent services ordered by CenturyLink retail End User Customers, except that CLEC will receive any applicable wholesale discount. Such Miscellaneous Charges include charges listed in the applicable CenturyLink Tariffs, catalogs, price lists, or other retail Telecommunications Services offerings.

6.3.7 If the Commission orders additional services to be available for resale, CenturyLink will revise Exhibit A to incorporate the services added by such order into this Agreement, effective on the date ordered by the Commission. If the Commission indicates those additional services must be available for resale at wholesale discount rates, those additional services will be added to this Agreement at the original Agreement wholesale discount rate.

6.3.8 CenturyLink shall timely bill new or changed Commission-ordered resale rates or charges using the effective date for such rates or charges as ordered by the Commission. If

CenturyLink bills CLEC amounts different from new or changed rates or charges after the effective date of such rates or charges, CenturyLink shall make appropriate bill adjustments or provide appropriate bill credits on CLEC's bill(s).

6.3.9 If rates for services resold by CLEC under this Agreement change, based on changes in CenturyLink's Tariffs, catalogs, price lists or other retail Telecommunications Services offerings, charges billed to CLEC for such services will be based upon the new Tariff, catalogs, price lists, or other retail Telecommunications Services offerings rates less the applicable wholesale discount, if any, as agreed to herein or as established by Commission order. The new rate will be effective upon the effective date of the Tariff, catalog, price list, or other retail Telecommunications Services offerings.

6.3.10 Product-specific nonrecurring charges as set forth in CenturyLink's applicable Tariffs, catalogs, price lists, or other retail Telecommunications Services offerings will apply when new or additional resold services are ordered and installed at CLEC's request for use by CLEC's End User Customers. Such nonrecurring charges will be subject to the wholesale discount, if any, that applies to the underlying service being added or changed.

## **6.4 Ordering Process**

6.4.1 CLEC, or CLEC's agent, shall act as the single point of contact for its End User Customers' service needs, including without limitation, sales, service design, order taking, Provisioning, change orders, training, maintenance, trouble reports, repair, post-sale servicing, Billing, collection and inquiry. CLEC's End User Customers contacting CenturyLink in error will be instructed to contact CLEC; and CenturyLink's End User Customers contacting CLEC in error will be instructed to contact CenturyLink. In responding to calls, neither Party shall make disparaging remarks about each other. To the extent the correct provider can be determined, misdirected calls received by either Party will be referred to the proper provider of local Exchange Service; however, nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to prohibit CenturyLink or CLEC from discussing its products and services with CLEC's or CenturyLink's End User Customers who call the other Party seeking such information.

6.4.2 CLEC shall transmit to CenturyLink all information necessary for the ordering (Billing, Directory Listing and other information), installation, repair, maintenance and post-installation servicing according to CenturyLink's standard procedures, as described in the CenturyLink Product Catalog (PCAT) available on CenturyLink's public web site located at <http://www.centurylink.com/wholesale/pcat>. Information shall be provided using CenturyLink's designated Local Service Request (LSR) format which may include the LSR, End User Customer and resale forms.

6.4.3 CenturyLink will use the same performance standards and criteria for installation, Provisioning, maintenance, and repair of services provided to CLEC for resale under this Agreement as CenturyLink provides to itself, its Affiliates, its subsidiaries, other Resellers, and CenturyLink retail End User Customers. The installation, Provisioning, maintenance, and repair processes for CLEC's resale service requests are detailed in the Access to OSS Section of this Agreement, and are applicable whether CLEC's resale service requests are submitted via Operational Support System or by facsimile.

6.4.4 CLEC is responsible for providing to CenturyLink complete and accurate End User Customer Directory Listing information including initial and updated information for Directory Assistance Service, white pages directories, and E911/911 Emergency Services. The

Ancillary Services Section of this Agreement contains complete terms and conditions for Directory Listings for Directory Assistance Services, white pages directories, and E911/911 Emergency Services.

6.4.5 If CenturyLink's retail End User Customer, or the End User Customer's New Service Provider orders the discontinuance of the End User Customer's existing CenturyLink service in anticipation of the End User Customer moving to a New Service Provider, CenturyLink will render its closing bill to the End User Customer, discontinuing Billing as of the date of the discontinuance of CenturyLink's service to the End User Customer. If the Current Service Provider, or if the End User Customer's New Service Provider orders the discontinuance of existing resold service from the Current Service Provider, CenturyLink will bill the Current Service Provider for service through the date the End User Customer receives resold service from the Current Service Provider. CenturyLink will notify CLEC by Operational Support System interface, facsimile, or by other agreed-upon processes when an End User Customer moves from the Current Service Provider to a New Service Provider. CenturyLink will not provide the Current Service Provider with the name of the New Service Provider selected by the End User Customer.

6.4.6 CLEC shall provide CenturyLink and CenturyLink shall provide CLEC with points of contact for order entry, problem resolution and repair of the resold services. These points of contact will be identified for both CLEC and CenturyLink in the event special attention is required on a service request.

6.4.7 Prior to placing orders on behalf of the End User Customer, CLEC shall be responsible for obtaining and having in its possession Proof of Authorization (POA), as set forth in the POA Section of this Agreement.

6.4.8 Due Date intervals for CLEC's resale service requests are established when service requests are received by CenturyLink through Operational Support Systems or by facsimile. Intervals provided to CLEC shall be equivalent to intervals provided by CenturyLink to itself, its Affiliates, its subsidiaries, other Resellers, and to CenturyLink's retail End User Customers.

## **6.5 Billing**

6.5.1 CenturyLink shall bill CLEC and CLEC shall be responsible for all applicable charges for the resold services as provided herein. CLEC shall also be responsible for all Tariffed, cataloged, price listed, and other retail Telecommunications Services offerings charges and charges separately identified in this Agreement associated with services that CLEC resells to an End User Customer under this Agreement.

6.5.2 CenturyLink shall provide CLEC, on a monthly basis, within seven (7) to ten (10) Days of the last day of the most recent Billing period, in an agreed upon standard electronic Billing format as detailed in Section 12.2.5, Billing information including (1) a summary bill, and (2) individual End User Customer sub-account information consistent with the samples available for CLEC review.

## **6.6 Maintenance and Repair**

6.6.1 CenturyLink will maintain its facilities and equipment used to provide CLEC resold services. CLEC or its End User Customers may not rearrange, move, disconnect or

attempt to repair CenturyLink's facilities or equipment, including facilities or equipment that may terminate or be located at CLEC's End User Customer's premises, other than by connection or disconnection to any interface between CenturyLink and the End User Customer's facilities, without the written consent of CenturyLink.

6.6.2 Maintenance and Repair procedures are detailed in Section 12. Access to telephone numbers and Dialing Parity are discussed in Sections 13 and 14 respectively.

6.6.3 CLEC and CenturyLink will employ the procedures for handling misdirected repair calls as specified in Section 12.3.8 of this Agreement.

## **6.7 Commingling of Resold Services with Unbundled Network Elements and Combinations of Unbundled Network Elements**

6.7.1 To the extent it is Technically Feasible and pursuant to the terms of Section 9.1, CLEC may Commingle Telecommunications Services purchased on a resale basis with an Unbundled Network Element or combination of Unbundled Network Elements.

6.7.1.1 Services are available for Commingling only in the manner in which they are provided in CenturyLink's applicable product Tariffs, catalogs, price lists, or other Telecommunications Services offerings.

**Section 7.0 – INTERCONNECTION:****7.1 Interconnection Facility Options**

7.1.1 This Section describes the Interconnection of CenturyLink's network and CLEC's network for the purpose of exchanging Exchange Service (EAS/Local traffic), IntraLATA LEC Toll and Jointly Provided Switched Access traffic. Intercarrier traffic exchange will be mutual and reciprocal and all traffic exchanged between the Parties must be provisioned pursuant to this Agreement. A Party that has interconnected or gained access under sections 251 (a) (1), 251 (c)(2), or 251 (c)(3) of the Act, may offer information services through the same arrangement, so long as it is offering Telecommunications Services through the same arrangement(s) as well. Enhanced or information service providers (providers or "Information Services" as that term is defined in 47 U.S.C. § 153 (20)) that do not also provide domestic or international telecommunications are not Telecommunications Carriers as defined by the Act and thus may not interconnect under this Agreement. CenturyLink will provide Interconnection at any Technically Feasible point within its network, including but not limited to, (i) the Line Side of a local Switch (i.e., local switching); (ii) the Trunk Side of a local Switch, (iii) the trunk connection points for a Tandem Switch, (iv) Central Office Cross Connection points, (v) points of access to Unbundled Network Elements. Section 9 of this Agreement describes Interconnection at points (i), (iv), and (v), although some aspects of these Interconnection points are described in Section 7. "Interconnection" is as described in the Act and refers, in this Section of the Agreement, to the connection between networks for the purpose of transmission and routing of Telephone Exchange Service traffic and IntraLATA LEC Toll traffic at points (ii) and (iii) described above. Interconnection, which CenturyLink currently names "Local Interconnection Service" (LIS), is provided for the purpose of connecting End Office Switches to End Office Switches or End Office Switches to local or Access Tandem Switches for the exchange of Exchange Service (EAS/Local traffic); or End Office Switches to Access Tandem Switches for the exchange of IntraLATA LEC Toll or Jointly Provided Switched Access traffic. New or continued CenturyLink local Tandem Switch to CenturyLink Access Tandem Switch and CenturyLink Access Tandem Switch to CenturyLink Access Tandem Switch connections are not required where CenturyLink can demonstrate that such connections present a risk of Switch exhaust and that CenturyLink does not make similar use of its network to transport the local calls of its own or any Affiliate's End User Customers.

7.1.1.1 CenturyLink will provide to CLEC Interconnection at least equal in quality to that provided to itself, to any subsidiary, Affiliate, or any other party to which it provides Interconnection. Notwithstanding specific language in other sections of this Agreement, all provisions of this Agreement regarding Interconnection are subject to this requirement. CenturyLink will provide Interconnection under rates, terms and conditions that are just, reasonable and non-discriminatory. In addition, CenturyLink shall comply with all state wholesale and retail service quality requirements.

**7.1.2 Methods of Interconnection**

The Parties will negotiate the facilities arrangement used to interconnect their respective networks. CLEC shall establish at least one (1) physical Point of Interconnection in CenturyLink territory in each LATA CLEC has local End User Customers. CLEC represents and warrants that it is serving End User Customers physically located within each local calling area for which it wishes to exchange traffic within CenturyLink territory. The Parties shall establish, through negotiations, at least one (1) of the following Interconnection arrangements, at any Technically Feasible point: (1) a DS1 or DS3 CenturyLink-provided facility; (2) Collocation; (3) negotiated

Mid-Span Meet POI facilities; or (4) other Technically Feasible methods of Interconnection via the Bona Fide Request (BFR) process unless a particular arrangement has been previously provided to a third party, or is offered by CenturyLink as a product.

7.1.2.1 CenturyLink-provided Facility. Interconnection may be accomplished through the provision of a DS1 or DS3 Entrance Facility of CLEC's determination. An Entrance Facility extends from the CenturyLink Serving Wire Center to CLEC's Switch location or any Technically Feasible POI chosen by CLEC. CenturyLink-provided Entrance Facilities may not extend beyond the area served by the CenturyLink Serving Wire Center. The rates for CenturyLink-provided Entrance Facilities are provided in Exhibit A. CenturyLink's private line transport service is available as an alternative to CenturyLink-provided Entrance Facilities, when CLEC uses such private line transport service for multiple services. Entrance Facilities may not be used for Interconnection with Unbundled Network Elements.

7.1.2.2 Collocation. Interconnection may be accomplished through the Collocation arrangements offered by CenturyLink. The terms and conditions under which Collocation will be available are described in Section 8 of this Agreement.

7.1.2.2.1 Expanded Interconnection Channel Termination (EICT) provides the communication path that actually connects the physical space or in the case of virtual collocation, the designated equipment to CenturyLink's direct trunked transport and must be ordered to provision LIS to a collocation.

7.1.2.3 Mid-Span Meet POI. A Mid-Span Meet POI is a negotiated Point of Interface, limited to the Interconnection of facilities between the CenturyLink Serving Wire Center location and the location of the CLEC switch or other equipment located within the area served by the CenturyLink Serving Wire Center. The actual physical Point of Interface and facilities used will be subject to negotiations between the Parties. Each Party will be responsible for its portion of the build to the Mid-Span Meet POI. The Mid-Span Meet POI will be used exclusively as an Interconnection facility and cannot be used for other purposes such as Unbundled Network Elements or Access Services.

7.1.2.4 Intentionally Left Blank.

7.1.2.5 CenturyLink agrees to provide local Interconnection trunk diversity to the same extent it does so in CenturyLink's local network.

## **7.2 Exchange of Traffic**

### **7.2.1 Description**

7.2.1.1 This Section 7.2 addresses the exchange of traffic between CLEC's network and CenturyLink's network. Where either Party interconnects and delivers traffic to the other from third parties, each Party shall bill such third parties the appropriate charges pursuant to its respective Tariffs or contractual offerings for such third party terminations. Unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties, via an amendment to this Agreement, the Parties will directly exchange traffic between their respective networks without the use of third party transit providers.

7.2.1.2 The traffic types to be exchanged under this Agreement include:

7.2.1.2.1 EAS/local Exchange Service (EAS/Local) traffic as defined in this Agreement.

7.2.1.2.2 IntraLATA LEC Toll traffic as defined in this Agreement.

7.2.1.2.3 Jointly Provided Switched Access traffic as described in Section 7.5.1. Jointly Provided Switched Access is associated with Meet-Point Billing.

7.2.1.2.4 For purposes of the Agreement, Transit Service does not include traffic carried by Interexchange Carriers. That traffic is defined as Jointly Provided Switched Access. Transit Service is provided by CenturyLink, as a local and Access Tandem Switch provider, to CLEC to enable the completion of calls originated by or terminated to end users of another Telecommunications Carrier which is connected to CenturyLink's Switches. To the extent that CLEC's Switch functions as a local or Access Tandem Switch, as defined in this Agreement, CLEC may also provide transit service to CenturyLink.

7.2.1.2.5 Traffic having special Billing or trunking requirements includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- a) Directory Assistance;
- b) 911/E911;
- c) Operator Busy Line Verify/Busy Line Interrupt;
- d) Toll Free Services; and
- e) ISP-Bound traffic.

7.2.1.3 Local VoIP-PSTN Traffic and Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic may be exchanged under this Agreement.

7.2.1.3.1 Switched Access Traffic, including but not limited to InterLATA Traffic, other than Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic or Jointly Provided Switched Access Traffic, may not be exchanged under this Agreement. In the event CLEC routes InterLATA Traffic to CenturyLink in violation of this section, CenturyLink shall be entitled to seek injunctive relief and to recover damages, including without limitation, compensation for such traffic at the rate that is then applicable to such access traffic.

## 7.2.2 Terms and Conditions

7.2.2.1 Transport and Termination of Exchange Service (EAS/Local) Traffic

7.2.2.1.1 Exchange Service (EAS/Local) traffic will be terminated as Local Interconnection Service (LIS).

7.2.2.1.2 As negotiated between the Parties, the transport of Exchange Service (EAS/Local) traffic may occur in several ways:

7.2.2.1.2.1 One-way or two-way trunk groups may be established. However, if either Party elects to provision its own one-way trunks for delivery of Exchange Service (EAS/Local) traffic to be terminated on the

other Party's network, the ordering Party will provision its own one-way trunks. The Party ordering one-way trunks will choose the POI location for such one-way trunks.

7.2.2.1.2.2 CLEC may purchase transport services from CenturyLink or from a third party, including a third party that has leased the private line transport service facility from CenturyLink. Such transport provides a facility for the LIS trunk to be provisioned in order to deliver the originating Party's Exchange Service EAS/Local traffic to the terminating Party's End Office Switch or Tandem Switch for call termination. Transport may be purchased from CenturyLink as direct trunked transport. This Section is not intended to alter either Party's obligation under Section 251(a) of the Act.

7.2.2.1.3 When either Party utilizes the other Party's Tandem Switch for the exchange of local traffic, where there is a DS1's worth of traffic (512 CCS) between the originating Party's End Office Switch delivered to the other Party's Tandem Switch for delivery to one (1) of the other Party's End Office Switches, the originating Party will order a direct trunk group to the other Party's End Office Switch. To the extent that CLEC has established a Collocation arrangement at a CenturyLink End Office Switch location, and has available capacity, CLEC may, at its sole option, provide two-way direct trunk facilities from that End Office Switch to CLEC's Switch.

7.2.2.1.4 LIS ordered to a Tandem Switch will be provided as direct trunked transport between the Serving Wire Center of CLEC's POI and the Tandem Switch.

7.2.2.1.5 If direct trunked transport is greater than fifty (50) miles in length, and existing facilities are not available in either Party's network, and the Parties have not been able to resolve the issue through Mid-Span Meet arrangements, and the Parties cannot agree as to which Party will provide the facility, the Parties may bring the matter before the Commission for resolution on an Individual Case Basis.

7.2.2.1.6 Regardless of the number of Location Routing Numbers (LRNs) used by CLEC in a LATA, CenturyLink will route traffic destined for CLEC's End User Customers via direct trunking where direct trunking has been established. In the event that direct trunking has not been established, such traffic shall be routed via a CenturyLink Tandem Switch.

## 7.2.2.2 IntraLATA LEC Toll Traffic

7.2.2.2.1 One-way or two-way trunk groups may be established. However, if either Party elects to provision its own one-way trunks for delivery of IntraLATA LEC Toll traffic to be terminated on the other Party's network, the ordering Party will provision its own one-way trunks. The Party ordering one-way trunks will choose the POI location for such one-way trunks. IntraLATA LEC Toll traffic shall be delivered to CenturyLink at the Access Tandem Switch or via separate trunks to CenturyLink's End Office Switch(es), as designated by CLEC.



### 7.2.2.3 Transit Traffic

7.2.2.3.1 CenturyLink will accept traffic originated by CLEC's network and/or its end user(s) for termination to other Telecommunications Carrier's network and/or its end users that is connected to CenturyLink's Switch. CenturyLink will also terminate traffic from these other Telecommunications Carriers' network and/or its end users to CLEC's network and/or its end users. For purposes of the Agreement, transit traffic does not include traffic carried by Interexchange Carriers. That traffic is defined as Jointly Provided Switched Access.

7.2.2.3.2 The Parties involved in transporting transit traffic will deliver calls to each involved network with CCS/SS7 protocol and the appropriate ISUP/TCAP messages to facilitate full Interoperability and Billing functions.

7.2.2.3.3 The originating company is responsible for payment of appropriate rates to the transit company and to the terminating company. The Parties agree to enter into traffic exchange agreements with third party Telecommunications Carriers prior to delivering traffic to be transited to third party Telecommunications Carriers. In the event one Party originates traffic that transits the second Party's network to reach a third party Telecommunications Carrier with whom the originating Party does not have a traffic exchange agreement, then the originating Party will indemnify, defend and hold harmless the second Party against any and all charges levied by such third party Telecommunications Carrier, including any termination charges related to such traffic and any attorneys fees and expenses. In the case of IntraLATA LEC Toll traffic where CenturyLink is the designated IntraLATA Toll provider for existing LECs, CenturyLink will be responsible for payment of appropriate usage rates.

7.2.2.3.4 When CenturyLink receives an unqueried call from CLEC to a telephone number that has been ported to another local services provider, the transit rate will apply in addition to any query rates.

7.2.2.3.5 In the case of a transit call that terminates in the Local Calling Area but in a different state than the call originated, and the CLEC does not have an agreement with CenturyLink in the state where the transit call terminated, CLEC must execute an agreement for that state if it is a state served by CenturyLink. In the absence of a second agreement, the transit rate in Exhibit A of this Agreement will be billed to the CLEC.

7.2.2.4 Jointly Provided Switched Access. The Parties will use industry standards developed and routing based on the LERG to handle the Provisioning and Billing of Jointly Provided Switched Access (MECAB, MECOD, and the Parties' FCC and state access Tariffs). Each Party will bill the IXC the appropriate portion of its Switched Access rates. CenturyLink will also provide the one-time notification to CLEC of the billing name, billing address and Carrier identification codes of the IXCs subtending any Access Tandem Switches to which CLEC directly connects. This type of traffic is discussed separately in this Section.

7.2.2.5 Interface Code Availability. Supervisory signaling specifications, and the applicable network channel interface codes for LIS trunks can be found in the

## CenturyLink Technical Publication for Local Interconnection Service 77398.

## 7.2.2.6 Signaling Options

7.2.2.6.1 SS7 Out-of-Band Signaling. SS7 Out-of-Band Signaling must be requested on orders for LIS trunks. Common Channel Signaling Access Capability Service may be obtained under CenturyLink Intrastate and/or FCC Access Tariffs or from a third party signaling provider. Each of the Parties, CenturyLink and CLEC, will provide for Interconnection of their signaling network for the mutual exchange of signaling information in accordance with the industry standards as described in Telcordia documents, including but not limited to GR-905 CORE, GR-954 CORE, GR-394 CORE and CenturyLink Technical Publication 77342.

7.2.2.6.2 Clear Channel Capability. Clear Channel Capability (64CCC) permits 24 DS0-64 Kbps services or 1.536 Mbps of information on the 1.544 Mbps/s line rate. 64CCC is available for LIS trunks equipped with SS7 Out-of-Band Signaling. 64CCC must be requested on the order for new LIS trunks. CenturyLink will provide CLEC with a listing of CenturyLink Switches fully capable of routing 64CCC traffic through the CenturyLink web site: <http://www.centurylink.com/disclosures>. Where available to CenturyLink, CenturyLink will provide CLEC with the same 64CCC on an alternate route or if necessary via an overlay network.

7.2.2.7 Measurement of terminating Local Interconnection Service (LIS) minutes begins when the terminating LIS entry Switch receives answer supervision from the called End User Customer's End Office Switch indicating the called End User Customer has answered. The measurement of terminating call usage over LIS trunks ends when the terminating LIS entry Switch receives disconnect supervision from either the called End User Customer's End Office Switch, indicating the called End User Customer has disconnected, or CLEC's Point of Interconnection, whichever is recognized first by the entry Switch. This is commonly referred to as "conversation time." The Parties will only charge for actual minutes of use and/or fractions thereof of completed calls. Minutes of use are aggregated at the end of the Billing cycle by End Office Switch and rounded to the nearest whole minute.

## 7.2.2.8 LIS Forecasting

7.2.2.8.1 Both CLEC and CenturyLink shall work in good faith to define a mutually agreed upon forecast of LIS trunking.

7.2.2.8.2 Both Parties shall participate in semi-annual joint planning meetings to establish trunk design and Provisioning requirements. The Parties agree to provide mutual trunk forecast information to ensure End User Customer call completion between the Parties' networks. Such forecasts shall be for LIS trunking that impacts the Switch capacity and facilities of each Party. CenturyLink shall provide CLEC trunk group specific projections to CLEC on or before the date of the joint planning meeting.

7.2.2.8.3 Switch capacity growth requiring the addition of new switching modules may require six (6) months for ordering and installation. To align with

the timeframe needed to provide for the requested facilities, including engineering, ordering, installation and make ready activities, for capacity growth CenturyLink will utilize CLEC's semi-annual forecasts and near-term demand submitted on Unforecast Demand Notification Forms to ensure availability of Switch capacity.

7.2.2.8.4 The forecast will identify trunking requirements for a two (2) year period.

7.2.2.8.5 Both Parties will follow the forecasting and Provisioning requirements of this Agreement for the appropriate sizing of trunks, and use of direct End Office Switch versus Tandem Switch routing. See Section 7.2.2.1.3.

7.2.2.8.6 Intentionally Left Blank

7.2.2.8.7 Joint planning meetings will be used to bring clarity to the forecasting process. Each Party will provide adequate information associated with the CenturyLink LIS Trunk Forecast Forms in addition to its forecasts. During the joint planning meetings, both Parties shall provide information on major network projects anticipated for the following year that may impact the other Party's forecast or Interconnection requirements. No later than two (2) weeks prior to the joint planning meetings, the Parties shall exchange information to facilitate the planning process. CenturyLink shall provide CLEC a report reflecting then current spare capacity at each CenturyLink Switch that may impact the Interconnection traffic. CenturyLink shall also provide a report reflecting then current blocking of local direct and alternate final trunk groups, Interconnection and non-Interconnection alike. CLEC will be provided Interconnection trunk group data on its own trunks. CenturyLink shall also provide a report reflecting Tandem Switch routed Interconnection trunking that has exceeded 512BHCCS. The information is Proprietary, provided under non-disclosure and is to be used solely for Interconnection network planning.

7.2.2.8.8 In addition to the above information, CLEC shall provide:

- a) Completed CenturyLink LIS Trunk Forecast Forms; and
- b) Any planned use of an alternate Tandem Switch provider.

7.2.2.8.9 In addition to the above information, the following information will be available through the Local Exchange Routing Guide. The LERG is available through Telcordia.

- a) CenturyLink Tandem Switches and CenturyLink End Office Switches;
- b) CLLI codes;
- c) Switch type.

CenturyLink will notify CLEC of the anticipation of a new local Tandem Switch in accordance with the FCC rules on network changes.

7.2.2.8.10 CenturyLink network disclosure of deployment information for specific technical capabilities (e.g., ISDN deployment, 64 CCC, etc.) shall be provided on CenturyLink's web site, <http://www.centurylink.com/disclosures>.

7.2.2.8.11 When appropriate, CenturyLink will notify CLEC through the CenturyLink Trunk Group Servicing Request (TGSR) process of the need to take action and place orders in accordance with the forecasted trunk requirements. CLEC shall respond to the TGSR within ten (10) business days of receipt.

7.2.2.8.12 The following terms shall apply to the forecasting process:

7.2.2.8.12.1 CLEC forecasts may be provided to CenturyLink as detailed in CenturyLink's Trunk Forecast Form;

7.2.2.8.12.2 CLEC forecasts provided to CenturyLink, information provided by CLEC to CenturyLink outside of the normal forecasting process to modify the forecast, and forecasting information disclosed by CenturyLink to CLEC shall be deemed Confidential Information and the Parties may not distribute, disclose or reveal, in any form, this material other than as allowed and described in subsections 5.16.9.1 and 5.16.9.2.

7.2.2.8.13 To the extent that CLEC's historical trunking underutilization is such that it restricts CenturyLink from provisioning trunking to itself or other carriers without CenturyLink augmenting its switch for additional trunking capacity, CenturyLink reserves the right to reclaim the facilities for the purpose of providing capacity to itself or other carriers. CenturyLink shall not leave the CLEC-assigned trunk group with less than twenty five percent (25%) excess capacity. Ancillary trunk groups are excluded from this treatment.

7.2.2.8.14 Intentionally Left Blank.

7.2.2.8.15 Each Party shall provide a specified point of contact for planning, forecasting and trunk servicing purposes.

7.2.2.8.16 Interconnection facilities provided on a route that involves extraordinary circumstances may be subject to the Construction Charges, as detailed in Section 19 of this Agreement. When CenturyLink claims extraordinary circumstances exist, it must apply to the Commission for approval of such charges by showing that CLEC alone is the sole cause of such construction. CenturyLink shall initiate such proceeding within ten (10) Days of notifying CLEC in writing that it will not construct the requested facilities, or within ten (10) Days of notice from CLEC in writing that CenturyLink must either commence construction of the facilities or initiate such proceeding with the Commission. In this proceeding, CenturyLink shall not object to using the most expeditious procedure available under state law, rule or regulation. CenturyLink shall be relieved of its obligation of constructing such facilities during the pendency of the proceeding before the Commission. If the Commission approves such charges, CenturyLink and CLEC will share costs in proportion to each Party's use of the overall capacity of the route involved. CenturyLink and CLEC may also choose to work in good faith to identify and locate alternative routes that can be used to

accommodate CLEC forecasted build. Extraordinary circumstances include, but are not limited to, natural obstructions such as lakes, rivers, or steep terrain, and legal obstructions such as governmental, federal, Native American or private rights of way. The standard CenturyLink forecast period of six (6) months may not apply under these circumstances. Construction Charges shall not apply in the event that construction is an augment of an existing route.

#### 7.2.2.9 Trunking Requirements

7.2.2.9.1 The Parties will provide designed Interconnection facilities that meet the same technical criteria and service standards, such as probability of blocking in peak hours and transmission standards, in accordance with current industry standards.

7.2.2.9.1.1 CenturyLink shall provide monthly reports to CLEC on all Interconnection trunk groups and quarterly reports on all interoffice trunk groups carrying EAS/Local traffic between CenturyLink Tandem Switches and CenturyLink End Office Switches. The reports will contain busy hour traffic data, including but not limited to, overflow and the number of trunks in each trunk group.

7.2.2.9.2 Intentionally Left Blank.

7.2.2.9.3 Separate trunk groups may be established based on Billing, signaling, and network requirements. The following is the current list of traffic types that require separate trunk groups, unless specifically otherwise stated in this Agreement.

- a) Directory Assistance trunks (where the Switch type requires separation from operator services trunks);
- b) 911/E911 trunks;
- c) Operator services trunks (where the Switch type requires separation from Directory Assistance trunks);
- d) Mass calling trunks, if applicable.

7.2.2.9.3.1 Exchange Service (EAS/Local), ISP-Bound Traffic, IntraLATA LEC Toll, and Jointly Provided Switched Access may be combined in a single LIS trunk group at access tandems as appropriate per Section 7.2.2.9.6. Jointly Provided Switched Access may, upon request, be routed on a separate LIS trunk group with all other traffic combined on the other trunk group at access tandems as appropriate per Section 7.2.2.9.6.

7.2.2.9.4 Trunks will be ordered in increments of DS1 for exchange of EAS/Local, and IntraLATA Toll/Jointly Provided Switched Access traffic. Directory Assistance, 911/E911, operator Busy Line Interrupt and Busy Line Verify trunks may be ordered in DS0.

7.2.2.9.5 The Parties will provide Common Channel Signaling (CCS) to one another in conjunction with all trunk circuits, except as provided below.

a) The Parties will provision all trunking using SS7/CCS capabilities. Exceptions to this arrangement would be limited to operator services trunking, Directory Assistance trunking and 911 trunking.

b) When the Parties interconnect via CCS for Jointly Provided Switched Access Service, the Tandem Switch provider will provide MF/CCS interworking as required for Interconnection with Interexchange Carriers who use MF signaling.

7.2.2.9.6 The Parties shall terminate Exchange Service (EAS/Local) traffic on Tandem Switches or End Office Switches. When there is a DS1 level of traffic (512 BHCCS) between CLEC's Switch and a CenturyLink End Office Switch, CenturyLink may request CLEC to order a direct trunk group to the CenturyLink End Office Switch. CLEC shall comply with that request unless it can demonstrate that such compliance will impose upon it a material adverse economic or operations impact. Furthermore, CenturyLink may propose to provide Interconnection facilities to the local Tandem Switches or End Office Switches served by the Access Tandem Switch at the same cost to CLEC as Interconnection at the Access Tandem Switch. If CLEC provides a written statement of its objections to a CenturyLink cost-equivalency proposal, CenturyLink may require it only: (a) upon demonstrating that a failure to do so will have a material adverse affect on the operation of its network and (b) upon a finding that doing so will have no material adverse impact on the operation of CLEC, as compared with Interconnection at such Access Tandem Switch.

7.2.2.9.7 To the extent CenturyLink is using a specific End Office Switch to deliver limited Tandem Switch functionality to itself, a wireless service provider, another CLEC, or another ILEC, it will arrange the same trunking for CLEC.

7.2.2.9.8 Alternate Traffic Routing. If CLEC has a LIS arrangement which provides two (2) paths to a CenturyLink End Office Switch (one (1) route via a Tandem Switch and one (1) direct route), CLEC may elect to utilize alternate traffic routing. CLEC traffic will be offered first to the direct trunk group (also referred to as the "primary high" route) and then overflow to the Tandem Switch group (also referred to as the "alternate final" route) for completion to CenturyLink End Office Switches.

7.2.2.9.9 Host-Remote. When a CenturyLink Wire Center is served by a Remote Switch, CLEC may deliver traffic to the host Central Office or to the Tandem Switch. CLEC may not directly trunk to a Remote Switch.

#### 7.2.2.10 Testing

7.2.2.10.1 Acceptance Testing. At the time of installation of a LIS trunk group, and at no additional charge, acceptance tests will be performed to ensure that the service is operational and meets the applicable technical parameters.

#### 7.2.2.10.2 Testing Capabilities

7.2.2.10.2.1 LIS Acceptance Testing is provided where equipment is available, with the following test lines: seven-digit access to balance (100 type), milliwatt (102 type), nonsynchronous or synchronous, automatic transmission measuring (105 type), data transmission (107 type), loop-around, short circuit, open circuit, and non-inverting digital loop-back (108 type), and such other acceptance testing that may be needed to ensure that the service is operational and meets the applicable technical parameters.

7.2.2.10.2.2 In addition to LIS acceptance testing, other tests are available (e.g., additional cooperative acceptance testing, automatic scheduled testing, cooperative scheduled testing, manual scheduled testing, and non-scheduled testing). Charges for such testing are identified in Section 7.3.5.

7.2.2.10.3 Repair Testing. At the time of repair of a LIS trunk group, at no additional charge, tests will be performed to ensure that the service is operational and meets the applicable technical parameters.

7.2.2.11 Mileage Measurement. Where required, the mileage measurement for LIS rate elements is determined in the same manner as the mileage measurement for V&H methodology as outlined in NECA Tariff No. 4.

### 7.3 Intercarrier Compensation

#### 7.3.1 Interconnection Facility Options

The Intercarrier Compensation provisions of this Agreement shall apply to the exchange of Exchange Service (EAS/Local) traffic between CLEC's network and CenturyLink's network. Where either Party acts as an IntraLATA Toll provider, each Party shall bill the other the appropriate charges pursuant to its respective tariff or price lists. Where either Party interconnects and delivers traffic to the other from third parties, each Party shall bill such third parties the appropriate charges pursuant to its respective tariffs, price lists or contractual offerings for such third party terminations. Absent a separately negotiated agreement to the contrary, the Parties will directly exchange traffic between their respective networks without the use of third party transit providers.

##### 7.3.1.1 LIS Entrance Facilities

7.3.1.1.1 Recurring and nonrecurring rates for LIS Entrance Facilities are specified in Exhibit A and will apply for those DS1 or DS3 facilities dedicated to use as LIS.

7.3.1.1.2 If CLEC chooses to provision LIS facilities over an existing facility purchased as private line transport service from the CenturyLink state or FCC access Tariffs, the rates from those Tariffs will apply.

7.3.1.1.3 If the Parties elect to establish LIS two-way trunks, for reciprocal exchange of Exchange Service (EAS/Local) traffic, the cost of the LIS two-way facilities shall be shared among the Parties by reducing the LIS two-way

Entrance Facility (EF) rate element charges as follows:

7.3.1.1.3.1 The provider of the LIS two-way Entrance Facility (EF) will initially share the cost of the LIS two-way EF by assuming an initial relative use factor (RUF) of fifty percent (50%) for a minimum of one (1) quarter if the Parties have not exchanged LIS traffic previously. The nominal charge to the other Party for the use of the EF, as described in Exhibit A, shall be reduced by this initial relative use factor. Payments by the other Party will be according to this initial relative use factor for a minimum of one (1) quarter. The initial relative use factor will continue for both bill reduction and payments until the Parties agree to a new factor, based upon actual minutes of use data for non-ISP-Bound traffic to substantiate a change in that factor. For purposes of determining the relative use factor, the terminating carrier is responsible for ISP-Bound traffic and for VNXX traffic. If either Party demonstrates with traffic data that actual minutes of use during the previous quarter justifies a new relative use factor, that Party will send a notice to the other Party. The new factor will be calculated based upon Exhibit H. Once the Parties finalize a new factor, bill reductions and payments will apply going forward from the date the original notice was sent. ISP-Bound traffic or traffic delivered to Enhanced Service providers is interstate in nature.

7.3.1.2 Collocation

7.3.1.2.1 See Section 8.

## 7.3.2 Direct Trunked Transport

7.3.2.1 Either Party may elect to purchase direct trunked transport from the other Party.

7.3.2.1.1 Direct trunked transport (DTT) is available between the Serving Wire Center of the POI and the terminating and/or transiting Party's Tandem Switch or End Office Switches. The applicable rates are described in Exhibit A. DTT facilities are provided as dedicated DS3, DS1 or DS0 facilities.

7.3.2.1.2 When DTT is provided to a local or Access Tandem Switch for Exchange Service (EAS/Local) traffic, or to an Access Tandem Switch for IntraLATA LEC Toll, or Jointly Provided Switched Access traffic, the applicable DTT rate elements apply between the Serving Wire Center and the Tandem Switch. These rates are described below.

7.3.2.1.3 Mileage shall be measured for DTT based on V&H coordinates between the Serving Wire Center and the local/Access Tandem Switch or End Office Switch.

7.3.2.1.4 Fixed Charges per DS0, DS1 or DS3 and per mile charges are defined for DTT in Exhibit A of this Agreement.

7.3.2.2 If the Parties elect to establish LIS two-way DTT trunks, for reciprocal exchange of Exchange Service (EAS/Local) traffic, the cost of the LIS two-way DTT



facilities shall be shared among the Parties by reducing the LIS two-way DTT rate element charges as follows:

7.3.2.2.1 The provider of the LIS two-way DTT facility will initially share the cost of the LIS two-way DTT facility by assuming an initial relative use factor of fifty percent (50%) for a minimum of one (1) quarter if the Parties have not exchanged LIS traffic previously. The nominal charge to the other Party for the use of the DTT facility, as described in Exhibit A, shall be reduced by this initial relative use factor. Payments by the other Party will be according to this initial relative use factor for a minimum of one (1) quarter. The initial relative use factor will continue for both bill reduction and payments until the Parties agree to a new factor, based upon actual minutes of use data for non-ISP-Bound traffic to substantiate a change in that factor. For purposes of determining the relative use factor, the terminating carrier is responsible for ISP-Bound traffic and for VNXX traffic. If either Party demonstrates with traffic data that actual minutes of use during the previous quarter justifies a new relative use factor, that Party will send a notice to the other Party. The new factor will be calculated based upon Exhibit H. Once the Parties finalize a new factor, bill reductions and payments will apply going forward from the date the original notice was sent. ISP-Bound traffic is interstate in nature. CenturyLink has never agreed to exchange VNXX traffic with CLEC.

7.3.2.3 Multiplexing options (DS1/DS3 MUX or DS0/DS1 MUX) are available at the rates specified in Exhibit A.

### **7.3.3 Trunk Nonrecurring charges**

7.3.3.1 Installation nonrecurring charges may be assessed by the provider for each LIS trunk ordered. CenturyLink rates are specified in Exhibit A.

7.3.3.2 Nonrecurring charges for rearrangement may be assessed by the provider for each LIS trunk rearrangement ordered, at one-half (1/2) the rates specified in Exhibit A.

### **7.3.4 Exchange Service (EAS/Local) Traffic**

#### **7.3.4.1 End Office Switch Call Termination**

7.3.4.1.1 End office call terminating compensation will be on a bill and keep basis, with no compensation exchanged between the Parties.

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7.3.4.1.3 Intentionally Left Blank.

7.3.4.1.4 Neither Party shall be responsible to the other for call termination charges associated with third party traffic that transits such Party's network.

#### 7.3.4.2 Tandem Switched Transport

7.3.4.2.1 Tandem switching compensation will be on a bill and keep basis, with no compensation exchanged between the Parties

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7.3.4.2.3 Intentionally Left Blank

7.3.4.2.4 When CenturyLink receives an unqueried call from CLEC to a number that has been ported to another Switch within the EAS/Local Calling Area, and CenturyLink performs the query, charges will apply for the FCC approved default query per Section 10.

7.3.4.2.4.1 To determine the responsible originating Carrier of unqueried calls for purposes of identification of the Carrier to bill LNP query charges, CenturyLink and CLEC are required to utilize the Number Portability Administration Center (NPAC) database, or another database that is supported by OBF.

7.3.4.3 Intentionally Left Blank.

7.3.4.4 Intentionally Left Blank

7.3.4.5 The Parties will not pay terminating compensation on traffic, including ISP-Bound traffic, when the traffic does not originate and terminate within the same CenturyLink Local Calling Area, regardless of the calling and called NPA-NXXs and, specifically, regardless whether an End User Customer is assigned an NPA-NXX associated with a rate center that is different from the rate center where the End User Customer is physically located (also known as "VNXX traffic"). CenturyLink's agreement to the terms in this paragraph is without waiver or prejudice to CenturyLink's position is that it has never agreed to exchange VNXX traffic with CLEC.

#### 7.3.5 Miscellaneous Charges

Miscellaneous Charges apply for the following miscellaneous services when provided with LIS trunks. Exhibit A includes a reference to the Tariff, catalog, price list, or other similar document that provides the amount of each Miscellaneous Charge.

7.3.5.1 Cancellation charges apply to cancelled LIS trunk orders based upon critical dates, terms and conditions in accordance with the Access Service Tariff Section 5.2.3 and trunk nonrecurring charges referenced in this Agreement.

7.3.5.2 Expedite requests for LIS trunk orders are available. Expedites are requests for intervals that are shorter than the interval defined in CenturyLink's Service Interval Guide (SIG) or Individual Case Basis (ICB) Due Dates. When expedites are approved, expedite charges apply per order for every day that the Due Date interval is shortened, based on the standard interval in the SIG or based on ICB criteria for Due Dates. Expedite charges apply to LIS trunk orders based on the rates described in Exhibit A.

7.3.5.2.1 CLEC will request an expedite for LIS trunks, including an expedited Due Date, on the Access Service Request (ASR).

7.3.5.2.2 The request for an expedite will be approved only when resources are available and the request meets the criteria outlined in the Pre-Approved Expedite Process in CenturyLink's Product Catalog at CenturyLink's wholesale web site.

7.3.5.3 Additional testing, including cooperative acceptance testing, automatic scheduled testing, cooperative scheduled testing, manual scheduled testing, and non-scheduled testing, is available for LIS trunks.

### **7.3.6 ISP-Bound Traffic**

7.3.6.1 ISP-Bound terminating compensation will be on a bill and keep basis, with no compensation exchanged between the Parties.

7.3.6.2 Intentionally Left Blank

7.3.6.3 Intentionally Left Blank.

7.3.6.4 The CLEC is responsible for any payments or charges due for one-way facilities and/or trunking provisioned solely for CenturyLink-originated ISP-Bound traffic.

### **7.3.7 Transit Traffic**

7.3.7.1 Transit Traffic will be charged on a per minute of use rate to the originating Party for any traffic terminating to any entity other than a CenturyLink affiliate operating as an Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier, as contained in Exhibit A.

7.3.8 Signaling Parameters: CenturyLink and CLEC are required to provide each other the proper signaling information (e.g., originating Calling Party Number (CPN), Charge Number (ChN) and called party number) as required by Applicable Law and further clarified by the FCC Order to enable each Party to issue bills in a complete and timely fashion. All CCS signaling parameters will be provided unchanged including CPN, calling party category, ChN and Originating Line Information Parameter (OLIP) on all calls. All privacy indicators will be honored. The ChN is to be passed unaltered in SS7 signaling fields where it is different than CPN; ChN must not be populated with a number associated with an intermediate switch, platform, or gateway, or other number that designates anything other than a calling party's charge number; and if MF signaling is used by the CLEC then the ChN must be included in the ANI field if different from the CPN. Where SS7 connections exist, each Party shall pass all CCS signaling parameters, where available, on each call carried over Interconnection trunks. If either Party fails to provide valid originating information such traffic will be billed as Intrastate Switched Access when the calls traverse an interconnection trunk. The Parties will coordinate and exchange data as necessary to determine the cause of the CPN/ChN failure and to assist its correction.

### **7.3.9 VoIP-PSTN Traffic**

#### **7.3.9.1 Local VoIP-PSTN Traffic**

7.3.9.1.1 CLEC and CenturyLink will exchange Local VoIP-PSTN Traffic on the same basis and at the same rates as Exchange Service (EAS/Local) Traffic and such Local VoIP-PSTN Traffic will be identified as such by using the originating and terminating call detail information of each call unless the Parties specifically agree otherwise. This call jurisdiction method described herein is intended by the Parties as a proxy to determine the jurisdiction of a call, i.e. the actual geographic end points of the call, and the Parties acknowledge that there may be some circumstances where the actual geographic end points of a particular call may be difficult or impossible to determine. At any time during the term of this Agreement, CLEC and CenturyLink may agree on alternate methods to establish call jurisdiction based on regulatory or technological evolution. The Parties agree that it is in the best interest of both Parties to work together in an effort to continue to improve the accuracy of jurisdictional data and such efforts shall not be reasonably withheld by either Party.

#### 7.3.9.2 Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic

7.3.9.2.1 CLEC and CenturyLink will exchange Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic at rates identified in each Party's appropriate access tariff. Such Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic will be identified as InterLATA Traffic or IntraLATA Toll Traffic by using the originating and terminating call detail information of each call unless the Parties specifically agree otherwise. This call jurisdiction method described herein is intended by the Parties as a proxy to determine the jurisdiction of a call, i.e. the actual geographic end points of the call, and the Parties acknowledge that there may be some circumstances where the actual geographic end points of a particular call may be difficult or impossible to determine. At any time during the term of this Agreement, CLEC and CenturyLink may agree on alternate methods to establish call jurisdiction based on regulatory or technological evolution. The Parties agree that it is in the best interest of both Parties to work together in an effort to continue to improve the accuracy of jurisdictional data and such efforts shall not be unreasonably withheld by either Party.

7.3.9.2.1.1 InterLATA Traffic which is Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic will be exchanged at each Party's interstate access tariff rates. Any Transit Traffic which is both interLATA and Toll VoIP-PSTN will be exchanged at each Party's interstate switched access service rates. InterLATA Traffic which is not Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic shall be subject to 7.2.1.3.1.

7.3.9.2.1.2 IntraLATA Toll Traffic which is Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic will continue to be exchanged at each Party's intrastate access tariff rates.

7.3.9.2.1.3 The portion of LIS facilities used for Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic will be billed at CenturyLink's interstate access tariff rates after the application of Relative Use Factor. CenturyLink will use the Local Interconnection Service Facilities Percent VoIP Usage (LIS-Facility-PVU) factor in Exhibit A to determine the portion of Entrance Facility, Direct Trunk Transport, and MUX that shall be deemed the portion of the facility used to carry Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic.

7.3.9.2.1.3.1 The LIS-Facility-PVU factor shall be the percentage of the total traffic CLEC routes to CenturyLink for

termination which is Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic. The LIS-Facility-PVU factor shall be based on information such as the number of the CLEC's retail VoIP subscriptions in the state (e.g. as reported on FCC Form 477), traffic studies, actual call detail, or other relevant and verifiable information which the parties will exchange.

7.3.9.2.1.4 Any factors established by the Parties for the previous sections of 7.3.9.2 shall be based on the particular characteristics of the traffic exchanged within the State between CLEC and CenturyLink and shall not be subject to adoption by anyone not a Party to this Agreement, or apply to any other service areas.

## 7.4 Ordering

7.4.1 When ordering LIS, the ordering Party shall specify requirements on the Access Service Request (ASR): 1) the type and number of Interconnection facilities to terminate at the Point of Interconnection in the Serving Wire Center; 2) the type of interoffice transport, (i.e., direct trunked transport or tandem switched transport); 3) the number of Ports to be provisioned at an End Office Switch or local Tandem Switch; and 4) any optional features. When the ordering Party requests facilities, routing, or optional features different than those determined to be available, the Parties will work cooperatively in determining an acceptable configuration, based on available facilities, equipment and routing plans.

7.4.2 For each NXX Code assigned to CLEC by the NANPA, CLEC will provide CenturyLink with the CLLI codes of the CenturyLink Tandem Switches and CLEC's Point of Interface to which traffic associated with the NXX will be routed. For NXX Codes assigned to existing LIS trunk groups, CLEC will also provide CenturyLink with the CenturyLink assigned two-six code (TGSN) to which each NXX will be routed. Information that is not currently available in the LERG may be provided via the NPA NXX Code Request Routing Form available on the CenturyLink web site:

[http://www.centurylink.com/wholesale/notices/npa\\_nxxProcess.htm](http://www.centurylink.com/wholesale/notices/npa_nxxProcess.htm)

Either Party shall respond to a special request for a NPA NXX Code Request Routing Form when a single Switch is served by multiple trunk groups.

7.4.3 When either Party has ordered a DS3 Entrance Facility or private line facility, that Party will order the appropriate DS1 facility required and identify the channels of the DS3 to be used to provide connecting facility assignments (CFA). Also, if either Party has provided or ordered a DS1 Entrance Facility or private line facility, that Party will be responsible for identification of the DS0 channels of the DS1 private line to be used to provide CFA.

7.4.4 A joint planning meeting will precede initial trunking orders. These meetings will result in agreement and commitment that both Parties can implement the proposed plan and the transmittal of Access Service Requests (ASRs) to initiate order activity. The Parties will provide their best estimate of the traffic distribution to each End Office Switch subtending the Tandem Switch.

7.4.5 If CLEC uses a method of interconnection of one POI in the LATA or the access tandem for local traffic in accordance with Section 7.1.2 and/or 7.2.2.9.6, CenturyLink and CLEC will work together to review CLEC's network configuration in order to ensure correct and complete ASR ordering.

7.4.6 Service intervals and Due Dates for initial establishment of trunking arrangements at each new Switch location of Interconnection between the Parties will be determined on an Individual Case Basis.

7.4.7 CenturyLink will establish intervals for the provision of LIS trunks that conform to the performance objectives set forth in Section 20. CenturyLink will provide notice to CLEC of any changes to the LIS trunk intervals consistent with the Change Management Process (CMP) applicable to the PCAT. Operational processes within CenturyLink work centers are discussed as part of the CMP. CenturyLink agrees that CLEC shall not be held to the requirements of the PCAT.

7.4.8 The ordering Party may cancel an order at any time prior to notification that service is available. If the ordering Party is unable to accept service within thirty (30) Days after the Service Date, the provider has the following options:

- a) The order will be canceled; cancellation charges as specified in 7.3.5.1 apply unless otherwise mutually agreed to by the Parties;
- b) Intentionally Left Blank.
- c) Billing for the service will commence.

In such instances, the cancellation date or the date Billing is to commence, depending on which option is selected, will be the 31<sup>st</sup> Day after the Service Date.

## **7.5 Jointly Provided Switched Access Services**

7.5.1 Jointly Provided Switched Access Service is described and governed by the FCC and state access Tariffs, Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing (MECAB) and Multiple Exchange Carrier Ordering and Design (MECOD) Guidelines and based on LERG routing, and is not modified by any provisions of this Agreement. Both Parties agree to comply with such guidelines. CenturyLink and CLEC agree that the originating, intermediate, and terminating LECs for switched access will cooperatively determine the Jointly Provided Switched Access arrangements in which all parties concur.

7.5.2 CenturyLink will agree to function as the Access Service Coordinator (ASC) as defined in the Multiple Exchange Carrier Ordering and Design Guidelines (MECOD). CenturyLink will provide the operational, technical and administrative support required in the planning, Provisioning and maintenance involved in the joint access Provisioning process to the IXC's. CenturyLink will be unable to fulfill the role of ASC if CLEC does not fully comply with MECOD requirements, including filing CLEC's End Office Switches and billed percentages (BPs) in the NECA 4 Tariff.

7.5.3 The ATIS Network Interconnection Interoperability Forum (NIIF) recommended methodologies must be adhered to by all Local Exchange Carriers (LECs) to provide timely notification to the industry of changes in their access network architecture.

7.5.3.1 The ATIS document is titled [Recommended Notification Procedures to Industry for Changes in Access Network Architecture](#).

7.5.4 CenturyLink and CLEC will each render a separate bill to the IXC, using the multiple bill, single tariff option.

7.5.5 A charge will apply for Category 11-01-XX Access Services records sent in an EMI mechanized format. These records can be used to provide information necessary for each Party to bill the Interexchange Carrier for Jointly Provided Switched Access Services and 8XX database queries. The charge for each record created and transmitted is listed in Exhibit A of this Agreement.

## **7.6 Transit Records**

7.6.1 CenturyLink and CLEC will exchange wireline network usage data originated by a wireline Local Exchange Carrier (LEC) where the NXX resides in a wireline LEC Switch, transits CenturyLink's network, and terminates to CLEC's network when Technically Feasible and commercially reasonable. Each Party agrees to provide to the other this wireline network usage data when CenturyLink or CLEC acts as a transit provider currently or in the future. The Parties understand that this information is Carrier protected information under Section 222 of the Telecommunications Act and shall be used solely for the purposes of Billing the wireline LEC. CLEC will provide to CenturyLink information to enable CenturyLink to provide transit records on a mechanized basis when Technically Feasible. This includes, but is not limited to: service center information, operating company number, and state jurisdiction. CenturyLink and CLEC agree to exchange wireline network usage data as Category 11-01-XX.

7.6.2 CenturyLink and CLEC will exchange wireless network usage data originated by a Wireless Service Provider (WSP) where the NXX resides in a WSP Switch, transits CenturyLink's network, and terminates to CLEC's network when Technically Feasible and commercially reasonable. Each Party agrees to provide to the other this wireless network usage data when CenturyLink or CLEC acts as a transit provider currently or in the future. The Parties understand that this information is Carrier protected information under Section 222 of the Telecommunications Act and shall be used solely for the purposes of Billing the WSP. CLEC will provide to CenturyLink information to be able to provide transit records on a mechanized basis when Technically Feasible. This includes, but is not limited to: service center information, operating company number and state jurisdiction. CenturyLink and CLEC agree to exchange wireless network usage data as Category 11-01-XX.

7.6.3 CLEC may order transit records from CenturyLink and a charge will apply for Category 11-01-XX transit records sent in an EMI mechanized format. These records can be used to provide information necessary for each Party to bill the originating Carrier for transit when Technically Feasible. The charge for each record created and transmitted is listed in Exhibit A of this Agreement.

## **7.7 Local Interconnection Data Exchange for Billing**

7.7.1 There are certain types of calls or types of Interconnection that require exchange of Billing records between the Parties, including, for example, alternate billed and Toll Free Service calls. The Parties agree that all call types must be routed between the networks, accounted for, and settled among the Parties. Certain calls will be handled via the Parties' respective operator service platforms. The Parties agree to utilize, where possible and appropriate, existing accounting and settlement systems to bill, exchange records and settle revenue.

7.7.2 The exchange of Billing records for alternate billed calls (e.g., calling card, bill-to-third-number and collect) will be distributed through the existing CMDS processes, unless otherwise separately agreed to by the Parties.

7.7.3 Inter-Company Settlements (ICS) revenues will be settled through the Calling Card and Third Number Settlement System (CATS). Each Party will provide for its own arrangements for participation in the CATS processes, through direct participation or a hosting arrangement with a direct participant.

7.7.4 Non-ICS revenue is defined as IntraLATA collect calls, calling card calls, and billed to third number calls which originate on one (1) service provider's network and are billed by another service provider located within the same CenturyLink geographic specific region. The Parties agree to negotiate and execute an agreement for settlement of non-ICS revenue. This separate arrangement is necessary since existing CATS processes do not permit the use of CATS for non-ICS revenue. The Parties agree that current message distribution processes, including the CMDS system or CenturyLink in-region facilities, can be used to transport the call records for this traffic.

7.7.5 Both Parties will provide the appropriate call records to the IntraLATA Toll Free Service provider, thus permitting the service provider to bill its End User Customers for the inbound Toll Free Service. No adjustments to bills via tapes, disks or Network Data Mover (NDM) will be made without the mutual agreement of the Parties.



## **Section 8.0 - COLLOCATION**

Access to CenturyLink Collocation as required by Section 251 of the Act is available to CLEC upon request and completion of an amendment to this Agreement.

## **SECTION 9.0 - UNBUNDLED NETWORK ELEMENTS**

Access to CenturyLink Unbundled Network Elements (UNEs) as required by Section 251 of the Act is available to CLEC upon request and completion of an amendment to this Agreement.

## **Section 10.0 – ANCILLARY SERVICES**

### **10.1 Intentionally Left Blank**

### **10.2 Local Number Portability**

#### **10.2.1 Description**

10.2.1.1 Local Number Portability (LNP) is defined by the FCC as the ability of users of Telecommunications Services to retain, at the same location, existing Telecommunications numbers without impairment of quality, reliability, or convenience when switching from one Telecommunications Carrier to another. CenturyLink will allow CLEC to port telephone numbers for its End User Customers in the same manner as CenturyLink ports telephone numbers for CenturyLink End User Customers. CLEC may port telephone numbers into and out of CenturyLink End Office Switches on behalf of an End User Customer using the FCC rules and industry guidelines as described in the following Sections.

10.2.1.2 CenturyLink uses the Location Routing Number (LRN) architecture. Under the LRN architecture, each End Office Switch is assigned a unique ten-digit LRN, the first six digits of which identify the location of that End Office Switch. The LRN technology is a triggering and addressing method which allows the re-homing of individual telephone numbers to other End Office Switches and ensures the proper routing of calls to ported telephone numbers through the use of a database and the signaling network. The LRN solution interrupts call processing through the use of an Advanced Intelligent Network (AIN) trigger, commonly referred to as the LRN trigger. During this interruption, a query is launched to the LNP database in the signaling network and the call is re-addressed using the LRN information for the ported telephone number. The LRN will route the call to the proper End Office Switch destination. The actual routing of the call with either the dialed telephone number, for calls to non-portable telephone numbers, or the LRN, for calls to portable telephone numbers, observes the rules, protocols and requirements of the existing Public Office Dialing Plan (PODP).

#### **10.2.2 Terms and Conditions**

10.2.2.1 CenturyLink will provide Local Number Portability (LNP), also known as long-term number portability, in a non-discriminatory manner in compliance with the FCC's rules and regulations and the guidelines of the FCC's North American Numbering Council's (NANC) Local Number Portability Administration (LNPA) Working Group and the Industry Numbering Committee (INC) of the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS). Unless specifically excluded in Section 10.2.2.6, all telephone numbers assigned to an End User Customer are available to be ported through LNP. Mass calling events shall be handled in accordance with the industry's non-LRN recommendation (NANC's High Volume Call-In Networks dated February 18, 1998).

10.2.2.2 Each Party shall use reasonable efforts to facilitate the expeditious deployment of LNP. The Parties shall comply with the processes and implementation schedules for LNP deployment prescribed by the FCC. In accordance with industry guidelines, the publications of LNP capable End Office Switches and the schedule and status for future deployment will be identified in the Local Exchange Routing Guide (LERG).

10.2.2.3 In connection with the provision of LNP, the Parties agree to support and comply with all relevant requirements or guidelines that are adopted by the FCC, or that are agreed to by the Telecommunications industry as a national industry standard.

10.2.2.4 CenturyLink will coordinate LNP with Unbundled Loop cutovers in a reasonable amount of time and with minimum service disruption, pursuant to Unbundled Loop provisions identified in Section 9 of this Agreement. CLEC will coordinate with CenturyLink for the transfer of the CenturyLink Unbundled Loop coincident with the transfer of the End User Customer's service to CenturyLink in a reasonable amount of time and with minimum service disruption. For coordination with Loops not associated with CenturyLink's Unbundled Loop offering, CLEC may order the LNP managed cut, as described in Section 10.2.5.4.

10.2.2.4.1 Parties understand that LNP order activity must be coordinated with facilities cutovers in order to ensure that the End User Customer is provided with uninterrupted service. If the Party porting the telephone number experiences problems with its port or provision of its Loop, and needs to delay or cancel the port and any Loop disconnection, that Party shall notify the other Party immediately. Parties will work cooperatively and take prompt action to delay or cancel the port and any Loop disconnection in accordance with industry (LNPA's National Number Porting Operations Team), accepted procedures to minimize End User Customer service disruptions.

10.2.2.4.2 Parties shall transmit a port create subscription or port concurrence message to the NPAC, in accordance with the FCC's LNPA Working Group's guidelines. CenturyLink will routinely send a concurrence message within the time frames established by the industry.

10.2.2.5 The Parties agree to implement LNP within the guidelines set forth by the generic technical requirements for LNP as specified in Section 21 of this Agreement.

10.2.2.6 Neither Party shall be required to provide Local Number Portability for telephone numbers that are excluded by FCC rulings (e.g., 500 and 900 NPAs, 950 and 976 NXX number services).

10.2.2.7 After an End Office Switch becomes equipped with LNP, all NXXs assigned to that End Office Switch will be defined as portable, to the extent Technically Feasible, and translations will be changed in each Party's Switches so that the portable NXXs are available for LNP database queries. When an NXX is defined as portable, it will also be defined as portable in all LNP-capable End Office Switches that have direct trunks to the End Office Switch associated with the portable NXX.

10.2.2.8 Each Party shall offer Local Number Portability to End User Customers for any portion of an existing DID block without being required to port the entire block of DID telephone numbers. Each Party shall permit End User Customers who port a portion of DID telephone numbers to retain DID service on the remaining portion of the DID telephone numbers.

10.2.2.9 At the time of porting a telephone number via LNP from CenturyLink, CenturyLink shall ensure that the LIDB entry for that telephone number is de-provisioned if the CenturyLink LIDB is not being used by CLEC.

10.2.2.10 Both Parties agree to follow the LNP End Office Switch request process established by the Parties and in compliance with industry guidelines.

10.2.2.11 NXX Migration, or Local Exchange Routing Guide Reassignment, reassigns the entire Central Office Code (NXX) to CLEC's End Office Switch if the code is used solely for one End User Customer. Where one Party has activated an entire NXX for a single End User Customer, or activated a substantial portion of an NXX for a single End User Customer with the remaining telephone numbers in the NXX either reserved for future use or otherwise unused, if such End User Customer chooses to receive service from the other Party, the first Party shall cooperate with the second Party to have the entire NXX reassigned to an End Office Switch operated by the second Party through the NANP administrator. In addition, both Parties agree to cooperate in arranging necessary updates and industry notification in the LERG (and associated industry databases, routing tables, etc.). Such transfer will be accomplished with appropriate coordination between the Parties and subject to appropriate industry lead-times (as identified in the LERG and the Central Office Code Administration guidelines) for movement of NXXs from one End Office Switch to another. Other applications of NXX migration will be discussed by the Parties as circumstances arise.

10.2.2.12 In connection with all LNP requests, the Parties agree to comply with the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) recommended standards for service provider Local Number Portability (NENA-02-011), as may be updated from time to time, regarding unlocking and updating End User Customers' telephone number records in the 911/Automatic Location Information (ALI) database. The Current Service Provider shall send the 911 unlock record on the completion date of the order to the 911 database administrator.

10.2.2.13 Porting of Reserved Numbers. The End User Customers of each Party may port Reserved Numbers from one Party to the other Party via LNP. CenturyLink will port telephone numbers previously reserved by the End User Customer via the appropriate retail Tariffs until these reservations expire. CenturyLink will reserve telephone numbers in accordance with the FCC's rules.

10.2.2.14 Limits on Subscriber Relocation. CenturyLink and CLEC agree that an End User Customer may geographically relocate at the same time as it ports its telephone number, using LNP, to the New Service Provider; provided, however, that the Current Service Provider may require that the End User Customer's relocation at the time of the port to the New Service Provider be limited to the geographic area represented by the NXX of the ported telephone number. The Current Service Provider may not impose a relocation limitation on the New Service Provider or the New Service Provider's subscribers that is more restrictive than that which the Current Service Provider would impose upon its own subscribers with telephone numbers having the same NXX as the telephone number(s) being ported. In addition, the Current Service Provider may not impose any restrictions on relocation within the same Rate Center by a ported End User Customer while that End User Customer is served by the New Service Provider.

### **10.2.3 Service Management System**

10.2.3.1 Each Party shall sign the appropriate NPAC user agreement(s) and obtain certification from the appropriate NPAC administrator(s) that the Party or the

Party's Service Order Administration (SOA) and Local Service Management System (LSMS) vendor(s) has systems and equipment that are compatible with the NPAC's established protocols and that the application of such systems and equipment is compatible with the NPAC.

10.2.3.2 Each Party shall cooperate to facilitate the administration of the SMS through the process prescribed in the documents referenced in Section 21.

#### **10.2.4 Database and Query Services**

10.2.4.1 The LNP database provides the call routing information used by CenturyLink's End Office Switches and Tandem Switches to route CLEC's End User Customer's calls to a ported telephone number or to terminate calls to CLEC's End User Customers using a ported telephone number. CenturyLink shall perform default LNP queries where CLEC is unable to perform its own query. CLEC shall perform default LNP queries where CenturyLink is unable to perform its own query. CenturyLink query services and charges are defined in FCC Tariff #5, including End Office and Tandem Switch Default Query Charges which are contained in Tariff Section 13 (Miscellaneous Service) and Database Query Charges which are contained in Tariff Section 20 (CCSAC Service Applications).

10.2.4.2 For local calls to a NXX in which at least one (1) telephone number has been ported via LNP at the request of CLEC, the Party that owns the originating Switch shall query an LNP database as soon as the call reaches the first LNP-capable Switch in the call path. The Party that owns the originating Switch shall query on a local call to a NXX in which at least one (1) telephone number has been ported via LNP prior to any attempts to route the call to any other Switch. Prior to the first telephone number in a NXX being ported via LNP at the request of CLEC, CenturyLink may query all calls directed to the NXX, subject to the Billing provisions as discussed in Section 10.2.4.1 and provided that CenturyLink queries shall not adversely affect the quality of service to CLEC's End User Customers as compared to the service CenturyLink provides its own End User Customers.

10.2.4.3 A Party shall be charged for a LNP query by the other Party only if the Party to be charged is the N-1 Carrier and it was obligated to perform the LNP query but failed to do so. Parties are not obligated to perform the LNP query prior to the first port requested in a NXX.

10.2.4.4 On calls originating from a Party's network, the Party will populate, if Technically Feasible, the Jurisdiction Information Parameter (JIP) with the first six digits of the originating LRN in the SS7 Initial Address Message.

10.2.4.5 Each Party shall cooperate in the process of porting telephone numbers from one Carrier to another so as to limit service outage for the ported End User Customer. CenturyLink shall update its LNP database from the NPAC SMS data within fifteen (15) minutes of receipt of a download from the NPAC SMS.

#### **10.2.5 Ordering**

10.2.5.1 Both Parties shall comply with industry ordering standards, NANC LNP Process Flows, LNPA-WG Best Practices as developed by the industry, and appropriate

Commission and FCC Porting Orders. The Parties will do so on a reciprocal basis so that end users of both parties are allowed to port their numbers in accordance with FCC mandate and Commission rules without undue delay or hardship. LNP service is ordered via a Local Service Request and associated LNP forms. CLEC may order LNP either manually or through an electronic interface. The electronic gateway solution for ordering service is described in Section 12 of this Agreement.

10.2.5.2 Standard Due Date Intervals. Service intervals for both Parties for LNP are located in the CenturyLink Service Interval Guide (SIG). Additional information can be found in the Product Catalog for LNP. These intervals include the cutoff times for order receipt and the time for Firm Order Confirmation (FOC).

10.2.5.3 Most LNP order activity is flow-through, meaning that the ten (10) digit unconditional trigger, or Line Side Attribute (LSA) trigger, can be set automatically. CLEC may request any Due Date/Frame Due Time (DD/FDT) where the trigger can be set automatically, although there may be some instances when CenturyLink or the Number Portability Administration Center/Service Management System (NPAC/SMS) will provide prior electronic notice of specific blocks of time which cannot be used as a DD/FDT due to scheduled maintenance or other circumstances. If the DD/FDT on a flow-through cut is outside CenturyLink's normal business hours for LNP, CenturyLink will have personnel available in the repair center to assist in the event that CLEC experiences problems during the cut. In addition, CenturyLink allows CLEC to request a managed cut on a 24 X 7 basis in those situations where a cut would otherwise have been flow-through, but where CLEC has a business need to have CenturyLink personnel dedicated to the cut. The terms and conditions for managed cuts are described in 10.2.5.4.

10.2.5.3.1 CenturyLink will set the ten (10) digit unconditional trigger for telephone numbers to be ported, unless technically infeasible, by 11:59 p.m. (local time) on the business day preceding the scheduled port date. (A 10-digit unconditional trigger cannot be set for DID services in AXE10 and DMS10 End Office Switches thus managed cuts are required, at no charge.) The ten (10) digit unconditional trigger and End Office Switch translations associated with the End User Customer's telephone number will not be removed, nor will CenturyLink disconnect the End User Customer's Billing and account information, until 11:59 p.m. (local time) of the next business day after the Due Date. CLEC is required to make timely notifications of Due Date changes or cancellations by 8:00 p.m. (mountain time) on the Due Date through a supplemental LSR order. In the event CLEC does not make a timely notification, CLEC may submit a late notification to CenturyLink as soon as possible but in no event later than 12:00 p.m. (mountain time) the next business day after the Due Date to CenturyLink's Interconnect Service Center in the manner set forth below. For a late notification properly submitted, CenturyLink agrees to use its best efforts to ensure that the End User Customer's service is not disconnected prior to 11:59 p.m. of the next business day following the new Due Date or, in the case of a cancellation, no disruption of the End User Customer's existing service. Late notifications must be made by calling CenturyLink's Interconnect Service Center followed by CLEC submitting a confirming supplemental LSR order.

10.2.5.4 LNP Managed Cut With CLEC-Provided Loop: A managed cut permits CLEC to select a project managed cut for LNP. Managed cuts are offered on a 24 X 7

basis.

10.2.5.4.1 The date and time for the managed cut requires up-front planning and may need to be coordinated between CenturyLink and CLEC. All requests will be processed on a first come, first served basis and are subject to CenturyLink's ability to meet a reasonable demand. Considerations such as system downtime, Switch upgrades, Switch maintenance, and the possibility of other CLECs requesting the same FDT in the same End Office Switch (Switch contention) must be reviewed. In the event that any of these situations would occur, CenturyLink will coordinate with CLEC for an agreed upon FDT, prior to issuing the Firm Order Confirmation (FOC). In special cases where a FDT must be agreed upon, the interval to reach agreement will not exceed two (2) days. In addition, standard intervals will apply.

10.2.5.4.2 CLEC shall request a managed cut by submitting a Local Service Request (LSR) and designating this order as a managed cut in the remarks section of the LSR form.

10.2.5.4.3 CLEC will incur additional charges for the managed cut dependent upon the FDT. The rates are based upon whether the request is within CenturyLink's normal business hours or out of hours. CenturyLink's normal business hours are 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., End User Customer local time, Monday through Friday. The rate for managed cuts during normal business hours is the standard rate. The rate for managed cuts out of hours, except for Sundays and Holidays, is the overtime rate. Sundays and Holidays are at premium rate.

10.2.5.4.4 Charges for managed cuts shall be based upon actual hours worked in one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) hour increments. Exhibit A of this Agreement contains the rates for managed cuts. CLEC understands and agrees that in the event CLEC does not make payment for managed cuts, unless disputed as permitted under Section 5.4 of this Agreement, CenturyLink shall not accept any new LSR requests for managed cuts.

10.2.5.4.5 CenturyLink will schedule the appropriate number of employees prior to the cut, normally not to exceed three (3) employees, based upon information provided by CLEC. CLEC will also have appropriate personnel scheduled for the negotiated FDT. If CLEC's information is modified during the cut, and, as a result, non-scheduled employees are required, CLEC shall be charged a three (3) hour minimum callout charge per each additional non-scheduled employee. If the cut is either cancelled, or supplemented to change the Due Date, within twenty-four (24) hours of the negotiated FDT, CLEC will be charged a one person three (3) hour minimum charge. If the cut is cancelled due to a CenturyLink error or a new Due Date is requested by CenturyLink within twenty-four (24) hours of the negotiated FDT, CenturyLink may be charged by CLEC one person three (3) hour minimum charge as set forth in Exhibit A.

10.2.5.4.6 In the event that the LNP managed cut conversion is not successful, CLEC and CenturyLink agree to isolate and fix the problem in a timeframe acceptable to CLEC or the End User Customer. If the problem cannot be corrected within an acceptable timeframe to CLEC or the End User Customer,



CLEC may request the restoral of CenturyLink service for the ported End User Customer. Such restoration shall begin immediately upon request. If CLEC is in error then a supplemental order shall be provided to CenturyLink. If CenturyLink is in error, no supplemental order or additional order will be required of CLEC.

10.2.5.4.7 CenturyLink shall ensure that any LNP order activity requested in conjunction with a managed cut shall be implemented in a manner that avoids interrupting service to the End User Customer, including, without limitation, ensuring that the End User Customer's CenturyLink Loop will not be disconnected prior to confirmation that CLEC's Loop has been successfully installed.

## **10.2.6 Maintenance and Repair**

10.2.6.1 Each Party is responsible for its own End User Customers and will have the responsibility for resolution of any service trouble report(s) from its End User Customers. End User Customers will be instructed to report all cases of trouble to their Current Service Provider.

10.2.6.2 Each Party will provide its respective End User Customers the correct telephone numbers to call for access to its respective repair bureau. Each Party will provide its repair contact telephone numbers to one another on a reciprocal basis.

10.2.6.3 CenturyLink will work cooperatively with CLEC to isolate and resolve trouble reports. When the trouble condition has been isolated and found to be within a portion of the CenturyLink network, CenturyLink will perform standard tests and isolate and repair the trouble within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the report.

10.2.6.4 CenturyLink will proactively test new Switch features and service offerings to ensure there are no problems with either the porting of telephone numbers or calls from CenturyLink End User Customers to CLEC End User Customers with ported telephone numbers or vice versa.

## **10.2.7 Rate Elements**

10.2.7.1 CenturyLink will comply with FCC and Commission rules on cost recovery for Local Number Portability.

## **10.3 911/E911 Service**

### **10.3.1 Description**

10.3.1.1 911 and E911 provides an End User Customer access to the applicable emergency service bureau, where available, by dialing a 3-digit universal telephone number (911).

10.3.1.2 Automatic Location Identification/Data Management System (ALI/DMS). The ALI/DMS database contains End User Customer information (including name, address, telephone number, and sometimes special information from the Current Service Provider or End User Customer) used to determine to which Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) to route the call. The ALI/DMS database is used to provide

more routing flexibility for E911 calls than Basic 911.

10.3.1.3 Basic 911 directly connects to the PSAP all 911 calls from one or more local exchange End Office Switches that serve a geographic area. E911 provides additional Selective Routing flexibility for 911 calls. E911 uses End User Customer data, contained in the ALI/DMS, to determine to which Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) to route the call.

### **10.3.2 Terms and Conditions**

10.3.2.1 CenturyLink will provide nondiscriminatory access to the same Basic 911 or Enhanced 911 features, functions and services that CenturyLink provides to its End User Customers. E911 functions provided to CLEC shall be at the same level of accuracy and reliability as for such support and services that CenturyLink provides to its End User Customers for such similar functionality.

10.3.2.2 In counties where CenturyLink has obligations under existing agreements as the primary provider of the 911 system to the county, CLEC will participate in the provision of the 911 System as described in Section 10.3.

10.3.2.3 CenturyLink shall conform to all state regulations concerning emergency services.

10.3.2.4 CenturyLink shall route E911 calls to the appropriate PSAP.

10.3.2.5 Each Party will be responsible for those portions of the 911 system for which it has total control, including any necessary maintenance to each Party's portion of the 911 system.

10.3.2.6 CenturyLink will provide CLEC with the identification of the CenturyLink 911 controlling office that serves each geographic area served by CLEC.

10.3.2.7 CenturyLink will provide CLEC with the ten-digit telephone numbers of each PSAP agency, for which CenturyLink provides the 911 function, to be used by CLEC to acquire emergency telephone numbers for operators to handle emergency calls in those instances where CLEC's End User Customer dials "0" instead of "911." It shall be the responsibility of CLEC to verify or confirm the appropriate use of the contact information provided by CenturyLink with each PSAP prior to offering 911 calls or publication of such data.

10.3.2.8 If a third party is the primary service provider to a county, CLEC will negotiate separately with such third party with regard to the provision of 911 service to the county. All relations between such third party and CLEC are separate from this Agreement and CenturyLink makes no representations on behalf of the third party.

10.3.2.9 If CLEC is the primary service provider to the county, CLEC and CenturyLink will negotiate the specific provisions necessary for providing 911 service to the county and will include such provisions in an amendment to this Agreement.

10.3.2.10 CLEC will separately negotiate with each county regarding the collection and reimbursement to the county of applicable End User Customer taxes for 911

service.

10.3.2.11 CLEC is responsible for network management of its network components in compliance with the Network Reliability Council Recommendations and meeting the network standard of CenturyLink for the 911 call delivery.

10.3.2.12 The Parties shall provide a single point of contact to coordinate all activities under this Agreement.

10.3.2.13 Neither Party will reimburse the other for any expenses incurred in the provision of E911 services. All costs incurred by the Parties for 911/E911 services shall be billed to the appropriate PSAP.

10.3.2.14 CenturyLink's designated E911 database provider, an independent third party, will be responsible for maintaining the E911 database. CLEC shall have non-discriminatory unbundled access to the E911 database, including the listings of other LECs for purposes of providing 911 services related to the public health, safety and welfare.

### **10.3.3 E911 Database Updates**

10.3.3.1 CLEC exchanges to be included in CenturyLink's E911 Database will be indicated via written notice to the appropriate 911 authority (state agency or PSAP administrator or county) and will not require an amendment to this Agreement.

10.3.3.2 CenturyLink's designated E911 database provider, an independent third party, will be responsible for maintaining the E911 database. CenturyLink, or its designated database provider, will provide to CLEC an initial copy of the most recent Master Street Address Guide (MSAG), and subsequent versions on a quarterly basis, at no charge. MSAGs provided outside the quarterly schedule will be provided and charged on an Individual Case Basis. The data will be provided in computer readable format. CenturyLink shall provide CLEC access to the Master Street Address Guide at a level of accuracy and reliability that is equivalent to the access CenturyLink provides to itself.

### **10.3.4 E911 Database Updates for Facilities-Based CLECs**

10.3.4.1 CenturyLink will ensure that the 911 database entries for CLEC will be maintained with the same accuracy and reliability that CenturyLink maintains for CenturyLink's own End User Customers.

10.3.4.2 For Selective Routing table updates, facilities-based CLECs will negotiate directly with CenturyLink's database provider for the input and validation of End User Customer data into the CenturyLink Automatic Location Identification (ALI) database. CLEC will negotiate directly with the PSAP (or PSAP agency's) DMS/ALI provider for input of End User Customer data into the ALI database. In most cases the Selective Routing table updates and the ALI database will be managed by the same provider. CLEC assumes all responsibility for the accuracy of the data that CLEC provides for MSAG preparation and E911 Database operation.

10.3.4.3 If it is facilities-based, CLEC will provide End User Customer data to

CenturyLink's agent for the CenturyLink ALI database utilizing NENA-02-010 Recommended Formats and Protocols for ALI Data Exchange standards. CenturyLink will furnish CLEC any variations to NENA recommendations required for ALI database input.

10.3.4.4 If it is facilities-based, CLEC will provide End User Customer data to CenturyLink's database provider for CenturyLink's ALI database that is MSAG valid and meets all components of the NENA-02-011 Recommended Data Standards for Local Exchange Carriers, ALI Service Providers and 9-1-1 Jurisdictions standard format, as specified by CenturyLink.

10.3.4.5 If it is facilities-based, CLEC will update its End User Customer records provided to CenturyLink's database provider for CenturyLink's ALI database to agree with the 911 MSAG standards for its service areas.

10.3.4.6 CenturyLink's E911 database administrator, an independent third party, shall resolve failed Local Number Portability migrate records in accordance with the NENA standard, NENA-02-011 Sections 22B.1-2, for CenturyLink records where CenturyLink is the donor company as defined in the NENA standard. The CenturyLink E911 database administrator will compare CLEC's (i.e., recipient company as defined in the NENA standard) failed migrate records to the Regional Number Portability Administration Center's (NPAC) database once each business day to determine if the migrate record (i.e., ported telephone number) has been activated by the recipient company. If the migrate record has been activated by CLEC in the NPAC, the record shall be unlocked and the migrate record processed. If, at the end of ten (10) business days, the NPAC database does not show the migrate record as activated or the record owner identification does not match, the migrate record will be rejected. The E911 database administrator will send reports regarding CLEC's failed migrate records (i.e., 755 error code) and rejected migrate records (i.e., 760 error code) to CLEC or CLEC's designated database administrator. CenturyLink's E911 database administrator will also resolve failed migrate records for CLEC, if valid based on the NPAC database.

### **10.3.5 E911 Database Updates for Resale Based CLECs**

10.3.5.1 For resold services, CenturyLink, or its designated database provider, will provide updates to the ALI database in a manner that is at the same level of accuracy and reliability as such updates are provided for CenturyLink's End User Customers. For resold accounts, CLEC shall provide CenturyLink with accurate End User Customer location information to be updated to the ALI/DMS database. CenturyLink shall use its current process to update and maintain End User Customer information in the ALI/DMS database.

### **10.3.6 E911 Database Accuracy**

10.3.6.1 E911 Database accuracy shall be measured jointly by the PSAPs and CenturyLink's database provider in a format supplied by CenturyLink. The reports shall be forwarded to CLEC by CenturyLink's database provider when relevant and will indicate incidents when incorrect or no ALI data is displayed. The reports provided to CLEC shall contain CLEC-specific information regarding CLEC's accounts.

10.3.6.2 Each discrepancy report will be jointly researched by CenturyLink and

CLEC. Corrective action will be taken immediately by the responsible Party.

10.3.6.3 Each Party providing updates to the E911 database will be responsible for the accuracy of its End User Customer records. Each Party providing updates specifically agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the other Party from any claims, damages, or suits related to the accuracy of End User Customer data provided for inclusion in the E911 Database.

10.3.6.4 CenturyLink and its vendor will provide non-discriminatory error correction for records submitted to the Automatic Location Identification (ALI) database. For resold accounts, if vendor detects errors, it will attempt to correct them. If vendor is unable to correct the error, vendor will contact CenturyLink for error resolution. For errors referred to CenturyLink, CenturyLink will provide the corrections in a non-discriminatory manner. If CenturyLink is unable to resolve the error, CenturyLink will contact the Resale-CLEC for resolution. In the case of facilities-based CLECs, the vendor will interface directly with CLEC to resolve record errors.

### **10.3.7 E911 Interconnection**

10.3.7.1 If required by CLEC, CenturyLink shall interconnect direct trunks from CLEC's network to the Basic 911 PSAP, or the E911 tandem. Such trunks may alternatively be provided by CLEC. If provided by CenturyLink, such trunks will be provided on a non-discriminatory basis. CenturyLink shall provide special protection identification for CLEC 911 circuits in the same manner as CenturyLink provides for its 911 circuits.

10.3.7.1.1 The Parties shall establish a minimum of two (2) dedicated trunks from CLEC's Central Office to each CenturyLink 911/E911 Selective Router (i.e., 911 Tandem Office) that serves the areas in which CLEC provides Exchange Service, for the provision of 911/E911 services and for access to all subtending PSAPs (911 Interconnection Trunk Groups). CLEC can order diverse routing for 911/E911 circuits, if facilities are available. When CenturyLink facilities are available, CenturyLink will comply with diversity of facilities and systems as ordered by CLEC. Where there is alternate routing of 911/E911 calls to a PSAP in the event of failures, CenturyLink shall make that alternate routing available to CLEC.

10.3.7.1.2 911 Interconnection Trunk Groups must be, at a minimum, DS0 level trunks configured as a 2-wire analog interface or as part of a digital (1.544 Mbps) interface. Either configuration must use Centralized Automatic Message Accounting (CAMA) type signaling with MF tones that will deliver Automatic Number Identification (ANI) with the voice portion of the call, or Signaling System 7 (SS7) if available (i.e., other signaling technology as available). All 911 Interconnection trunk groups must be capable of transmitting and receiving Baudot code necessary to support the use of Telecommunications Devices for the Deaf (TTY/TDDs).

10.3.7.1.3 CenturyLink shall begin restoration of 911/E911 trunking facilities immediately upon notification of failure or outage. CenturyLink must provide priority restoration of trunks or network outages on the same terms and conditions it provides itself. CLEC will be responsible for the isolation,

coordination, and restoration of all 911 network maintenance problems to CLEC's demarcation. CenturyLink will be responsible for the coordination and restoration of all 911 network maintenance problems beyond the demarcation. CenturyLink repair service includes testing and diagnostic service from a remote location, dispatch of or in-person visit(s) of personnel. Where an on-site technician is determined to be required, a technician will be dispatched without delay. CLEC is responsible for advising CenturyLink of the circuit identification when notifying CenturyLink of a failure or outage. The Parties agree to work cooperatively and expeditiously to resolve any 911 outage. CenturyLink will refer network trouble to CLEC if no defect is found in CenturyLink's network. The Parties agree that 911 network problem resolution will be managed in an expeditious manner at all times.

10.3.7.2 For CLEC-identified 911 trunk blockages, CenturyLink agrees to take corrective action using the same trunking service procedures used for CenturyLink's own E911 trunk groups.

10.3.7.3 The Parties will cooperate in the routing of 911 traffic in those instances where the ALI/ANI information is not available on a particular 911 call.

10.3.7.4 For facilities-based CLEC using its own switch(es), CenturyLink shall provide 911 Interconnection, including the provision of dedicated trunks from CLEC End Office Switch to the 911 control office, at Parity with what CenturyLink provides itself.

10.3.7.5 For CLEC's resale local exchange lines, CenturyLink shall provide access to the same 911 trunks used for CenturyLink's retail End User Customers which extend from the CenturyLink End Office Switch to the Basic 911 PSAP or the E911 Tandem Switch. CLEC access to such 911 trunks shall be on a shared, non-discriminatory basis.

### **10.3.8 E911 and Number Portability**

10.3.8.1 When a CenturyLink telephone number is ported out, receiving CLEC shall be responsible to update the ALI/DMS database. When CLEC's telephone number is ported in, CenturyLink shall be responsible to update the ALI/DMS database.

## **10.4 White Pages Directory Listings Service**

### **10.4.1 Description**

White Pages Directory Listings Service consists of CenturyLink placing the names, addresses and telephone numbers of CLEC's End User Customers in CenturyLink's Listings database, based on End User Customer information provided to CenturyLink by CLEC. CenturyLink is authorized to use CLEC End User Customer Listings as noted below.

### **10.4.2 Terms and Conditions**

10.4.2.0 White Pages Directory Listings Service is provided to reseller CLEC with CLEC's resold local exchange lines, and such Listings include terms and conditions (except prices) for Listings in CenturyLink's applicable product Tariffs, catalogs, price lists, or other retail Telecommunications Services offerings. To the extent, however, that a conflict arises between the terms and conditions of the Tariff, catalog, price list, or other retail Telecommunications Services offering and this Agreement, this Agreement

shall be controlling. White Pages Directory Listings Service is available to facilities-based CLEC as described in this Section.

10.4.2.1 Reseller CLEC and facilities-based CLEC using CenturyLink's switching services to provide local Exchange Service will provide, and facilities-based CLEC using its own or a third party's Switch(es) may provide, to CenturyLink, in standard format, by mechanized or by manual transmission to CenturyLink, its primary, premium and privacy Listings.

10.4.2.1.1 CenturyLink will accept one (1) primary Listing for each main telephone number belonging to CLEC's resale and facilities-based End User Customers at no monthly recurring charge.

10.4.2.1.2 CLEC will be charged for its resale premium Listings (e.g., additional, foreign, cross-reference) and privacy Listings (i.e., nonlisted and nonpublished) at CenturyLink's General Exchange Listing Tariff rates, less the wholesale discount, if any, as described in Exhibit A. CLEC will be charged for its facilities-based premium Listings (e.g., additional, foreign, cross-reference) and privacy Listings (i.e., nonlisted and nonpublished) at market-based prices contained in Exhibit A. Primary Listings and other types of Listings are defined in the CenturyLink General Exchange Tariffs.

10.4.2.2 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.4.2.3 Information on submitting and updating Listings is available in "Facility Based CLECs and Reseller/Unbundled Network CLECs Directory Listings User Document." CenturyLink will furnish CLEC Listings format specifications. Directory publishing schedules and deadlines for CenturyLink's official directory publisher will be provided to CLEC.

10.4.2.4 If CLEC provides its End User Customer's Listings to CenturyLink, CLEC grants CenturyLink access to CLEC's End User Customer Listings information for use in its Directory Assistance Service as described in Section 10.5, and in its Directory Assistance List Service as described in Section 10.6, and for other lawful purposes, except that CLEC's Listings supplied to CenturyLink by CLEC and marked as nonpublished or nonlisted Listings shall not be used for marketing purposes subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement. CenturyLink will incorporate CLEC End User Customer Listings in the Directory Assistance Database. CenturyLink will incorporate CLEC's End User Customer Listings information in all existing and future Directory Assistance applications developed by CenturyLink. Should CenturyLink cease to be a Telecommunications Carrier, by virtue of a divestiture, merger or other transaction, this access grant automatically terminates.

10.4.2.5 CLEC End User Customer Listings will be treated the same as CenturyLink's End User Customer Listings. Prior written authorization from CLEC, which authorization may be withheld, shall be required for CenturyLink to sell, make available, or release CLEC's End User Customer Listings to directory publishers, or other third parties other than Directory Assistance providers. No prior authorization from CLEC shall be required for CenturyLink to sell, make available, or release CLEC's End User Customer Directory Assistance Listings to Directory Assistance providers. Listings shall not be provided or sold in such a manner as to segregate End User Customers by

Carrier. CenturyLink will not charge CLEC for updating and maintaining CenturyLink's Listings databases. CLEC will not receive compensation from CenturyLink for any sale of Listings by CenturyLink as provided for under this Agreement.

10.4.2.6 To the extent that state Tariff(s) limit CenturyLink's liability with regard to Listings, the applicable state Tariff(s) is incorporated herein and supersedes the Limitation of Liability section of this Agreement with respect to Listings only.

10.4.2.7 CenturyLink is responsible for maintaining Listings, including entering, changing, correcting, rearranging and removing Listings in accordance with CLEC orders.

10.4.2.8 CenturyLink provides non-discriminatory appearance and integration of white pages directory Listings for all CLEC's and CenturyLink's End User Customers. All requests for white pages directory listings, whether for CLEC or CenturyLink End User Customers, follow the same processes for entry into the Listings database.

10.4.2.9 CenturyLink will take reasonable steps in accordance with industry practices to accommodate CLEC's nonpublished and nonlisted Listings provided that CLEC has supplied CenturyLink the necessary privacy indicators on such Listings.

10.4.2.10 CLEC's white pages directory listings will be in the same font and size as Listings for CenturyLink End User Customers, and will not be separately classified.

10.4.2.11 CenturyLink processes for publication of white pages Directory Listings will make no distinction between CLEC's and CenturyLink's subscribers. CLEC's Listings will be provided with the same accuracy and reliability as CenturyLink's End User Customer Listings. CenturyLink will ensure CLEC's Listings provided to CenturyLink are included in the white pages directory published on CenturyLink's behalf using the same methods and procedures, and under the same terms and conditions, as CenturyLink uses for its own End User Customer Listings.

10.4.2.12 For CLEC's End User Customers whose Listings CLEC provides to CenturyLink for submission to its official directory publisher, CenturyLink shall ensure its third party publisher distributes appropriate alphabetical and classified directories (white and yellow pages) and recycling services to such CLEC End User Customers at Parity with CenturyLink End User Customers, including providing directories a) upon establishment of new service; b) during annual mass distribution; and c) upon End User Customer request.

10.4.2.13 CLEC shall use commercially reasonable efforts to ensure that Listings provided to CenturyLink are accurate and complete. All third party Listings information is provided AS IS, WITH ALL FAULTS. CLEC further represents that it shall review all Listings information provided to CenturyLink, including End User Customer requested restrictions on use, such as nonpublished and nonlisted restrictions.

10.4.2.14 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.4.2.15 CLEC shall be solely responsible for knowing and adhering to state laws or rulings regarding Listings and for supplying CenturyLink with the applicable Listing information. CenturyLink understands that certain states, including, but not necessarily



limited to, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Washington, have enacted statutes that impose certain requirements upon the provision of wireless listings, and CLEC represents and warrants that listings CLEC submits to CenturyLink reflect and are provided in full compliance with applicable laws and regulations, including but not limited to, laws and regulations applicable to wireless listings.

10.4.2.16 CLEC agrees to provide to CenturyLink its End User Customer names, addresses and telephone numbers in a standard mechanized or manual format, as specified by CenturyLink.

10.4.2.17 CLEC will supply its ACNA/CIC or CLCC/OCN, as appropriate, with each order to provide CenturyLink the means of identifying Listings ownership.

10.4.2.18 Prior to placing Listings orders on behalf of End User Customers, CLEC shall be responsible for obtaining, and have in its possession, Proof of Authorization (POA), as set forth in Section 5.3 of this Agreement.

10.4.2.19 For Listings that CLEC submits to CenturyLink, CenturyLink will provide monthly Listing verification proofs that provide the data to be displayed in the published white pages directory and available on CenturyLink's Directory Assistance Service. Verification proofs containing nonpublished and nonlisted Listings are also available upon request on the same monthly schedule.

10.4.2.20 CenturyLink will provide CLEC a reasonable opportunity to verify the accuracy of its Listings to be included in the white pages directory and in CenturyLink's Directory Assistance Service.

10.4.2.21 CLEC may review and if necessary edit its white page Listings prior to the close date for publication in the directory.

10.4.2.22 CLEC is responsible for all dealings with, and on behalf of, CLEC's End User Customers, including:

10.4.2.22.1 All End User Customer account activity (e.g., End User Customer queries and complaints);

10.4.2.22.2 All account maintenance activity (e.g., additions, changes, issuance of orders for Listings to CenturyLink);

10.4.2.22.3 Determining privacy requirements and accurately coding the privacy indicators for CLEC's End User Customer information (if End User Customer information provided by CLEC to CenturyLink does not contain a privacy indicator, no privacy restrictions will apply); and

10.4.2.22.4 Any additional services requested by CLEC's End User Customers.

10.4.2.23 Pursuant to Sections 222 (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e) of the Telecommunications Act, CenturyLink will provide subscriber list information gathered in CenturyLink's capacity as a provider of local Exchange Service on a timely basis, under non-discriminatory and reasonable rates, terms and conditions to CLEC upon request for

the purpose of publishing directories in any format. Rates may be subject to federal or state law or rules, as appropriate. Upon request by CLEC, CenturyLink shall enter into negotiations with CLEC for CLEC's use of subscriber list information for purposes other than publishing directories, and CenturyLink and CLEC will enter into a written contract if agreement is reached for such use.

10.4.2.23.1 CenturyLink shall use commercially reasonable efforts to ensure that its retail End User Customer Listings provided to CLEC are accurate and complete. Any third party Listings are provided AS IS, WITH ALL FAULTS. CenturyLink further represents that it shall review all its retail End User Customer Listings information provided to CLEC including End User Customer requested restrictions on use, such as nonpublished and nonlisted restrictions.

10.4.2.24 CenturyLink represents and warrants that any arrangement for the publication of white pages Directory Listings with an Affiliate or contractor, requires such Affiliate or contractor to publish the Directory Listings of CLEC contained in CenturyLink's Listings database so that CLEC's Directory Listings are non-discriminatory in appearance and integration, and have the same accuracy and reliability that such Affiliate or contractor provides to CenturyLink's End User Customers.

10.4.2.25 CenturyLink further agrees that any arrangements for the publication of white pages Directory Listings with an Affiliate or contractor shall require such Affiliate or contractor to include in the customer guide pages of the white pages directory, a notice that End User Customers should contact their Current Service Provider to request any modifications to their existing Listing or to request a new Listing.

10.4.2.26 CenturyLink agrees that any arrangement with an Affiliate or contractor for the publication of white pages directory Listings shall require such Affiliate or contractor to provide CLEC space in the customer guide pages of the white pages directory for the purpose of notifying End User Customers how to reach CLEC to: (1) request service; (2) contact repair service; (3) dial Directory Assistance; (4) reach an account representative; (5) request buried cable locate service; and (6) contact the special needs center for End User Customers with disabilities.

10.4.2.27 If CLEC submits its End User Customer Listings to CenturyLink through a service bureau or other type of third party (agent), CLEC and the agent shall execute a Letter of Authorization (LOA), in a form acceptable to CenturyLink, that shall include, but not be limited to, the following terms:

10.4.2.27.1 That the agent is authorized by CLEC to submit Listings to CenturyLink on its behalf and to work with CenturyLink in resolving any issues surrounding its Listing submissions; and

10.4.2.27.2 That the agent will comply with all terms and conditions of this Agreement in submitting CLEC's End User Customers' Listings to CenturyLink.

10.4.2.27.3 CLEC's use of an agent in submitting its End User Customers' Listings to CenturyLink shall not alter CLEC's obligations under this Agreement and CLEC shall remain primarily liable for covenants and responsibilities under this Agreement.

**10.4.3 Rate Elements**

The following rate elements apply to white pages directory Listings and are contained in Exhibit A of this Agreement.

10.4.3.1 Primary Listings; and

10.4.3.2 Premium and Privacy Listings.

**10.4.4 Ordering Process**

10.4.4.1 CenturyLink provides training on white pages directory Listings requests and submission processes. The ordering process is similar to the service ordering process.

10.4.4.2 CLEC Listings can be submitted for inclusion in CenturyLink white pages directories according to the directions in the CenturyLink Listings User Documents for Facility-Based and Reseller CLECs, which is available on-line through the PCAT (<http://www.centurylink.com/wholesale/pcat/>) or will be provided in hard copy to CLEC upon request. Initial information and directions are available in the PCAT.

10.4.4.3 CLEC can submit the OBF forms incorporated in the Local Service Request via the IMA-EDI, IMA-GUI, or by facsimile.

**10.5 Directory Assistance Service****10.5.1 Description**

10.5.1.1 Directory Assistance Service is a voice service that CenturyLink provides to its own End User Customers, reseller and/or facilities-based CLEC, and to other Telecommunications Carriers. Directory Assistance Service provided to CLEC includes non-discriminatory access to CenturyLink's Directory Assistance centers, services, and Directory Assistance Databases. Directory Assistance Service provides voice callers published and nonlisted listing information, which is comprised of name and telephone number, and address if available, as contained in CenturyLink's then-current Directory Assistance Database and in the national Directory Assistance Database that is accessed by CenturyLink. Directory Assistance Service is available with CLEC-specific branding, generic branding and with Directory Assistance Call Completion service options, where available. If facilities-based CLEC chooses to access CenturyLink's Directory Assistance Service, it is provided to CLEC under this Agreement pursuant to Section 251(b)(3) of the Act. As such, the pricing requirements of Section 252(d)(1) of the Act are not applicable.

10.5.1.1.1 Directory Assistance Service.

10.5.1.1.1.1 Local Directory Assistance Service. Provides CLEC's End User Customers published and non-listed Listing information within the caller's LATA that are included in CenturyLink's then-current Directory Assistance Database.

10.5.1.1.1.2 National Directory Assistance Service. Provides CLEC's End User Customers published and non-listed Listing information

from the database of the national Directory Assistance Services vendor selected and accessed by CenturyLink.

10.5.1.1.1.3 Call Branding Service. Provides CLEC Local and national Directory Assistance Service that is branded with the brand of CLEC (CLEC-specific branding), where Technically Feasible, or with a generic brand. CLEC-specific Call Branding announces CLEC's name to CLEC's End User Customer at the start and completion of the call. Generic branding does not announce any provider's name. CLEC-specific Call Branding and generic branding are optional services available to CLEC.

- a) Front End CLEC-specific Call Branding - Announces CLEC's name to CLEC's End User Customer at the start of the call.
- b) Back End CLEC-specific Call Branding - Announces CLEC's name to CLEC's End User Customer at the completion of the call.
- c) Intentionally Left Blank.
- d) CenturyLink will record CLEC's specific brand message.

10.5.1.1.1.4 Call completion service allows CLEC's End User Customers' local/intraLATA calls to be completed, where available.

## 10.5.2 Terms and Conditions

10.5.2.0 Directory Assistance Service accessed over CLEC's resold local exchange lines includes terms and conditions (except prices) for Directory Assistance Service in CenturyLink's applicable product Tariffs, catalogs, price lists, or other retail Telecommunications Services offerings. To the extent, however, that a conflict arises between the terms and conditions of the Tariff, catalog, price list, or other retail Telecommunications Services offering and this Agreement, this Agreement shall be controlling. Directory Assistance Service is available to facilities-based CLEC as described in this Section unless otherwise noted. If facilities-based CLEC chooses to access CenturyLink's Directory Assistance Service, it is provided to CLEC under this Agreement pursuant to Section 251(b)(3) of the Act. As such, the pricing requirements of Section 252(d)(1) of the Act are not applicable. Directory Assistance Service is available to CLEC as a facilities-based provider at the market-based prices contained in Exhibit A.

10.5.2.1 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.5.2.2 CenturyLink's Directory Assistance Database is the database owned and maintained by CenturyLink which contains only those published and non-listed telephone number Listings obtained by CenturyLink from its own End User Customers, other Telecommunications Carriers and Providers.

10.5.2.3 CenturyLink will provide access to Directory Assistance Service for

facilities-based CLEC using its own or a third party's Switch(es) via dedicated multi-frequency (MF) operator service trunks. CLEC may purchase operator service trunks from CenturyLink or provide them itself. These operator service trunks will be connected directly to a CenturyLink Directory Assistance host or remote Switch. CLEC will be required to order or provide at least one (1) operator services trunk for each NPA served.

10.5.2.4 CenturyLink will perform Directory Assistance Services for CLEC in accordance with operating methods, practices, and standards in effect for all CenturyLink End User Customers. CenturyLink will provide the same priority of handling for CLEC's End User Customer calls to CenturyLink's Directory Assistance Service as it provides for its own End User Customer calls. Calls to CenturyLink's Directory Assistance Service are handled on a first come, first served basis, without regard to whether calls are originated by CLEC or CenturyLink End User Customers.

10.5.2.5 CLEC-specific Call Branding for Directory Assistance requires recording CLEC's name.

10.5.2.6 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.5.2.7 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.5.2.8 Reseller CLEC's End User Customers will use the same dialing pattern to access Directory Assistance Service as used by CenturyLink's End User Customers (i.e., 411, 555-1212, or NPA+555-1212).

10.5.2.9 Facilities-based CLEC using its own or a third party's Switch(es) may choose to have its End User Customers dial a unique number or use the same dialing pattern as CenturyLink End User Customers use to access CenturyLink Directory Assistance Service.

10.5.2.10 CenturyLink will timely enter into its directory assistance database updates of CLEC's Listings that CLEC provides to CenturyLink as described in Section 10.4. CenturyLink will incorporate CLEC End User Customer Listings in the Directory Assistance Database. CenturyLink will incorporate CLEC's End User Customer Listings information in all existing and future Directory Assistance applications developed by CenturyLink. CenturyLink will implement quality assurance procedures such as random testing for listing accuracy. CenturyLink will identify itself to End User Customers calling its Directory Assistance Service provided for itself either by company name or operating company name or operating company number so that End User Customers have a means to identify with whom they are dealing.

10.5.2.10.1 In accordance with Section 18, where CLEC supplies its Listings to CenturyLink, CLEC may request a comprehensive audit of CenturyLink's use of CLEC's Listings for Directory Assistance Service. In addition to the terms specified in Section 18, the following also apply: as used herein, "Audit" shall mean a comprehensive review of the other Party's delivery and use of the Listings for Directory Assistance Service provided hereunder and such other Party's performance of its obligations under this Agreement. CLEC may perform up to two (2) audits per twelve (12) month period commencing with the Effective Date of this Agreement of CenturyLink's use of CLEC's Listings in CenturyLink's

Directory Assistance Service. CLEC shall be entitled to "seed" or specially code some or all of the Listings for Directory Assistance Service that it provides hereunder in order to trace such information during an Audit and ensure compliance with the disclosure and use restrictions set forth in this Agreement.

10.5.2.11 CenturyLink shall use CLEC's Listings supplied to CenturyLink by CLEC under the terms of this Agreement for purposes of providing Directory Assistance Service and for other lawful purposes, except that CLEC's Listings supplied to CenturyLink by CLEC and marked as nonpublished or nonlisted Listings shall not be used for marketing purposes, subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

### **10.5.3 Rate Elements**

The following rate elements apply to Directory Assistance Service. Directory Assistance Service is provided to CLEC for resale with resold local exchange lines at the CenturyLink retail price less the wholesale discount contained in Exhibit A, if any. Directory Assistance Service is provided to CLEC as a facilities-based provider at the market-based prices contained in Exhibit A.

10.5.3.1 A per-call rate applies for Local Directory Assistance and for national Directory Assistance Services.

10.5.3.2 Intentionally Left Blank

10.5.3.3 A per-call rate is applicable for call completion service.

### **10.5.4 Ordering Process**

CLEC will order Directory Assistance Service by completing the questionnaire entitled "CenturyLink Operator Services/Directory Assistance Questionnaire for Competitive Local Exchange Carriers." This questionnaire may be obtained from CLEC's CenturyLink account manager.

### **10.5.5 Billing**

10.5.5.1 CenturyLink will track and bill CLEC for the number of calls placed to CenturyLink's Directory Assistance Service by CLEC's End User Customers as well as for the number of requests for call completion service.

10.5.5.2 For purposes of determining when CLEC is obligated to pay the per call rate, the call shall be deemed made and CLEC shall be obligated to pay when the call is received by the operator services Switch. An End User Customer may request and receive no more than two (2) telephone numbers per Directory Assistance call. CenturyLink will not credit, rebate or waive the per call charge due to any failure to provide a telephone number.

10.5.5.3 Call completion service will be charged at the per call rate when the End User Customer completes the required action (i.e., "press the number one," "stay on the line," etc.).

## **10.6 Directory Assistance List**

### **10.6.1 Description**

10.6.1.1 Directory Assistance List (DAL) information consists of name, address and telephone number information for all End User Customers of CenturyLink and other LECs and Provider Subscribers that are contained in CenturyLink's Directory Assistance Database and, where available, related elements required in the provision of Directory Assistance Service to CLEC's End User Customers. No prior authorization from CLEC shall be required for CenturyLink to sell, make available, or release CLEC's End User Customer Directory Assistance Listings to Directory Assistance providers. In the case of End User Customers and/or Provider Subscribers who have non-published Listings, CenturyLink shall provide the End User Customer's and/or Provider Subscriber's local Numbering Plan Area (NPA), address, and an indicator to identify the non-published status of the Listing; however, CenturyLink will not provide the non-published telephone number in DAL information. DAL information includes privacy and use restriction indicators as requested by CenturyLink's retail End User Customers and by Carriers and Providers. Except for DAL information of Provider Subscribers, DAL information is provided pursuant to Section 251(b)(3) of the Act. As such, the pricing requirements of Section 252(d)(1) of the Act are not applicable. DAL information shall be provided to CLEC at market-based prices contained in Exhibit A.

10.6.1.2 CenturyLink will provide DAL information via initial loads and daily updates by means of Network Data Mover (NDM) or as otherwise mutually agreed upon by the Parties. CenturyLink will provide all changes, additions or deletions to the DAL information overnight on a daily basis after database updates have been processed. The Parties will use a mutually agreed upon format for the data loads.

10.6.1.3 DAL information shall specify whether the CenturyLink End User Customer is a residential, business, or government subscriber, and the Listings of other Carriers and/or Providers will specify such information where it has been provided on the Carrier's or Provider's Listing order.

10.6.1.4 In the event CLEC requires a reload of DAL information from CenturyLink's database in order to validate, synchronize or reconcile its database, a reload will be made available according to the rate specified in Exhibit A.

10.6.1.5 CenturyLink and CLEC will cooperate in the designation of a location to which the data will be provided.

### **10.6.2 Terms and Conditions**

10.6.2.1 If CLEC purchases use of DAL information under this Agreement, CenturyLink grants to CLEC, as a competing provider of telephone Exchange Service and telephone toll service, access to DAL information for purposes of providing Directory Assistance Services and for other lawful purposes subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement. CLEC is solely responsible for its lawful use of DAL information obtained under this Agreement pursuant to Section 251(b)(3) of the Act, including, but not limited to, use of such information only for purposes permitted, or not prohibited by, the Act, federal and state laws, rules, and regulations, the FCC's orders, rules and regulations, and the Commission's orders, rules, and regulations. As it pertains to the

use of DAL information in this Agreement, "Directory Assistance Services" shall mean the provision by CLEC, via telephone, via a live operator or mechanized system, of telephone number and address information for an identified name or the name and/or address for an identified telephone number. Should CLEC cease to be a Telecommunications Carrier or a competing provider of telephone Exchange Service or telephone toll service, or this Agreement is terminated, this access grant automatically terminates.

10.6.2.1.1 CenturyLink shall make commercially reasonable efforts to ensure that Listings belonging to CenturyLink retail End User Customers provided to CLEC in DAL information are accurate and complete. All third party DAL information is provided AS IS, WITH ALL FAULTS. CenturyLink shall review all of its End User Customer Listings information provided to CLEC, including, but not limited to, End User Customer requested restrictions on use, such as non-published and non-listed restrictions.

10.6.2.1.2 CLEC must not and will not (i) use DAL information for purposes of directory publishing or (ii) sublicense, sell, provide or otherwise transfer DAL information to directory publishers for purposes of directory publishing.

10.6.2.1.3 Listings included in CenturyLink's DAL information and marked to indicate a restriction on use, or to indicate a restriction on inclusion of DAL information in Directory Assistance Services applications, shall be used by CLEC only in a manner that is consistent with each such restriction and that does not violate a restriction, including, but not limited to the following.

10.6.2.1.3.1 Restriction indicators on DAL information include:

- Privacy indicators, including, but not limited to, nonpublished and nonlisted indicators;
- No solicitation indicators;
- Omit from address directories indicators; and
- Omit from telemarketing, direct mail, and e-mail lists indicators.

10.6.2.1.3.2 Nonpublished Listings information provided in DAL information shall not be used for any purpose except for providing Directory Assistance Services. When used in Directory Assistance Services applications, nonpublished Listings shall not be used for any purpose other than in matching a search query. The nonpublished subscriber name and address, while supplied to CLEC in DAL information, shall not be provided to any person other than the operator responding to the End User Customer Directory Assistance Services query.

10.6.2.2 If CLEC purchases use of DAL information under this Agreement, CLEC will obtain and timely enter into its directory assistance database daily updates of the DAL information, will implement quality assurance procedures such as random testing for directory assistance Listing accuracy, and will identify itself to End User Customers



calling its Directory Assistance Services either by company name or operating company number so that End User Customers have a means to identify with whom they are dealing.

10.6.2.3 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.6.2.4 CenturyLink shall retain all right, title, interest and ownership in and to the DAL information it provides under this Agreement. CLEC acknowledges and understands that while it may disclose the names, addresses, and telephone numbers (or an indication of non-published status) of End User Customers and/or Provider Subscribers to a third party calling its Directory Assistance Services for such information, the fact that such End User Customers and/or Provider Subscribers subscribe to CenturyLink's or another Carrier's Telecommunications Services or to a Provider's services is Confidential and Proprietary Information and shall not be disclosed to any third party.

10.6.2.5 Each Party shall take commercially reasonable and prudent measures to prevent unlawful use of DAL information at least equal to the measures it takes to protect its own confidential and proprietary information, including but not limited to implementing adequate computer security measures to prevent unauthorized access to DAL information when contained in any database.

10.6.2.5.1 Unauthorized use of DAL information, or any disclosure to a third party of the fact that an End User Customer or Provider Subscriber, whose Listing is furnished in the DAL information, subscribes to CenturyLink's or another Carrier's Telecommunications Services or to a Provider's services, shall be considered a material breach of this Agreement and shall be resolved under the Dispute Resolution provisions of this Agreement.

10.6.2.6 Within five (5) Days after the termination of this Agreement, CLEC shall (a) return and cease using any and all DAL information which it has in its possession or control, (b) extract and expunge any and all copies of such DAL information, any portions thereof, and any and all information extracted therefrom, from its files and records, whether in print or electronic form or in any other media whatsoever, and (c) provide a written certification to CenturyLink from CLEC's officer that all of the foregoing actions have been completed. A copy of this certification may be provided to third party Carriers and/or Providers if the certification pertains to such Carriers' and/or Providers' DAL information contained in CenturyLink's Directory Assistance Database.

10.6.2.7 CLEC is responsible for ensuring that it has proper security measures in place to protect the privacy of the End User Customer and/or Provider Subscriber information contained within the DAL information. CLEC must remove from its database any telephone number for an End User Customer or a Provider Subscriber whose Listing has become non-published when so notified by CenturyLink or such End User Customer or Provider Subscriber.

10.6.2.8 Audits -- In accordance with Section 18, CenturyLink may request a comprehensive audit of CLEC's use of the DAL information. In addition to the terms specified in Section 18, the following also apply:

10.6.2.8.1 As used herein, "Audit" shall mean a comprehensive review of

the other Party's delivery and use of the DAL information provided under this Agreement and such other Party's performance of its obligations under this Agreement. Either Party (the Requesting Party) may perform up to two (2) Audits per twelve (12) month period commencing with the Effective Date of this Agreement. CenturyLink shall be entitled to "seed" or specially code some or all of the DAL information that it provides under this Agreement in order to trace such information during an Audit and ensure compliance with the disclosure and use restrictions set forth in this Section 10.6.

10.6.2.8.2 All paper and electronic records will be subject to Audit.

10.6.2.9 CLEC recognizes that certain Carriers and/or Providers who have provided DAL information that is included in CenturyLink's Directory Assistance Database may be third party beneficiaries of this Agreement for purposes of enforcing any terms and conditions of the Agreement other than payment terms with respect to their DAL information.

10.6.2.9.1 CLEC indemnifies CenturyLink for any and all loss, debt, liability, damage, obligation, claim, demand, judgment, or settlement of any nature or kind, known or unknown, liquidated or unliquidated including, but not limited to, reasonable costs and expenses (including, but not limited to, attorneys' fees) raised by these Carriers and/or Providers, whether formal or informal and will handle all communications with these Carriers and/or Providers regarding this matter.

10.6.2.10 CenturyLink will provide a non-discriminatory process and procedure for contacting End User Customers and/or Provider Subscribers with non-published telephone numbers in emergency situations for non-published telephone numbers that are included in CenturyLink's Directory Assistance Database. Such process and procedure will be available to CLEC for CLEC's use when CLEC provides its own Directory Assistance Services and purchases CenturyLink's DAL product.

10.6.2.11 All of the provisions of Section 10.6.2 of this Agreement will survive expiration or termination of this Agreement.

### **10.6.3 Rate Elements**

Recurring and nonrecurring rate elements for DAL information are described below and rates are contained in Exhibit A of this Agreement.

10.6.3.1 Initial Database Load -- A "snapshot" of data in the Directory Assistance Database or portion of the database at the time the order is received.

10.6.3.2 Reload -- A "snapshot" of the data in the Directory Assistance Database or portion of the database required in order to refresh the data in CLEC's database.

10.6.3.3 Daily Updates -- Daily change activity affecting DAL information in the Directory Assistance Database.

10.6.3.4 One-Time Set-Up Fees -- Charges for database loads.

10.6.3.5 Output Charges -- Media charges resulting from the electronic transmission of the DAL information.

#### **10.6.4 Ordering**

10.6.4.1 CLEC may order the initial DAL information load or update files for CenturyLink's local Exchange Service areas in its 14 state operating territory or, on a state-specific basis, or, where Technically Feasible, CLEC may order the initial DAL information load or update files by CenturyLink White Page Directory Code or NPA.

10.6.4.2 Special requests for data at specific geographic levels (such as NPA) must be negotiated in order to address data integrity issues.

10.6.4.3 CLEC shall use the DAL Order Form found in the PCAT.

### **10.7 Toll and Assistance Operator Services**

#### **10.7.1 Description**

10.7.1.1 Toll and assistance operator services (operator services) are a family of offerings that assist CLEC's resale and facilities-based End User Customers in making and receiving EAS/local and IntraLATA toll calls. Operator services provided to CLEC include non-discriminatory access to CenturyLink operator service centers, services, and personnel. If facilities-based CLEC using CenturyLink's, its own, or a third party's Switch(es) chooses to access CenturyLink's operator services, they are provided to CLEC under this Agreement pursuant to Section 251(b)(3) of the Act. As such, the pricing requirements of Section 252(d)(1) of the Act are not applicable. Operator services shall be provided to CLEC as a facilities-based provider at the market-based rates contained in Exhibit A.

10.7.1.1.1 EAS/Local and IntraLATA Assistance. Assists CLEC End User Customers requesting help or information on making and receiving EAS/local and IntraLATA toll calls, connects CLEC End User Customers to CenturyLink's Directory Assistance Service, and provides other information and guidance, including referral to the business office and repair, as may be consistent with CenturyLink's customary practice for providing End User Customer assistance.

10.7.1.1.2 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.7.1.1.3 Emergency Assistance. Provides assistance for handling CLEC's End User Customer's EAS/local and IntraLATA toll calls to emergency agencies, including but not limited to, police, sheriff, highway patrol and fire. CLEC is responsible for providing CenturyLink with the appropriate emergency agency numbers and updates.

10.7.1.1.4 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.7.1.1.5 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.7.1.1.6 Quote Service – Provides time and charges to hotel/motel and other CLEC End User Customers for guest/account identification.

10.7.1.1.7 CLEC-Specific Call Branding Service. Provides CLEC's End User Customers the operator services listed in this Section branded with the brand of CLEC (CLEC-specific branding), where Technically Feasible, or with a generic brand. CLEC-specific Call Branding announces CLEC's name to CLEC's End User Customer at the start and completion of the call. Generic branding does not announce any provider's name. CLEC-specific and generic Call Branding are optional services available to CLEC.

10.7.1.1.7.1 Front End CLEC-specific Call Branding -- Announces CLEC's name to CLEC's End User Customer at the start of the call.

10.7.1.1.7.2 Back End CLEC-specific Call Branding -- Announces CLEC's name to CLEC's End User Customer at the completion of the call.

## 10.7.2 Terms and Conditions

10.7.2.0 Operator services accessed over CLEC's resold local exchange lines include terms and conditions (except prices) for operator services in CenturyLink's applicable product Tariffs, catalogs, price lists, or other retail Telecommunications Services offerings. To the extent, however, that a conflict arises between the terms and conditions of the Tariff, catalog, price list, or other retail Telecommunications Services offering and this Agreement, this Agreement shall be controlling. Operator services are available to facilities-based CLEC as described in this Section 10.7, unless otherwise noted.

10.7.2.0.1 CenturyLink does not authorize CLEC to offer CenturyLink the incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC) as a Local Primary Interexchange Carrier (LPIC) to its existing or new End User Customers on CenturyLink's behalf. If CLEC assigns CenturyLink the ILEC, LPIC 5123, to CLEC's existing or new End User Customers, CenturyLink will bill reseller CLEC for IntraLATA Toll services at the CenturyLink retail rate less the wholesale discount contained in Exhibit A, if any, and will bill facilities-based CLEC at the rates contained or referenced in Exhibit A, and CenturyLink will not directly bill CLEC's End User Customers for such IntraLATA Toll services.

10.7.2.0.2 If CLEC assigns CenturyLink the ILEC, PIC 5123, to CLEC's existing or new End User Customers, transport beyond CenturyLink's local interoffice network for IntraLATA Toll services will be provided over CenturyLink's IntraLATA Toll network. Routing tables resident in CenturyLink's Switch(es) will direct CLEC's traffic over CenturyLink's interoffice message trunk network.

10.7.2.0.3 If, during the term of this Agreement, CenturyLink the ILEC offers IntraLATA Toll services directly to CLEC's End User Customers, CenturyLink will establish its own billing relationship with such End User Customers, and CenturyLink will not bill CLEC, and CLEC shall have no obligation to pay CenturyLink, for such IntraLATA Toll services CenturyLink provides to CLEC's End User Customers.

10.7.2.1 For facilities-based CLEC using its own or a third party's Switch(es), Interconnection to CenturyLink's operator services Switch is Technically Feasible at two (2) distinct points on the Trunk Side of the Switch. The first connection point is an

operator services trunk connected directly to the CenturyLink operator services host Switch. The second connection point is an operator services trunk connected directly to a remote CenturyLink operator services Switch.

10.7.2.2 Trunk Provisioning and facility ownership must follow CenturyLink guidelines.

10.7.2.3 In order for CLEC to use CenturyLink's operator services as a facilities-based CLEC using its own or a third party's Switch(es), CLEC must provide an operator service trunk between CLEC's End Office Switch and the Interconnection point on the CenturyLink operator services Switch for each NPA served.

10.7.2.4 The technical requirements of operator service trunk are covered in the Operator Services Systems Generic Requirement (OSSGR), Telcordia document FR-NWT-000271, Section 6 (Signaling) and Section 10 (System Interfaces) in general requirements form.

10.7.2.5 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.7.2.6 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.7.2.7 CenturyLink will perform operator services in accordance with operating methods, practices, and standards in effect for all its End User Customers, including making and receiving EAS/local and IntraLATA Toll calls. CenturyLink will respond to CLEC's End User Customer calls to CenturyLink's operator services according to the same priority scheme as it responds to CenturyLink's End User Customer calls. Calls to CenturyLink's operator services are handled on a first come, first served basis, without regard to whether calls are originated by CLEC or CenturyLink End User Customers.

10.7.2.8 CenturyLink will provide operator services to CLEC where Technically Feasible and facilities are available. CenturyLink may from time-to-time modify and change the nature, extent, and detail of specific operator services available to its retail End User Customers, and to the extent it does so, CenturyLink will provide notice to CLEC on a timely basis consistent with Commission rules and notice requirements.

10.7.2.9 CenturyLink shall maintain adequate equipment and personnel to reasonably perform the operator services. Facilities-based CLEC using its own or a third party's Switch(es) shall provide and maintain the facilities necessary to connect its End User Customers to the locations where CenturyLink provides the operator services and to provide all information and data needed or reasonably requested by CenturyLink in order to perform the operator services.

10.7.2.10 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.7.2.11 CLEC-specific Call Branding for operator services includes recording and setting up CLEC's brand message and loading the brand message into CenturyLink's Switch(es). CenturyLink will record CLEC's brand message.

10.7.2.12 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.7.2.13 Reseller CLEC's End User Customers dial the same number

CenturyLink's own End User Customers dial to access operator services, including "0" or "0+." Facilities-based CLEC using its own or a third party's Switch(es) may choose to have its End User Customers access CenturyLink operators by dialing a unique number or by using the same dialing pattern as used by CenturyLink End User Customers.

### 10.7.3 Rate Elements

The following rate elements apply to operator services. Operator services are provided to CLEC for resale with resold local exchange lines at the CenturyLink retail price less the wholesale discount contained in Exhibit A, if any. Operator services are provided to CLEC as a facilities-based provider at the market-based prices contained in Exhibit A.

10.7.3.1 Operator services are priced on a per call basis, as follows.

10.7.3.1.1 Operator Services Calls – Charges apply for each completed call handled by operator services, including EAS/local calls and IntraLATA toll calls made, or received and accepted, by CLEC's End User Customer.

10.7.3.1.2 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.7.3.1.3 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.7.3.1.4 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.7.3.1.5 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.7.3.1.6 Busy Line Verify – Charges apply for each call where the operator determines that conversation exists on a line.

10.7.3.1.7 Busy Line Interrupt – Charges apply for each call where the operator interrupts conversation on a busy line and requests release of the line.

10.7.3.1.8 Operator Assistance – Charges apply for operator assistance whether a call is completed or not, that does not otherwise generate an operator surcharge as described in this Section. These calls include, but are not limited to: calls given the DDD rate because of transmission problems; calls where the operator has determined there should be no charge, such as Busy Line Verify attempts where conversation was not found on the line; calls where CLEC's End User Customer requests information from the operator and no attempt is made to complete a call; and calls for quotation service.

10.7.3.1.9 "Completed call" as used in this Section shall mean that CLEC's End User Customer makes contact with the location, telephone number, person or extension designated by the End User Customer.

10.7.3.2 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.7.3.3 CLEC-Specific Call Branding Nonrecurring Charges. CenturyLink will charge CLEC a nonrecurring set-up and recording fee for establishing CLEC-specific Call Branding, and for loading CLEC's brand message in CenturyLink's Switch(es). CLEC must pay such nonrecurring charges prior to commencement of CLEC-specific

branding. The nonrecurring charges apply each time CLEC's brand message is changed. The nonrecurring charge to load the Switches with CLEC's branded message will be assessed each time there is any change to the Switch.

#### **10.7.4 Ordering Process**

CLEC will order operator services by completing the "CenturyLink Operator Services/Directory Assistance Questionnaire for Competitive Local Exchange Carriers." Copies of this questionnaire may be obtained from CLEC's designated CenturyLink account manager.

#### **10.7.5 Billing**

10.7.5.1 CenturyLink will track usage and bill CLEC for the calls made and received by CLEC's End User Customers and facilities.

10.7.5.2 CenturyLink will compute CLEC's invoice based on calls made and received by CLEC's End User Customers.

10.7.5.3 If, due to equipment malfunction or other error, CenturyLink does not have available the necessary information to compile an accurate Billing statement, CenturyLink may render a reasonably estimated bill, but shall notify CLEC of such estimate and cooperate in good faith with CLEC to establish a fair, equitable estimate. CenturyLink shall render a bill reflecting actual billable quantities when and if the information necessary for the Billing statement becomes available.

10.7.5.4 CenturyLink shall provide to CLEC usage information within CenturyLink's control with respect to calls originated by or terminated to CLEC's End User Customers in the form of the actual information that is comparable to the information CenturyLink uses to bill its own End User Customers. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, CenturyLink shall provide CLEC with Daily Usage Feed (DUF) billing information.

10.7.5.5 Intentionally Left Blank.

10.7.5.6 If CLEC assigns CenturyLink the ILEC to provide IntraLATA Toll services for its End User Customers, CenturyLink shall bill CLEC and CLEC shall pay CenturyLink for such services in accordance with Exhibit A.

#### **10.8 Access to Poles, Ducts, Conduits, and Rights of Way**

Access to CenturyLink poles, ducts and rights of way as required by Section 251 of the Act is available to CLEC upon request and completion of an amendment to this Agreement.

**Section 11.0 - NETWORK SECURITY**

11.1 Protection of Service and Property. Each Party shall exercise the same degree of care to prevent harm or damage to the other Party and any third parties, its employees, agents or End User Customers, or their property as it employs to protect its own personnel, End User Customers and property, etc.

11.2 Each Party is responsible to provide security and privacy of communications. This entails protecting the confidential nature of Telecommunications transmissions between End User Customers during technician work operations and at all times. Specifically, no employee, agent or representative shall monitor any circuits except as required to repair or provide service of any End User Customer at any time. Nor shall an employee, agent or representative disclose the nature of overheard conversations, or who participated in such communications or even that such communication has taken place. Violation of such security may entail state and federal criminal penalties, as well as civil penalties. CLEC is responsible for covering its employees on such security requirements and penalties.

11.3 The Parties' Telecommunications networks are part of the national security network, and as such, are protected by federal law. Deliberate sabotage or disablement of any portion of the underlying equipment used to provide the network is a violation of federal statutes with severe penalties, especially in times of national emergency or state of war. The Parties are responsible for covering their employees on such security requirements and penalties.

11.4 CenturyLink and CLEC share responsibility for security and network protection for each Collocation arrangement. Each Party's employees, agents or representatives must secure its own portable test equipment, spares, etc. and shall not use the test equipment or spares of other parties. Use of such test equipment or spares without written permission constitutes theft and may be prosecuted. Exceptions are the use of CenturyLink ladders in the Wire Center, either rolling or track, which CLEC may use in the course of work operations. CenturyLink assumes no liability to CLEC, its agents, employees or representatives, if CLEC uses a CenturyLink ladder available in the Wire Center.

11.5 Each Party is responsible for the physical security of its employees, agents or representatives. Providing safety glasses, gloves, etc. must be done by the respective employing Party. Hazards handling and safety procedures relative to the Telecommunications environment is the training responsibility of the employing Party. Proper use of tools, ladders, and test gear is the training responsibility of the employing Party.

11.6 In the event that one Party's employees, agents or representatives inadvertently damage or impair the equipment of the other Party, prompt notification will be given to the damaged Party by verbal notification between the Parties' technicians at the site or by telephone to each Party's 24 x 7 security numbers.

11.7 Each Party shall comply at all times with CenturyLink security and safety procedures and requirements while performing work activities on CenturyLink's Premises.

11.8 CenturyLink will allow CLEC to inspect or observe spaces which house or contain CLEC equipment or equipment enclosures at any time and to furnish CLEC with all keys, entry codes, lock combinations, or other materials or information which may be needed to gain entry into any secured CLEC space, in a manner consistent with that used by CenturyLink.



11.9 CenturyLink will limit the keys used in its keying systems for enclosed collocated spaces which contain or house CLEC equipment or equipment enclosures to its employees and representatives to emergency access only. CLEC shall further have the right to change locks where deemed necessary for the protection and security of such spaces.

11.10 Keys may entail either metallic keys or combination electronic ID/key cards. It is solely the responsibility of CLEC to ensure keys are not shared with unauthorized personnel and recover keys and electronic ID/keys promptly from discharged personnel, such that office security is always maintained. CenturyLink has similar responsibility for its employees.

11.11 CLEC will train its employees, agents and vendors on CenturyLink security policies and guidelines.

11.12 When working on CenturyLink ICDF Frames or in CenturyLink's common or CLEC equipment line-ups, CenturyLink and CLEC employees, agents and vendors agree to adhere to CenturyLink quality and performance standards provided by CenturyLink and as specified in this Agreement.

11.13 CLEC shall report all material losses to CenturyLink Security. All security incidents are to be referred directly to local CenturyLink Security – 1-888-879-7328. In cases of emergency, CLEC shall call 911 and 1-888-879-7328.

11.14 CenturyLink and CLEC employees, agents and vendors will display the identification/access card above the waist and visible at all times.

11.15 CenturyLink and CLEC shall ensure adherence by their employees, agents and vendors to all applicable CenturyLink environmental health and safety regulations. This includes all fire/life safety matters, OSHA, EPA, Federal, State and local regulations, including evacuation plans and indoor air quality.

11.16 CenturyLink and CLEC employees, agents and vendors will secure and lock all doors and gates.

11.17 CLEC will report to CenturyLink all property and equipment losses immediately, any lost cards or keys, vandalism, unsecured conditions, security violations, anyone who is unauthorized to be in the work area or is not wearing the CenturyLink identification/access card.

11.18 CenturyLink and CLEC's employees, agents and vendors shall comply with CenturyLink Central Office fire and safety regulations, which include but are not limited to, wearing safety glasses in designated areas, keeping doors and aisles free and clean of trip hazards such as wire, checking ladders before moving, not leaving test equipment or tools on rolling ladders, not blocking doors open, providing safety straps and cones in installation areas, using electrostatic discharge protection, and exercising good housekeeping.

11.19 Smoking is not allowed in CenturyLink buildings, Wire Centers, or other CenturyLink facilities. No open flames shall be permitted anywhere within the buildings, Wire Centers or other facilities. Failure to abide by this restriction may result in denial of access for that individual and may constitute a violation of the access rules, subjecting CLEC employee, agent or vendor to denial of unescorted access. CenturyLink shall provide written notice within five (5) Days of CLEC violation of this provision to CLEC prior to denial of access and such notice shall include: 1) identification of the violation of this provision and the personnel involved,

2) identification of the safety regulation violated, and 3) date and location of such violation. CLEC will have five (5) Days to remedy any such violation for which it has received notice from CenturyLink. In the event that CLEC fails to remedy any such violation of which it has received notice within such five (5) Days following receipt of such notice, CLEC shall be denied unescorted access to the affected Premises. In the event CLEC disputes any action CenturyLink seeks to take or has taken pursuant to this provision, CLEC may pursue immediate resolution by expedited Dispute Resolution.

11.20 No flammable or explosive fluids or materials are to be kept or used anywhere within the CenturyLink buildings or on the grounds.

11.21 No weapons of any type are allowed on CenturyLink Premises. Vehicles on CenturyLink property are subject to this restriction as well.

11.22 Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, CLEC's employees, agents or vendors may not make any modifications, alterations, additions or repairs to any space within the building or on the grounds, provided, however, nothing in Section 11 shall prevent CLEC, its employees or agents from performing modifications, alterations, additions or repairs to its own equipment or facilities.

11.23 CenturyLink employees may request CLEC's employees, agents or vendors to stop any work activity that in their reasonable judgment is a jeopardy to personal safety or poses a potential for damage to the CenturyLink Premises, CenturyLink equipment or CenturyLink services within the facility until the situation is remedied. CLEC employees may report any work activity that in their reasonable judgment is a jeopardy to personal safety or poses a potential for damage to the building, CLEC equipment or CLEC services within the facility, to CenturyLink Service Assurance (800-713-3666) and the reported work activity will be immediately stopped until the situation is remedied. In the event such non-compliant activity occurs in a CenturyLink Central Office, notification of the non-compliant activity may be made to the Central Office supervisor, and the Central Office supervisor shall immediately stop the reported work activity until the situation is remedied. The compliant Party shall provide immediate notice of the non-compliant work activity to the non-compliant Party and such notice shall include: 1) identification of the non-compliant work activity, 2) identification of the safety regulation violated, and 3) date and location of safety violation. If such non-compliant work activities pose an immediate threat to the safety of the other Party's employees, interference with the performance of the other Party's service obligations, or pose an immediate threat to the physical integrity of the other Party's facilities, the compliant Party may perform such work and/or take action as is necessary to correct the condition at the non-compliant Party's expense. In the event the non-compliant Party disputes any action the compliant Party seeks to take or has taken pursuant to this provision, the non-compliant Party may pursue immediate resolution by expedited Dispute Resolution. If the non-compliant Party fails to correct any safety non-compliance within ten (10) Days of written notice of non-compliance, or if such non-compliance cannot be corrected within ten (10) Days of written notice of non-compliance, and if the non-compliant Party fails to take all appropriate steps to correct as soon as reasonably possible, the compliant Party may pursue immediate resolution by expedited Dispute Resolution.

11.24 CenturyLink is not liable for any damage, theft or personal injury resulting from CLEC's employees, agents or vendors parking in a CenturyLink parking area.

11.25 CLEC's employees, agents or vendors outside the designated CLEC access area, or without proper identification may be asked to vacate the Premises and CenturyLink

security may be notified. Continued violations may result in termination of access privileges. CenturyLink shall provide immediate notice of the security violation to CLEC and such notice shall include: 1) identification of the security violation, 2) identification of the security regulation violated, and 3) date and location of security violation. CLEC will have five (5) Days to remedy any such alleged security violation before any termination of access privileges for such individual. In the event CLEC disputes any action CenturyLink seeks to take or has taken pursuant to this provision, CLEC may pursue immediate resolution by expedited or other Dispute Resolution.

11.26 Building related problems may be referred to the CenturyLink Work Environment Centers:

800-879-3499 (CO, WY, AZ, NM)

800-201-7033 (all other CenturyLink states)

11.27 CLEC will submit a CenturyLink Collocation Access Application form for individuals needing to access CenturyLink facilities. CLEC and CenturyLink will meet to review applications and security requirements.

11.28 CLEC employees, agents and vendors will utilize only corridors, stairways and elevators that provide direct access to CLEC's space or the nearest restroom facility. Such access will be covered in orientation meetings. Access shall not be permitted to any other portions of the building.

11.29 CLEC will collect identification/access cards for any employees, agents or vendors no longer working on behalf of CLEC and forward them to CenturyLink Security. If cards or keys cannot be collected, CLEC will immediately notify CenturyLink at 800-210-8169.

11.30 CLEC will assist CenturyLink in validation and verification of identification of its employees, agents and vendors by providing a telephone contact available seven (7) Days a week, twenty-four (24) hours a Day.

11.31 CenturyLink and CLEC employees, agents and vendors will notify CenturyLink Service Assurance (800-713-3666) prior to gaining access into a Central Office after hours, for the purpose of disabling Central Office alarms for CLEC access. Normal business hours are 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

11.32 CLEC will notify CenturyLink if CLEC has information that its employee, agent or vendor poses a safety and/or security risk. CenturyLink may deny access to anyone who in the reasonable judgment of CenturyLink threatens the safety or security of facilities or personnel.

11.33 CLEC will supply to CenturyLink Security, and keep up to date, a list of its employees, agents and vendors who require access to CLEC's space. The list will include names and social security numbers. Names of employees, agents or vendors to be added to the list will be provided to CenturyLink Security, who will provide it to the appropriate CenturyLink personnel.

11.34 Revenue Protection. CenturyLink shall make available to CLEC all present and future fraud prevention or revenue protection features. These features include, but are not limited to, screening codes, information digits '29' and '70' which indicate prison and COCOT

pay phone originating line types respectively; call blocking of domestic, international, 800, 888, 900, NPA-976, 700 and 500 numbers. CenturyLink shall additionally provide partitioned access to fraud prevention, detection and control functionality within pertinent Operations Support Systems which include but are not limited to LIDB Fraud monitoring systems.

11.34.1 Uncollectable or unbillable revenues resulting from, but not confined to, Provisioning, maintenance, or signal network routing errors shall be the responsibility of the Party causing such error or malicious acts, if such malicious acts could have reasonably been avoided.

11.34.2 Uncollectable or unbillable revenues resulting from the accidental or malicious alteration of software underlying Network Elements or their subtending Operational Support Systems by unauthorized third parties that could have reasonably been avoided shall be the responsibility of the Party having administrative control of access to said Network Element or operational support system software.

11.34.3 CenturyLink shall be responsible for any direct uncollectible or unbillable revenues resulting from the unauthorized physical attachment to Loop facilities from the Main Distribution Frame up to and including the Network Interface Device, including clip-on fraud, if CenturyLink could have reasonably prevented such fraud.

11.34.4 To the extent that incremental costs are directly attributable to a revenue protection capability requested by CLEC, those costs will be borne by CLEC.

11.34.5 To the extent that either Party is liable to any toll provider for fraud and to the extent that either Party could have reasonably prevented such fraud, the Party who could have reasonably prevented such fraud must indemnify the other for any fraud due to compromise of its network (e.g., clip-on, missing information digits, missing toll restriction, etc.).

11.34.6 If CenturyLink becomes aware of potential fraud with respect to CLEC's accounts, CenturyLink will promptly inform CLEC and, at the direction of CLEC, take reasonable action to mitigate the fraud where such action is possible.

11.35 Law Enforcement Interface. CenturyLink provides emergency assistance to 911 centers and law enforcement agencies seven (7) Days a week/twenty-four (24) hours a Day. Assistance includes, but is not limited to, release of 911 trace and subscriber information; in-progress trace requests; establishing emergency trace equipment, release of information from an emergency trap/trace or \*57 trace; requests for emergency subscriber information; assistance to law enforcement agencies in hostage/barricade situations, kidnappings, bomb threats, extortion/scams, runaways and life threats.

11.36 CenturyLink provides trap/trace, pen register and Title III assistance directly to law enforcement, if such assistance is directed by a court order. This service is provided during normal business hours, Monday through Friday. Exceptions are addressed in the above paragraph. The charges for these services will be billed directly to the law enforcement agency, without involvement of CLEC, for any lines served from CenturyLink Wire Centers or cross boxes.

11.37 In all cases involving telephone lines served from CenturyLink Wire Centers or cross boxes, whether the line is a resold line or Unbundled Loop element, CenturyLink will

perform trap/trace Title III and pen register assistance directly with law enforcement. CLEC will not be involved or notified of such actions, due to non-disclosure court order considerations, as well as timely response duties when law enforcement agencies are involved. Exceptions to the above will be those cases, as yet undetermined, where CLEC must participate due to technical reasons wherein its circuitry must be accessed or modified to comply with law enforcement, or for legal reasons that may evolve over time. CLEC will provide CenturyLink with a twenty-four (24) hours a Day, seven (7) Days a week contact for processing such requests, should they occur.

## **Section 12.0 - ACCESS TO OPERATIONAL SUPPORT SYSTEMS (OSS)**

### **12.1 Description**

12.1.1 CenturyLink has developed and shall continue to provide Operational Support System (OSS) interfaces using electronic gateways and manual processes. These gateways act as a mediation or control point between CLEC's and CenturyLink's OSS. These gateways provide security for the interfaces, protecting the integrity of the CenturyLink OSS and databases. CenturyLink's OSS interfaces have been developed to support Pre-ordering, Ordering and Provisioning, Maintenance and Repair and Billing. This section describes the interfaces and manual processes that CenturyLink has developed and shall provide to CLEC. Additional technical information and details shall be provided by CenturyLink in training sessions and documentation and support, such as the "Interconnect Mediated Access User's Guide." CenturyLink will continue to make improvements to the electronic interfaces as technology evolves, CenturyLink's legacy systems improve, or CLEC needs require. CenturyLink shall provide notification to CLEC consistent with the provisions of the Change Management Process (CMP) set forth in Section 12.2.6.

12.1.2 Through its electronic gateways and manual processes, CenturyLink shall provide CLEC non-discriminatory access to CenturyLink's OSS for Pre-ordering, Ordering and Provisioning, Maintenance and Repair, and Billing functions. For those functions with a retail analogue, such as pre-ordering and ordering and Provisioning of resold services, CenturyLink shall provide CLEC access to its OSS in substantially the same time and manner as it provides to itself. For those functions with no retail analogue, such as pre-ordering and ordering and Provisioning of Unbundled Elements, CenturyLink shall provide CLEC access to CenturyLink's OSS sufficient to allow an efficient competitor a meaningful opportunity to compete. CenturyLink will comply with the standards for access to OSS set forth in Section 20. CenturyLink shall deploy the necessary systems and personnel to provide sufficient access to each of the necessary OSS functions. CenturyLink shall provide assistance for CLEC to understand how to implement and use all of the available OSS functions. CenturyLink shall provide CLEC sufficient electronic and manual interfaces to allow CLEC equivalent access to all of the necessary OSS functions. Through its web site, training, disclosure documentation and development assistance, CenturyLink shall disclose to CLEC any internal business rules and other formatting information necessary to ensure that CLEC's requests and orders are processed efficiently. CenturyLink shall provide training to enable CLEC to devise its own course work for its own employees. Through its documentation available to CLEC, CenturyLink will identify how its interface differs from national guidelines or standards. CenturyLink shall provide OSS designed to accommodate both current demand and reasonably foreseeable demand.

### **12.2 OSS Support for Pre-ordering, Ordering and Provisioning**

12.2.0 CenturyLink will establish interface contingency plans and disaster recovery plans for the interfaces described in this Section. CenturyLink will work cooperatively with CLECs through the CMP to consider any suggestions made by CLECs to improve or modify such plans. CLEC-specific requests for modifications to such plans will be negotiated and mutually agreed upon between CenturyLink and CLEC.

#### **12.2.0.1 Ordering and Provisioning**

12.2.0.1.1 Ordering and Provisioning - CenturyLink will provide access to ordering and status functions. CLEC will populate the service request to identify what features, services, or elements it wishes CenturyLink to provision in accordance with CenturyLink's published business rules.

12.2.0.1.2 CenturyLink will provide all Provisioning services to CLEC during the same business hours that CenturyLink provisions services for its End User Customers. CenturyLink will provide out-of-hours Provisioning services to CLEC on a non-discriminatory basis, as it provides such Provisioning services to itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates or any other Party. CenturyLink shall disclose the business rules regarding out-of-hours Provisioning on its wholesale web site.

12.2.0.1.3 When CLEC places a manual order, CenturyLink will provide CLEC with a manual Firm Order Confirmation (FOC) notice. The confirmation notice will follow industry-standard formats.

12.2.0.1.4 Business rules regarding rejection of Local Service Requests (LSR) or Access Service Requests (ASR) are subject to the provisions of Section 12.2.6.

12.2.0.1.5 When CenturyLink provides installation on behalf of CLEC, CenturyLink will advise CLEC's End User Customer to notify CLEC immediately if the End User Customer requests a service change at the time of installation.

## **12.2.1 Ordering Process**

### **12.2.1.1 Local Service Requests (LSR)**

12.2.1.1.1 CenturyLink shall provide electronic interface gateways for submission of LSRs, including both an application-to-application interface and a Graphical User Interface (GUI).

12.2.1.1.2 The interface guidelines for the application-to-application interface are based upon the Order & Billing Forum (OBF) Local Service Order Guidelines (LSOG), and the appropriate electronic transmission standards. Exceptions to the above guidelines/standards shall be specified in the Interconnect Mediated Access (IMA) disclosure documents.

12.2.1.1.3 The GUI shall provide a single interface for Pre-order and Order transactions from CLEC to CenturyLink and is browser based. The GUI interface shall be based on the LSOG and utilizes a WEB standard technology, Hyper Text Markup Language (HTML), JAVA and the Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) to transmit messages.

12.2.1.1.4 Functions Pre-ordering - CenturyLink will provide real time, electronic access to pre-order functions to support CLEC's ordering via the electronic interfaces described herein. CenturyLink will make the following real time pre-order functions available to CLEC:

12.2.1.1.4.1 Features, services and Primary Interexchange Carrier

(PIC) options for IntraLATA toll and InterLATA toll available at a valid service address;

12.2.1.1.4.2 Access to Customer Service Records (CSRs) for CenturyLink retail or resale End User Customers. The information will include Billing name, service address, Billing address, service and feature subscription, Directory Listing information, and Long Distance Carrier identity;

12.2.1.1.4.3 Telephone number request and selection;

12.2.1.1.4.4 Reservation of appointments for service installations requiring the dispatch of a CenturyLink technician on a non-discriminatory basis;

12.2.1.1.4.5 Information regarding whether dispatch is required for service installation and available installation appointments;

12.2.1.1.4.6 Service address verification;

12.2.1.1.4.7 Facility availability, Loop qualification and Loop make-up information, including, but not limited to, Loop length, presence of Bridged Taps, repeaters, and loading coils;

12.2.1.1.4.8 A list of valid available CFAs for Unbundled Loops;

12.2.1.1.4.9 A list of one to five (1-5) individual Meet Points or a range of Meet Points for shared Loops;

12.2.1.1.4.10 Design Layout Record (DLR) Query which provides the layout for the local portion of a circuit at a particular location where applicable;

12.2.1.1.4.11 NC/NCI combinations supported by IMA flow-through can be addressed;

12.2.1.1.4.12 Raw Loop Data can be validated in IMA and retrieved by segments and sub-segments; and

12.2.1.1.4.13 Loop Qualification for ISDN and CenturyLink DSL services can be performed using IMA Loop Qualification Tool.

12.2.1.1.5 When CLEC places an electronic order, CenturyLink will provide CLEC with an electronic FOC. The FOC will follow industry-standard formats and contain the CenturyLink Due Date for order completion. Upon completion of the order, CenturyLink supplies two (2) completion notices: 1) service order completion (SOC) which notifies CLEC when the service order record was completed, and 2) Billing completion that notifies CLEC that the service order has posted to the Billing system.

12.2.1.1.6 When CLEC places an electronic order, CenturyLink will provide



notification electronically of any instances when 1) CenturyLink's Committed Due Date is in jeopardy of not being met by CenturyLink, or 2) an order is rejected. The standards for returning such notices are set forth in Section 20.

12.2.1.1.7 When CLEC places a manual order, CenturyLink provide notification of any instances when 1) CenturyLink's committed Due Date is in jeopardy of not being met by CenturyLink on any service, or 2) an order is rejected. The standards for returning such notices are set forth in Section 20.

12.2.1.1.8 Dial-Up Capabilities

12.2.1.1.8.1 Intentionally Left Blank.

12.2.1.1.8.2 Intentionally Left Blank.

12.2.1.1.8.3 When CLEC requests from CenturyLink more than fifty (50) SecurIDs for use by CLEC Customer service representatives at a single CLEC location, CLEC shall use a T1 line instead of dial-up access at that location. If CLEC is obtaining the line from CenturyLink, then CLEC shall be able to use SecurIDs until such time as CenturyLink provisions the T1 line and the line permits pre-order and order information to be exchanged between CenturyLink and CLEC.

12.2.1.1.9 Application-to-application Facilities-based Listing Process. CenturyLink shall provide an application-to-application facilities-based listing interface to enable CLEC's listing data to be translated and passed into the CenturyLink listing database. This interface is based upon OBF LSOG and the appropriate electronic transmission standards. CenturyLink shall supply exceptions to these guidelines/standards in writing in sufficient time for CLEC to adjust system requirements.

12.2.1.2 Access Service Request (ASR)

12.2.1.2.1 CenturyLink shall provide a computer-to-computer batch file interface, an application-to-application interface, and a GUI interface for submission of ASRs based upon the OBF Access Service Order Guidelines (ASOG). CenturyLink shall supply exceptions to these guidelines in writing in sufficient time for CLEC to adjust system requirements.

12.2.1.2.2 Functions Pre-ordering. CenturyLink will provide real time, electronic access to pre-order functions to support CLEC's ordering via the electronic interfaces described in this Section. CenturyLink will make the following real time pre-order functions available to CLEC:

12.2.1.2.2.1 Service Address validation;

12.2.1.2.2.2 CFA validation;

12.2.1.2.2.3 NC-NCI validation;

12.2.1.2.2.4 BAN validation; and

#### 12.2.1.2.2.5 CLLI validation.

12.2.1.2.3 When CLEC places an electronic or manual order, CenturyLink will provide notification of any instances when 1) CenturyLink's committed Due Date is in jeopardy of not being met by CenturyLink, or 2) an order is rejected. The standards for returning such notices are set forth in Section 20.

12.2.1.2.4 When CLEC places an electronic order, CenturyLink will provide CLEC with an electronic Firm Order Confirmation notice (FOC). The FOC will follow industry-standard formats and contain the CenturyLink Due Date for order completion.

### 12.2.2 Maintenance and Repair

12.2.2.1 CenturyLink shall provide electronic interface gateways, including an Electronic Bonding interface and a GUI interface, for reviewing an End User Customer's trouble history at a specific location, conducting testing of an End User Customer's service where applicable, and reporting trouble to facilitate the exchange of updated information and progress reports between CenturyLink and CLEC while the Trouble Report (TR) is open and a CenturyLink technician is working on the resolution. CLEC may also report trouble through manual processes. For designed services, the TR will not be closed prior to verification by CLEC that trouble is cleared.

### 12.2.3 Interface Availability

12.2.3.1 CenturyLink shall make its OSS interfaces available to CLEC during the hours listed in the Gateway Availability PIDs in Section 20.

12.2.3.2 CenturyLink shall notify CLEC in a timely manner regarding system downtime through mass email distribution and pop-up windows as applicable.

### 12.2.4 Billing

12.2.4.1 For products billed out of the CenturyLink Carrier Access Billing System (CABS), CenturyLink will utilize the existing CABS/BOS format and technology for the transmission of bills.

12.2.4.2 For products billed out of the CenturyLink Customer Record Information System (CRIS), CenturyLink will utilize the existing EDI standard for the transmission of monthly local Billing information. EDI is an established standard under the auspices of the ANSI/ASC X12 Committee. A proper subset of this specification has been adopted by the Telecommunications Industry Forum (TCIF) as the "811 Guidelines" specifically for the purposes of Telecommunications Billing. Any deviance from these standards and guidelines shall be documented and accessible to CLEC.

### 12.2.5 Outputs

Output information will be provided to CLEC in the form of bills, files, and reports. Bills will capture all regular monthly and incremental/usage charges and present them in a summarized format. The files and reports delivered to CLEC come in the following categories:

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Usage Record File   | Line Usage Information                           |
| Loss and Completion | Order Information                                |
| Category 11         | Facility Based Line Usage Information            |
| SAG/FAM             | Street Address/Facility Availability Information |

#### 12.2.5.1 Bills

12.2.5.1.1 CRIS Summary Bill - The CRIS Summary Bill represents a monthly summary of charges for most wholesale products sold by CenturyLink. This bill includes a total of all charges by entity plus a summary of current charges and adjustments on each sub-account. Individual sub-accounts are provided as Billing detail and contain monthly, one-time charges and incremental/call detail information. The Summary Bill provides one bill and one payment document for CLEC. These bills are segmented by state and bill cycle. The number of bills received by CLEC is dictated by the product ordered and the CenturyLink region in which CLEC is operating.

12.2.5.1.2 CABS Bill - The CABS Bill represents a monthly summary of charges. This bill includes monthly and one-time charges plus a summary of any usage charges.

#### 12.2.5.2 Files and Reports

12.2.5.2.1 Daily Usage Record File provides the accumulated set of call information for a given Day as captured or recorded by the network Switches. This file will be transmitted Monday through Friday, excluding CenturyLink holidays. This information is a file of unrated CenturyLink originated usage messages and rated CLEC originated usage messages. It is provided in ATIS standard Electronic Message Interface (EMI) format. This EMI format is outlined in the document SR-320; which can be obtained directly from ATIS. The Daily Usage Record File contains multi-state data for the Data Processing Center generating this information. Individual state identification information is contained with the message detail. CenturyLink will provide this data to CLEC with the same level of precision and accuracy it provides itself. This file will be provided for resale products.

12.2.5.2.2 The charge for this Daily Usage Record File is contained in Exhibit A of this Agreement.

12.2.5.2.3 Routing of in-region IntraLATA Collect, Calling Card, and Third Number Billed Messages - CenturyLink will distribute in-region IntraLATA collect, calling card, and third number billed messages to CLEC and exchange with other CLECs operating in region in a manner consistent with existing inter-company processing agreements. Whenever the daily usage information is transmitted to a Carrier, it will contain these records for these types of calls as well.

12.2.5.2.4 Loss Report provides CLEC with a daily report that contains a

list of accounts that have had lines and/or services disconnected. This may indicate that the End User Customer has changed CLECs or removed services from an existing account. This report also details the order number, service name and address, and date this change was made. Individual reports will be provided for resale and Unbundled Loop products.

12.2.5.2.5 Completion Report provides CLEC with a daily report. This report is used to advise CLEC that the order(s) for the service(s) requested is complete. It details the order number, service name and address and date this change was completed. Individual reports will be provided for resale and Unbundled Loop products.

12.2.5.2.6 Category 11 Records are Exchange Message Records (EMR) which provide mechanized record formats that can be used to exchange access usage information between CenturyLink and CLEC. Category 1101 series records are used to exchange detailed access usage information.

12.2.5.2.7 Intentionally Left Blank.

12.2.5.2.8 SAG/FAM Files. The SAG (Street Address Guide)/FAM (Features Availability Matrix) files contain the following information:

- a) SAG provides Address and Serving Central Office Information.
- b) FAM provides USOCs and descriptions by state (POTS services only), and USOC availability by NPA-NXX with the exception of Centrex. InterLATA/IntraLATA Carriers by NPA-NXX.

These files are made available via a download process. They can be retrieved by FTP (File Transfer Protocol), NDM connectivity, or a Web browser.

12.2.6 Change Management. CenturyLink agrees to maintain a change management process, known as (CMP), that is consistent with or exceeds industry guidelines, standards and practices to address CenturyLink's OSS, products and processes. The CMP shall include, but not be limited to, utilization of the following: (i) a forum for CLEC and CenturyLink to discuss CLEC and CenturyLink change requests (CR), CMP notifications, systems release life cycles, and communications; (ii) provide a forum for CLECs and CenturyLink to discuss and prioritize CRs, where applicable pursuant to the CMP Document; (iii) a mechanism to track and monitor CRs and CMP notifications; (iv) established intervals where appropriate in the process; (v) processes by which CLEC impacts that result from changes to CenturyLink's OSS, products or processes can be promptly and effectively resolved; (vi) processes that are effective in maintaining the shortest timeline practicable for the receipt, development and implementation of all CRs; (vii) sufficient dedicated CenturyLink processes to address and resolve in a timely manner CRs and other issues that come before the CMP body; (viii) processes for OSS Interface testing; (ix) information that is clearly organized and readily accessible to CLECs, including the availability of web-based tools; (x) documentation provided by CenturyLink that is effective in enabling CLECs to build an electronic gateway; and (xi) a process for changing CMP that calls for collaboration among CLECs and CenturyLink and requires agreement by the CMP participants. Pursuant to the scope and procedures set forth in the CMP Document, CenturyLink will submit to CLECs through the CMP, among other things, modifications to existing products and technical documentation available to CLECs, introduction of new products

available to CLECs, discontinuance of products available to CLECs, modifications to pre-ordering, ordering/provisioning, maintenance/repair or billing processes, introduction of pre-ordering, ordering/provisioning, maintenance/repair or billing processes, discontinuance of pre-ordering, ordering/provisioning, maintenance/repair or billing processes, modifications to existing OSS interfaces, introduction of new OSS interfaces, and retirement of existing OSS interfaces. CenturyLink will maintain as part of CMP an escalation process so that CMP issues can be escalated to a CenturyLink representative authorized to make a final decision and a process for the timely resolution of disputes. The governing document for CMP, known as the "Change Management Process" Document is the subject of ongoing negotiations between CenturyLink and CLECs in the ongoing CMP. The CMP Document will continue to be changed through those discussions. The CMP Document reflects the commitments CenturyLink has made regarding maintaining its CMP and CenturyLink commits to implement agreements made in the CMP process as soon as practicable after they are made. The CMP Document will be subject to change through the CMP, as set forth in the CMP Document. CenturyLink will maintain the most current version of the CMP Document on its wholesale web site.

12.2.6.1 In the course of establishing operational ready system interfaces between CenturyLink and CLEC to support local service delivery, CLEC and CenturyLink may need to define and implement system interface specifications that are supplemental to existing standards. CLEC and CenturyLink will submit such specifications to the appropriate standards committee and will work towards their acceptance as standards.

12.2.6.2 Release updates will be implemented pursuant to the CMP.

12.2.6.3 Intentionally Left Blank.

### **12.2.7 CLEC Responsibilities for Implementation of OSS Interfaces**

12.2.7.1 Before CLEC implementation can begin, CLEC must completely and accurately answer the New Customer Questionnaire as required in Section 3.2.

12.2.7.2 Once CenturyLink receives a complete and accurate New Customer Questionnaire, CenturyLink and CLEC will mutually agree upon time frames for implementation of connectivity between CLEC and the OSS interfaces.

### **12.2.8 CenturyLink Responsibilities for On-going Support for OSS Interfaces**

CenturyLink will support previous application-to-application releases for six (6) months after the next subsequent release has been deployed.

12.2.8.1 CenturyLink will provide written notice to CLEC of the need to migrate to a new release.

12.2.8.2 CenturyLink will provide an Implementation Coordinator to work with CLEC for business scenario re-certification, migration and data conversion strategy definition.

12.2.8.3 Re-certification is the process by which CLEC demonstrates the ability to generate correct functional transactions for enhancements not previously certified. CenturyLink will provide the suite of tests for re-certification to CLEC with the issuance of the disclosure document.

12.2.8.4 CenturyLink shall provide training mechanisms for CLEC to pursue in educating its internal personnel. CenturyLink shall provide training necessary for CLEC to use CenturyLink's OSS interfaces and to understand CenturyLink's documentation, including CenturyLink's business rules.

## **12.2.9 CLEC Responsibilities for On-going Support for OSS Interfaces**

12.2.9.1 If using the GUI interface, CLEC will take reasonable efforts to train CLEC personnel on the GUI functions that CLEC will be using.

12.2.9.2 An application-to-application exchange protocol will be used to transport electronically-formatted content. CLEC must perform certification testing of exchange protocol prior to using the application-to-application interface.

12.2.9.3 CenturyLink will provide CLEC with access to a stable testing environment that mirrors production to certify that its OSS will be capable of interacting smoothly and efficiently with CenturyLink's OSS. CenturyLink has established the following test processes to assure the implementation of a solid interface between CenturyLink and CLEC:

12.2.9.3.1 Connectivity Testing – CLEC and CenturyLink will conduct connectivity testing. This test will establish the ability of the trading partners to send and receive electronic messages effectively. This test verifies the communications between the trading partners. Connectivity is established during each phase of the implementation cycle. This test is also conducted prior to controlled production and before going live in the production environment if CLEC or CenturyLink has implemented environment changes when moving into production.

12.2.9.3.2 Stand-Alone Testing Environment (SATE) regression testing: CenturyLink's stand-alone testing environment will take pre-order and order requests, pass them to the stand-alone database, and return responses to CLEC during its development and implementation of application-to-application interface. Regression testing-SATE provides CLEC the opportunity to validate its technical development efforts built via CenturyLink documentation without the need to schedule test times. This testing verifies CLEC's ability to send correctly formatted electronic transactions through the IMA system edits successfully for both new and existing releases. SATE uses test account data supplied by CenturyLink. CenturyLink will make additions to the test beds and test accounts as it introduces new OSS electronic interface capabilities, including support of new products and services, new interface features, and functionalities. All SATE pre-order queries and orders are subjected to the same edits as production pre-order and order transactions. This testing phase is optional.

12.2.9.3.3 SATE-progression testing: CLEC has the option of participating with CenturyLink in progression testing to provide CLEC with the opportunity to validate technical development efforts and to quantify processing results. Progression testing provides CLEC the opportunity to validate its technical development efforts built via CenturyLink documentation without the need to schedule test times. This testing verifies CLEC's ability to send correctly formatted electronic transactions through IMA system edits successfully for both

new and existing releases. SATE uses test account data supplied by CenturyLink. CenturyLink will make additions to the test beds and test accounts as it introduces new OSS electronic interface capabilities, including support of new products and services, new interface features, and functionalities. All SATE pre-order queries and orders are subjected to the same edits as production pre-order and order transactions. This testing phase is required.

12.2.9.3.4 Controlled Production – CenturyLink and CLEC will perform controlled production. The controlled production process is designed to validate the ability of CLEC to transmit electronic data that completely meets the appropriate electronic transmission standards and complies with all CenturyLink business rules. Controlled production consists of the controlled submission of actual CLEC production requests to the CenturyLink production environment. CenturyLink treats these pre-order queries and orders as production pre-order and order transactions. CenturyLink and CLEC use controlled production results to determine operational readiness. Controlled production requires the use of valid account and order data. All certification orders are considered to be live orders and will be provisioned.

12.2.9.3.5 If CLEC is using the application-to-application interface, CenturyLink shall provide CLEC with a pre-allotted amount of time to complete certification of its business scenarios. CenturyLink will allow CLEC a reasonably sufficient amount of time during the day and a reasonably sufficient number of days during the week to complete certification of its business scenarios consistent with CLEC's business plan. It is the sole responsibility of CLEC to schedule an appointment with CenturyLink for certification of its business scenarios. CLEC must make every effort to comply with the agreed upon dates and times scheduled for the certification of its business scenarios. If the certification of business scenarios is delayed due to CLEC, it is the sole responsibility of CLEC to schedule new appointments for certification of its business scenarios. CenturyLink will make reasonable efforts to accommodate CLEC schedule. Conflicts in the schedule could result in certification being delayed. If a delay is due to CenturyLink, CenturyLink will honor CLEC's schedule through the use of alternative hours.

12.2.9.4 If CLEC is using the application-to-application interface, CLEC must work with CenturyLink to certify the business scenarios that CLEC will be using in order to ensure successful transaction processing. CenturyLink and CLEC shall mutually agree to the business scenarios for which CLEC requires certification. Certification will be granted for the specified release of the interface. If CLEC is certifying multiple products or services, CLEC has the option of certifying those products or services serially or in parallel where Technically Feasible.

12.2.9.4.1 For a new software release or upgrade, CenturyLink will provide CLEC a stable testing environment that mirrors the production environment in order for CLEC to test the new release. For software releases and upgrades, CenturyLink has implemented the testing processes set forth in Sections 12.2.9.3.2, 12.2.9.3.3 and 12.2.9.3.4.

12.2.9.5 New releases of the application-to-application interface may require re-certification of some or all business scenarios. A determination as to the need for re-

certification will be made by the CenturyLink coordinator in conjunction with the release manager of each IMA release. Notice of the need for re-certification will be provided to CLEC as the new release is implemented. The suite of re-certification test scenarios will be provided to CLEC with the disclosure document. If CLEC is certifying multiple products or services, CLEC has the option of certifying those products or services serially or in parallel, where Technically Feasible.

12.2.9.6 CLEC will contact the CenturyLink Implementation Coordinator to initiate the migration process. CLEC may not need to certify to every new IMA application-to-application release, however, CLEC must complete the re-certification and migration to the new release within six (6) months of the deployment of the new release. CLEC will use reasonable efforts to provide sufficient support and personnel to ensure that issues that arise in migrating to the new release are handled in a timely manner.

12.2.9.6.1 The following rules apply to initial development and certification of IMA application-to-application interface versions and migration to subsequent application-to-application interface versions:

12.2.9.6.1.1 SATE regression or SATE progression interoperability testing must begin on the prior release before the next release is implemented. Otherwise, CLEC will be required to move its implementation plan to the next release.

12.2.9.6.1.2 New IMA application-to-application users must be certified and in production with at least one (1) product and one (1) order activity type on a prior release two (2) months after the implementation of the next release. Otherwise, CLEC will be required to move its implementation plan to the next release.

12.2.9.6.1.3 Any IMA application-to-application user that has been placed into production on the prior release not later than two (2) months after the next release implementation may continue certifying additional products and activities until two (2) months prior to the retirement of the release. To be placed into production, the products/order activities must have been tested in the SATE environment before two (2) months after the implementation of the next release.

12.2.9.7 CLEC will be expected to execute the re-certification test cases in the stand alone test environment. CLEC will provide Purchase Order Numbers (PONs) of the successful test cases to CenturyLink.

12.2.9.8 In addition to the testing set forth in other sections of Section 12.2.9, upon request by CLEC, CenturyLink shall enter into negotiations for comprehensive production test procedures. In the event that agreement is not reached, CLEC shall be entitled to employ, at its choice, the Dispute Resolution procedures of this Agreement or expedited resolution through request to the state Commission to resolve any differences. In such cases, CLEC shall be entitled to testing that is reasonably necessary to accommodate identified business plans or operations needs, accounting for any other testing relevant to those plans or needs. As part of the resolution of such dispute, there shall be considered the issue of assigning responsibility for the costs of such testing. Absent a finding that the test scope and activities address issues of common interest to



the CLEC community, the costs shall be assigned to CLEC requesting the test procedures.

## **12.2.10 CLEC Support**

12.2.10.1 CenturyLink shall provide documentation and assistance for CLEC to understand how to implement and use all of the available OSS functions. CenturyLink shall provide to CLEC in writing any internal business rules and other formatting information necessary to ensure that CLEC's requests and orders are processed efficiently. This assistance will include, but is not limited to, contacts to the CLEC account team, training, documentation, and CLEC Help Desk. CenturyLink will also supply CLEC with an escalation level contact list in the event issues are not resolved via contacts to the CLEC account team, training, documentation and CLEC Help Desk.

### **12.2.10.2 CLEC Help Desk**

12.2.10.2.1 The CLEC Systems Help Desk will provide a single point of entry for CLEC to gain assistance in areas involving connectivity, system availability, and file outputs. The CLEC Systems Help Desk areas are further described below.

12.2.10.2.1.1 Connectivity covers trouble with CLEC's access to the CenturyLink system for hardware configuration requirements with relevance to application-to-application and GUI interfaces; software configuration requirements with relevance to application-to-application and GUI interfaces; modem configuration requirements, T1 configuration and dial-in string requirements, firewall access configuration, web-services configuration, SecurID configuration, Profile Setup, and password verification.

12.2.10.2.1.2 System Availability covers system errors generated during an attempt by CLEC to place orders or open trouble reports through application-to-application and GUI interfaces. These system errors are limited to: Resale/POTS; UNE POTS; Design Services and Repair.

12.2.10.2.1.3 File Outputs covers CLEC's output files and reports produced from its usage and order activity. File outputs system errors are limited to: Daily Usage File; Loss / Completion File, CABS Bill, CRIS Summary Bill, Category 11 Report and SAG/FAM Reports.

12.2.10.3 Additional assistance to CLEC is available through various public web sites. These web sites provide electronic interface training information and user documentation and technical specifications and are located on CenturyLink's wholesale web site. CenturyLink will provide Interconnect Service Center Help Desks which will provide a single point of contact for CLEC to gain assistance in areas involving order submission and manual processes.

### **12.2.11 Compensation/Cost Recovery**

Recurring and nonrecurring OSS charges, as applicable, will be billed at rates set forth in Exhibit A. Any such rates will be consistent with Existing Rules. CenturyLink shall not impose any recurring or nonrecurring OSS charges unless and until the Commission authorizes CenturyLink to impose such charges and/or approves applicable rates at the completion of appropriate cost docket proceedings.

## **12.3 Maintenance and Repair**

### **12.3.1 Service Levels**

12.3.1.1 CenturyLink will provide repair and maintenance for all services covered by this Agreement in substantially the same time and manner as that which CenturyLink provides for itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party. CenturyLink shall provide CLEC repair status information in substantially the same time and manner as CenturyLink provides for its retail services.

12.3.1.2 During the term of this Agreement, CenturyLink will provide necessary maintenance business process support to allow CLEC to provide similar service quality to that provided by CenturyLink to itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party.

12.3.1.3 CenturyLink will perform repair service that is substantially the same in timeliness and quality to that which it provides to itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party. Trouble calls from CLEC shall receive response time priority that is substantially the same as that provided to CenturyLink, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party and shall be handled in a nondiscriminatory manner.

### **12.3.2 Branding**

12.3.2.1 CenturyLink shall use unbranded Maintenance and Repair forms while interfacing with CLEC End User Customers. Upon request, CenturyLink shall use CLEC provided and branded Maintenance and Repair forms. CenturyLink may not unreasonably interfere with branding by CLEC.

12.3.2.2 Except as specifically permitted by CLEC, in no event shall CenturyLink provide information to CLEC subscribers about CLEC or CLEC product or services.

12.3.2.3 This section shall confer on CenturyLink no rights to the service marks, trademarks and trade names owned by or used in connection with services offered by CLEC or its Affiliates, except as expressly permitted by CLEC.

### **12.3.3 Service Interruptions**

12.3.3.1 The characteristics and methods of operation of any circuits, facilities or equipment of either Party connected with the services, facilities or equipment of the other Party pursuant to this Agreement shall not: 1) interfere with or impair service over any facilities of the other Party, its affiliated companies, or its connecting and concurring Carriers involved in its services; 2) cause damage to the plant of the other Party, its

affiliated companies, or its connecting concurring Carriers involved in its services; 3) violate any Applicable Law or regulation regarding the invasion of privacy of any communications carried over the Party's facilities; or 4) create hazards to the employees of either Party or to the public. Each of these requirements is hereinafter referred to as an "Impairment of Service."

12.3.3.2 If it is confirmed that either Party is causing an Impairment of Service, as set forth in this Section, the Party whose network or service is being impaired (the "Impaired Party") shall promptly notify the Party causing the Impairment of Service (the "Impairing Party") of the nature and location of the problem. The Impaired Party shall advise the Impairing Party that, unless promptly rectified, a temporary discontinuance of the use of any circuit, facility or equipment may be required. The Impairing Party and the Impaired Party agree to work together to attempt to promptly resolve the Impairment of Service. If the Impairing Party is unable to promptly remedy the Impairment of Service, the Impaired Party may temporarily discontinue use of the affected circuit, facility or equipment.

12.3.3.3 To facilitate trouble reporting and to coordinate the repair of the service provided by each Party to the other under this Agreement, each Party shall designate a repair center for such service.

12.3.3.4 Each Party shall furnish a trouble reporting telephone number for the designated repair center. This number shall give access to the location where records are normally located and where current status reports on any trouble reports are readily available. If necessary, alternative out-of-hours procedures shall be established to ensure access to a location that is staffed and has the authority to initiate corrective action.

12.3.3.5 Before either Party reports a trouble condition, it shall use its best efforts to isolate the trouble to the other's facilities.

12.3.3.5.1 In cases where a trouble condition affects a significant portion of the other's service, the Parties shall assign the same priority provided to CLEC as itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party.

12.3.3.5.2 The Parties shall cooperate in isolating trouble conditions.

#### **12.3.4 Trouble Isolation**

12.3.4.1 CLEC is responsible for its own End User Customer base and will have the responsibility for resolution of any service trouble report(s) from its End User Customers. CLEC will perform trouble isolation on services it provides to its End User Customers to the extent the capability to perform such trouble isolation is available to CLEC, prior to reporting trouble to CenturyLink. CLEC shall have access for testing purposes at the Demarcation Point, NID, or Point of Interface. CenturyLink will work cooperatively with CLEC to resolve trouble reports when the trouble condition has been isolated and found to be within a portion of CenturyLink's network. CenturyLink and CLEC will report trouble isolation test results to the other. Each Party shall be responsible for the costs of performing trouble isolation on its facilities, subject to Sections 12.3.4.2 and 12.3.4.3.

12.3.4.2 When CLEC requests that CenturyLink perform trouble isolation with CLEC, a Maintenance of Service Miscellaneous Charge or a Trouble Isolation charge applies if the trouble is found to be on CLEC's side or on the End User Customer's side of the Demarcation Point. If the trouble is on the End User Customer's side of the Demarcation Point, CLEC is required to perform its own maintenance.

12.3.4.3 Before submitting a repair request to CenturyLink, CLEC will isolate trouble to the CenturyLink network and must submit test results indicating the location of the trouble when submitting the repair request. If a trouble ticket with test results is accepted by CenturyLink, and CenturyLink determines that the trouble is on the CLEC or the End User Customer's side of the Loop Demarcation Point, a Maintenance of Service Miscellaneous Charge or a Trouble Isolation Charge applies. When CLEC elects not to perform trouble isolation and CenturyLink performs tests at CLEC request, a Maintenance of Service Miscellaneous Charge or a Trouble Isolation charge applies if the trouble is not in CenturyLink's facilities, including CenturyLink's facilities leased by CLEC. When trouble is found on CenturyLink's side of the Demarcation Point, or Point of Interface, during the investigation of the initial or repeat trouble report for the same line or circuit within thirty (30) Days, Maintenance of Service Miscellaneous Charges or Trouble Isolation Charges shall not apply.

### **12.3.5 Inside Wire Maintenance**

Except where specifically required by state or federal regulatory mandates, or as may be provided for under Section 6 of this Agreement, CenturyLink will not perform any maintenance of inside wire (premises wiring beyond the End User Customer's Demarcation Point) for CLEC or its End User Customers.

### **12.3.6 Testing/Test Requests/Coordinated Testing/UNEs**

12.3.6.1 Where CLEC does not have the ability to diagnose and isolate trouble on a CenturyLink line, circuit, or service provided in this Agreement that CLEC is utilizing to serve an End User Customer, CenturyLink will conduct testing, to the extent testing capabilities are available to CenturyLink, to diagnose and isolate a trouble in substantially the same time and manner that CenturyLink provides for itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party.

12.3.6.2 Prior to CenturyLink conducting a test on a line, circuit, or service provided in this Agreement that CLEC is utilizing to serve an End User Customer, CenturyLink must receive a trouble report from CLEC.

12.3.6.3 On manually reported trouble for non-designed services, CenturyLink will provide readily available test results to CLEC or test results to CLEC in accordance with any applicable Commission rule for providing test results to End User Customers or CLECs. On manually reported trouble for designed services provided in this Agreement, CenturyLink will provide CLEC test results upon request. For electronically reported trouble, CenturyLink will provide CLEC with the ability to obtain basic test results in substantially the same time and manner that CenturyLink provides for itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party.

12.3.6.4 CLEC shall isolate the trouble condition to CenturyLink's portion of the line, circuit, or service provided in this Agreement before CenturyLink accepts a trouble

report for that line, circuit or service. Once CenturyLink accepts the trouble report from CLEC, CenturyLink shall process the trouble report in substantially the same time and manner as CenturyLink does for itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party.

12.3.6.5 CenturyLink shall test to ensure electrical continuity of all UNEs, including Central Office Demarcation Point, and services it provides to CLEC prior to closing a trouble report.

### **12.3.7 Work Center Interfaces**

12.3.7.1 CenturyLink and CLEC shall work cooperatively to develop positive, close working relationships among corresponding work centers involved in the trouble resolution processes.

### **12.3.8 Misdirected Repair Calls**

12.3.8.1 CLEC and CenturyLink will employ the following procedures for handling misdirected repair calls:

12.3.8.1.1 CLEC and CenturyLink will provide their respective End User Customers with the correct telephone numbers to call for access to their respective repair bureaus.

12.3.8.1.2 End User Customers of CLEC shall be instructed to report all cases of trouble to CLEC. End User Customers of CenturyLink shall be instructed to report all cases of trouble to CenturyLink.

12.3.8.1.3 To the extent the correct provider can be determined, misdirected repair calls will be referred to the proper provider of Basic Exchange Telecommunications Service; however, nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to prohibit CenturyLink or CLEC from discussing its products and services with CLEC's or CenturyLink's End User Customers who call the other Party seeking such information.

12.3.8.1.4 CLEC and CenturyLink will provide their respective repair contact numbers to one another on a reciprocal basis.

12.3.8.1.5 In responding to repair calls, CLEC's End User Customers contacting CenturyLink in error will be instructed to contact CLEC; and CenturyLink's End User Customers contacting CLEC in error will be instructed to contact CenturyLink. In responding to calls, neither Party shall make disparaging remarks about each other. To the extent the correct provider can be determined, misdirected calls received by either Party will be referred to the proper provider of local Exchange Service; however, nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to prohibit CenturyLink or CLEC from discussing its products and services with CLEC's or CenturyLink's End User Customers who call the other Party seeking such information.

### **12.3.9 Major Outages/Restoral/Notification**

12.3.9.1 CenturyLink will notify CLEC of major network outages in substantially the same time and manner as it provides itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party. This notification will be via e-mail to CLEC's identified contact. With the minor exception of certain Proprietary Information such as Customer information, CenturyLink will utilize the same thresholds and processes for external notification as it does for internal purposes. This major outage information will be sent via e-mail on the same schedule as is provided internally within CenturyLink. The email notification schedule shall consist of initial report of abnormal condition and estimated restoration time/date, abnormal condition updates, and final disposition. Service restoration will be non-discriminatory, and will be accomplished as quickly as possible according to CenturyLink and/or industry standards.

12.3.9.2 CenturyLink will meet with associated personnel from CLEC to share contact information and review CenturyLink's outage restoral processes and notification processes.

12.3.9.3 CenturyLink's emergency restoration process operates on a 7X24 basis.

### **12.3.10 Protective Maintenance**

12.3.10.1 CenturyLink will perform scheduled maintenance of substantially the same type and quality to that which it provides to itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party.

12.3.10.2 CenturyLink will work cooperatively with CLEC to develop industry-wide processes to provide as much notice as possible to CLEC of pending maintenance activity. CenturyLink shall provide notice of potentially CLEC Customer impacting maintenance activity, to the extent CenturyLink can determine such impact, and negotiate mutually agreeable dates with CLEC in substantially the same time and manner as it does for itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party.

12.3.10.3 CenturyLink shall advise CLEC of non-scheduled maintenance, testing, monitoring, and surveillance activity to be performed by CenturyLink on any services, including, to the extent CenturyLink can determine, any hardware, equipment, software, or system providing service functionality which may potentially impact CLEC and/or CLEC End User Customers. CenturyLink shall provide the maximum advance notice of such non-scheduled maintenance and testing activity possible, under the circumstances; provided, however, that CenturyLink shall provide emergency maintenance as promptly as possible to maintain or restore service and shall advise CLEC promptly of any such actions it takes.

### **12.3.11 Hours of Coverage**

12.3.11.1 CenturyLink's repair operation is seven (7) Days a week, twenty-four (24) hours a day. Not all functions or locations are covered with scheduled employees on a 7X24 basis. Where such 7X24 coverage is not available, CenturyLink's repair operations center (always available 7X24) can call-out technicians or other personnel required for the identified situation.

**12.3.12 Escalations**

12.3.12.1 CenturyLink will provide trouble escalation procedures to CLEC. Such procedures will be substantially the same type and quality as CenturyLink employs for itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party. CenturyLink escalations are manual processes.

12.3.12.2 CenturyLink repair escalations may be initiated by either calling the trouble reporting center or through the electronic interfaces. Escalations sequence through five tiers: tester, duty supervisor, manager, director, vice president. The first escalation point is the tester. CLEC may request escalation to higher tiers in its sole discretion. Escalations status is available through telephone and the electronic interfaces. Electronic escalation is not available for non-designed products.

12.3.12.3 CenturyLink shall handle chronic troubles on non-designed services, which are those greater than three (3) troubles in a rolling thirty (30) Day period, pursuant to Section 12.2.2.1.

**12.3.13 Dispatch**

12.3.13.1 CenturyLink will provide maintenance dispatch personnel in substantially the same time and manner as it provides for itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party.

12.3.13.2 Upon the acceptance of a complete and accurate trouble report from CLEC, CenturyLink will follow internal processes and industry standards, to resolve the repair condition. CenturyLink will dispatch repair personnel on occasion to repair the condition. It will be CenturyLink's decision whether or not to send a technician out on a dispatch. CenturyLink reserves the right to make this dispatch decision based on the best information available to it in the trouble resolution process. It is not always necessary to dispatch to resolve trouble; should CLEC require a dispatch when CenturyLink believes the dispatch is not necessary, appropriate Miscellaneous Charges for dispatch will be billed by CenturyLink to CLEC if CenturyLink can demonstrate that the dispatch was in fact unnecessary to the clearance of trouble or the trouble is identified to be caused by CLEC facilities or equipment.

12.3.13.3 For POTS lines and designed service circuits, CenturyLink is responsible for all Maintenance and Repair of the line or circuit and will make the determination to dispatch to locations other than the CLEC Customer premises without prior CLEC authorization. For dispatch to the CLEC Customer premises CenturyLink shall obtain prior CLEC authorization with the exception of major outage restoration, cable rearrangements, and MTE terminal maintenance/replacement.

**12.3.14 Trouble Reporting**

12.3.14.1 CLEC may submit trouble reports through the Electronic Bonding or GUI interfaces provided by CenturyLink. Trouble tickets created electronically in CEMR may be viewed at any time after creation.

12.3.14.2 Manually reported trouble tickets may be accessed by CLEC through electronic interfaces when the ticket has been closed. CLEC will only be able to view

the history on the account.

#### **12.3.15 Intervals/Parity**

12.3.15.1 Similar trouble conditions, whether reported on behalf of CenturyLink End User Customers or on behalf of CLEC End User Customers, will receive commitment intervals in substantially the same time and manner as CenturyLink provides for itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party.

#### **12.3.16 Jeopardy Management**

12.3.16.1 CenturyLink will notify CLEC, in substantially the same time and manner as CenturyLink provides this information to itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party, that a trouble report commitment (appointment or interval) has been or is likely to be missed. At CLEC option, notification may be sent by email or fax through the electronic interface. CLEC may telephone CenturyLink repair center or use the electronic interfaces to obtain jeopardy status. A jeopardy, caused by either CLEC or CenturyLink, endangers completing provisioning and/or installation processes and impacts meeting the schedule due date of CLEC's service request. When CLEC's service request is in jeopardy, CenturyLink notifies CLEC via a status update, email, jeopardy notification, telephone call, and/or FOC (Firm Order Confirmation). The purpose of the jeopardy notification is to identify jeopardy conditions to CLEC that impact meeting the scheduled due date of CLEC's service requests.

#### **12.3.17 Trouble Screening**

12.3.17.1 CLEC shall screen and test its End User Customer trouble reports completely enough to insure, to the extent possible, that it sends to CenturyLink only trouble reports that involve CenturyLink facilities. For services and facilities where the capability to test all or portions of the CenturyLink network service or facility rest with CenturyLink, CenturyLink will perform test isolation and test the service and facility on behalf of CLEC.

#### **12.3.18 Maintenance Standards**

12.3.18.1 CenturyLink will cooperate with CLEC to meet the maintenance standards outlined in this Agreement.

12.3.18.2 On manually reported trouble, CenturyLink will inform CLEC of repair completion in substantially the same time and manner as CenturyLink provides to itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party. On electronically reported trouble reports the electronic system will automatically update status information, including trouble completion, across the joint electronic gateway as the status changes.

#### **12.3.19 End User Customer Interface Responsibilities**

12.3.19.1 CLEC will be responsible for all interactions with its End User Customers including service call handling and notifying its End User Customers of trouble status and resolution.

12.3.19.2 All CenturyLink employees who perform repair service for CLEC End



User Customers will be trained in non-discriminatory behavior.

12.3.19.3 CenturyLink will recognize the designated CLEC/DLEC as the Customer of Record for all services ordered by CLEC/DLEC and will send all notices, invoices and pertinent information directly to CLEC/DLEC. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Agreement, Customer of Record shall be CenturyLink's single and sole point of contact for all CLEC/DLEC End User Customers.

### **12.3.20 Repair Call Handling**

12.3.20.1 Manually-reported repair calls by CLEC to CenturyLink will be answered with the same quality and speed as CenturyLink answers calls from its own End User Customers.

### **12.3.21 Single Point of Contact**

12.3.21.1 CenturyLink will provide a single point of contact for CLEC to report maintenance issues and trouble reports seven (7) Days a week, twenty-four (24) hours a day. A single 7X24 trouble reporting telephone number will be provided to CLEC for each category of trouble situation being encountered.

### **12.3.22 Network Information**

12.3.22.1 CenturyLink will notify CLEC of changes to its network or LERG amendments in accordance with the FCC rules, in substantially the same manner and timeframe as CenturyLink makes such network information available for itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party. .

### **12.3.23 Maintenance Windows**

12.3.23.1 Generally, CenturyLink performs major Switch maintenance activities off-hours, during certain "maintenance windows." Major Switch maintenance activities include Switch conversions, Switch generic upgrades and Switch equipment additions.

12.3.23.2 Generally, the maintenance window is between 10:00 p.m. through 6:00 a.m. Monday through Friday, and Saturday 10:00 p.m. through Monday 6:00 a.m., Mountain Time. Although CenturyLink normally does major Switch maintenance during the above maintenance window, there will be occasions where this will not be possible. CenturyLink will provide notification of any and all maintenance activities that may impact CLEC ordering practices such as embargoes, moratoriums, and quiet periods in substantially the same time and manner as CenturyLink provides this information to itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party.

### **12.3.24 Switch and Frame Conversion Service Order Practices**

12.3.24.1 Switch Conversions. Switch conversion activity generally consists of the removal of one Switch and its replacement with another. Generic Switch software or hardware upgrades, the addition of Switch line and trunk connection hardware and the addition of capacity to a Switch do not constitute Switch conversions.

12.3.24.2 Frame Conversions. Frame conversions are generally the removal and

replacement of one or more frames, upon which the Switch Ports terminate.

12.3.24.3 Conversion Date. The "Conversion Date" is a Switch or frame conversion planned day of cut-over to the replacement frame(s) or Switch. The actual conversion time typically is set for midnight of the Conversion Date. This may cause the actual Conversion Date to migrate into the early hours of the day after the planned Conversion Date.

12.3.24.4 Conversion Embargoes. A Switch or frame conversion embargo is the time period that the Switch or frame Trunk Side facility connections are frozen to facilitate conversion from one Switch or frame to another with minimal disruption to the End User Customer or CLEC services. During the embargo period, CenturyLink will reject orders for Trunk Side facilities (see Section 12.3.24.4.1) other than conversion orders described in Section 12.3.24.4.3. Notwithstanding the foregoing and to the extent CenturyLink provisions trunk or trunk facility related service orders for itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party during embargoes, CenturyLink shall provide CLEC the same capabilities.

12.3.24.4.1 ASRs for Switch or frame Trunk Side facility augments to capacity or changes to Switch or frame Trunk Side facilities must be issued by CLEC with a Due Date prior to or after the appropriate embargo interval. CenturyLink shall reject Switch or frame Trunk Side ASRs to augment capacity or change facilities issued by CLEC or CenturyLink, its End User Customers, its Affiliates or any other party during the embargo period, regardless of the order's Due Date except for conversion ASRs described in Section 12.3.24.4.3.

12.3.24.4.2 For Switch and Trunk Side frame conversions, CenturyLink shall provide CLEC with conversion trunk group service requests (TGSR) no less than ninety (90) Days before the Conversion Date.

12.3.24.4.3 For Switch and Trunk Side frame conversions, CLEC shall issue facility conversion ASRs to CenturyLink no later than thirty (30) Days before the Conversion Date for like-for-like, where CLEC mirrors their existing circuit design from the old Switch or frame to the new Switch or frame, and sixty (60) Days before the Conversion Date for addition of trunk capacity or modification of circuit characteristics (i.e., change of AML to B8ZS).

12.3.24.5 Frame Embargo Period. During frame conversions, service orders and ASRs shall be subject to an embargo period for services and facilities connected to the affected frame. For conversion of trunks where CLEC mirrors their existing circuit design from the old frame to the new frame on a like-for-like basis, such embargo period shall extend from thirty (30) Days prior to the Conversion Date until five (5) Days after the Conversion Date. If CLEC requests the addition of trunk capacity or modification of circuit characteristics (i.e., change of AML to B8ZS) to the new frame, new facility ASRs shall be placed, and the embargo period shall extend from sixty (60) Days prior to the Conversion Date until five (5) Days after the Conversion Date. Prior to instituting an embargo period, CenturyLink shall identify the particular dates and locations for frame conversion embargo periods in substantially the same time and manner as CenturyLink notifies itself, its End User Customers, Affiliates, or any other party.

12.3.24.6 Switch Embargo Period. During Switch conversions, service orders and

ASRs shall be subject to an embargo period for services and facilities associated with the Trunk Side of the Switch. For conversion of trunks where CLEC mirrors their existing circuit design from the old Switch to the new Switch on a like-for-like basis, such embargo period shall extend from thirty (30) Days prior to the Conversion Date until five (5) Days after the Conversion Date. If CLEC requests the addition of trunk capacity or modification of circuit characteristics to the new Switch, new facility ASRs shall be placed, and the embargo period shall extend from sixty (60) Days prior to the Conversion Date until five (5) Days after the Conversion Date. Prior to instituting an embargo period, CenturyLink shall identify the particular dates and locations for Switch conversion embargo periods in substantially the same time and manner as CenturyLink notifies itself, its End User Customers, Affiliates, or any other party.

**12.3.24.7 Switch and Frame Conversion Quiet Periods for LSRs.** Switch and frame conversion quiet periods are the time period within which LSRs may not contain Due Dates, with the exception of LSRs that result in disconnect orders, including those related to LNP orders, record orders, Billing change orders for non-switched products, and emergency orders.

**12.3.24.7.1** LSRs of any kind issued during Switch or frame conversion quiet periods create the potential for loss of End User Customer service due to manual operational processes caused by the Switch or frame conversion. LSRs of any kind issued during the Switch or frame conversion quiet periods will be handled as set forth below, with the understanding that CenturyLink shall use its best efforts to avoid the loss of End User Customer service. Such best efforts shall be substantially the same time and manner as CenturyLink uses for itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party.

**12.3.24.7.2** The quiet period for Switch conversions, where no LSRs except those requesting order activity described in 12.3.24.7 are processed for the affected location, extends from five (5) Days prior to conversion until two (2) Days after the conversion.

**12.3.24.7.3** The quiet period for frame conversions, where no LSRs except those requesting order activity described in 12.3.24.7 are processed or the affected location, extends from five (5) Days prior to conversion until two (2) Days after the conversion.

**12.3.24.7.4** LSRs, except those requesting order activity described in 12.3.24.7, (i) must be issued with a Due Date prior to or after the conversion quiet period and (ii) may not be issued during the quiet period. LSRs that do not meet these requirements will be rejected by CenturyLink.

**12.3.24.7.5** LSRs requesting disconnect activity issued during the quiet period, regardless of requested Due Date, will be processed after the quiet period expires.

**12.3.24.7.6** CLEC may request a Due Date change to a LNP related disconnect scheduled during quiet periods up to 12:00 noon Mountain Time the Day prior to the scheduled LSR Due Date. Such changes shall be requested by issuing a supplemental LSR requesting a Due Date change. Such changes shall be handled as emergency orders by CenturyLink.

12.3.24.7.7 CLEC may request a Due Date change to a LNP related disconnect order scheduled during quiet periods after 12:00 noon Mountain Time the Day prior to the scheduled LSR Due Date until 12 noon Mountain Time the Day after the scheduled LSR Due Date. Such changes shall be requested by issuing a supplemental LSR requesting a Due Date change and contacting the Interconnect Service Center. Such changes shall be handled as emergency orders by CenturyLink.

12.3.24.7.8 In the event that CLEC End User Customer service is disconnected in error, CenturyLink will restore service in substantially the same time and manner as CenturyLink does for itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, or any other party. Restoration of CLEC End User Customer service will be handled through the LNP escalations process.

12.3.24.8 Switch Upgrades. Generic Switch software and hardware upgrades are not subject to the Switch conversion embargoes or quiet periods described above. If such generic Switch or software upgrades require significant activity related to translations, an abbreviated embargo and/or quiet period may be required. CenturyLink shall implement service order embargoes and/or quiet periods during Switch upgrades in substantially the same time and manner as CenturyLink does for itself, its End User Customers, its Affiliates, and any other party.

12.3.24.9 Switch Line and Trunk Hardware Additions. CenturyLink shall use its best efforts to minimize CLEC service order impacts due to hardware additions and modifications to CenturyLink's existing Switches. CenturyLink shall provide CLEC substantially the same service order processing capabilities as CenturyLink provides itself, its End User Customers, Affiliates, or any other party during such Switch hardware additions.

**Section 13.0 - ACCESS TO TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

13.1 Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed in any manner to limit or otherwise adversely impact either Party's right to request an assignment of any NANP number resources including, but not limited to, Central Office (NXX) Codes pursuant to the Central Office Code Assignment Guidelines published by the Industry Numbering Committee (INC) as INC 95-0407-008 (formerly ICCF 93-0729-010) and Thousand Block (NXX-X) Pooling Administration Guidelines INC 99-0127-023, when these Guidelines are implemented by the FCC or Commission Order. The latest version of the Guidelines will be considered the current standard.

13.2 North American Numbering Plan Administration (NANPA) has transitioned to NeuStar. Both Parties agree to comply with industry guidelines and Commission rules, including those sections requiring the accurate reporting of data to the NANPA.

13.3 It shall be the responsibility of each Party to program and update its own Switches and network systems pursuant to the Local Exchange Routing Guide (LERG) to recognize and route traffic to the other Party's assigned NXX or NXX-X codes. Neither Party shall impose any fees or charges on the other Party for such activities. The Parties will cooperate to establish procedures to ensure the timely activation of NXX assignments in their respective networks.

13.4 Each Party is responsible for administering numbering resources assigned to it. Each Party will cooperate to timely rectify inaccuracies in its LERG data. Each Party will maintain/revise the LERG to reflect current homing arrangements, which includes subtending arrangements for local and access tandems. Each Party is responsible for updating the LERG data for NXX codes assigned to its End Office Switches. Each Party shall use the LERG published by Telcordia or its successor for obtaining routing information and shall provide through an authorized LERG input agent, all required information regarding its network for maintaining the LERG in a timely manner.

13.5 Each Party shall be responsible for notifying its End User Customers of any changes in numbering or dialing arrangements to include changes such as the introduction of new NPAs.

**Section 14.0 - LOCAL DIALING PARITY**

14.1 The Parties shall provide local Dialing Parity to each other as required under Section 251(b)(3) of the Act. CenturyLink will provide local Dialing Parity to competing providers of Telephone Exchange Service and telephone toll service, and will permit all such providers to have non-discriminatory access to telephone numbers, operator services, Directory Assistance, and Directory Listings, with no unreasonable dialing delays. CLEC may elect to route all of its End User Customers' calls in the same manner as CenturyLink routes its End User Customers' calls, for a given call type (e.g., 0, 0+, 1+, 411).

**Section 15.0 - CENTURYLINK'S OFFICIAL DIRECTORY PUBLISHER**

15.1 CenturyLink and CLEC agree that certain issues outside the provision of basic white page Directory Listings, such as yellow pages advertising, yellow pages Listings, directory coverage, access to call guide pages (phone service pages), applicable Listings criteria, white page enhancements and publication schedules will be the subject of negotiations between CLEC and directory publishers, including CenturyLink's Official Directory Publisher. CenturyLink acknowledges that CLEC may request CenturyLink to facilitate discussions between CLEC and CenturyLink's Official Directory Publisher.

**Section 16.0 - REFERRAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

16.1 When an End User Customer changes from CenturyLink to CLEC, or from CLEC to CenturyLink, and does not retain its original main/listed telephone number, the Party formerly providing service to the End User Customer will provide a transfer of service announcement on the abandoned telephone number. Each Party will provide this referral service consistent with its tariff. This announcement will provide details on the new number that must be dialed to reach the End User Customer.



**Section 17.0 - BONA FIDE REQUEST PROCESS**

17.1 Any request for Interconnection or access to an Unbundled Network Element or ancillary service that is not already available as described in other sections of this Agreement, including but not limited to Exhibit F or any other interconnection agreement, Tariff or otherwise defined by CenturyLink as a product or service shall be treated as a Bona Fide Request (BFR). CenturyLink shall use the BFR Process to determine the terms and timetable for providing the requested Interconnection, access to UNEs or ancillary services, and the technical feasibility of new/different points of Interconnection. CenturyLink will administer the BFR Process in a non-discriminatory manner.

17.2 A BFR shall be submitted in writing and on the appropriate CenturyLink form for BFRs. CLEC and CenturyLink may work together to prepare the BFR form and either Party may request that such coordination be handled on an expedited basis. This form shall be accompanied by the processing fee specified in Exhibit A of this Agreement. CenturyLink will refund one-half (1/2) of the processing fee if the BFR is cancelled within ten (10) business days of the receipt of the BFR form. The form will request, and CLEC will need to provide, the following information, and may also provide any additional information that may be reasonably necessary in describing and analyzing CLEC's request:

17.2.1 a technical description of each requested Network Element or new/different points of Interconnection or ancillary services;

17.2.2 the desired interface specification;

17.2.3 each requested type of Interconnection or access;

17.2.4 a statement that the Interconnection or Network Element or ancillary service will be used to provide a Telecommunications Service;

17.2.5 the quantity requested; and

17.2.6 the specific location requested.

17.3 Within two (2) business days of its receipt, CenturyLink shall acknowledge receipt of the BFR and in such acknowledgment advise CLEC of missing information, if any, necessary to process the BFR. Thereafter, CenturyLink shall promptly advise CLEC of the need for any additional information required to complete the analysis of the BFR. If requested, either orally or in writing, CenturyLink will provide weekly updates on the status of the BFR.

17.4 Within twenty-one (21) Days of its receipt of the BFR and all information necessary to process it, CenturyLink shall provide to CLEC an analysis of the BFR. The analysis shall specify CenturyLink's conclusions as to whether or not the requested Interconnection or access to an Unbundled Network Element complies with the unbundling requirements of the Act or state law.

17.5 If CenturyLink determines during the twenty-one (21) Day period that a BFR does not qualify as an Unbundled Network Element or Interconnection or ancillary service that is required to be provided under the Act or state law, CenturyLink shall advise CLEC as soon as reasonably possible of that fact, and CenturyLink shall promptly, but in no case later than the twenty-one (21) Day period, provide a written report setting forth the basis for its conclusion.

17.6 If CenturyLink determines during such twenty-one (21) Day period that the BFR qualifies under the Act or state law, it shall notify CLEC in writing of such determination within ten (10) Days, but in no case later than the end of such twenty-one (21) Day period.

17.7 As soon as feasible, but in any case within forty-five (45) Days after CenturyLink notifies CLEC that the BFR qualifies under the Act, CenturyLink shall provide to CLEC a BFR quotation. The BFR quotation will include, at a minimum, a description of each Interconnection, Network Element, and ancillary service, the quantity to be provided, any interface specifications, and the applicable rates (recurring and nonrecurring) including the separately stated development costs and construction charges of the Interconnection, Unbundled Network Element or ancillary service and any minimum volume and term commitments required, and the timeframes the request will be provisioned.

17.8 CLEC has sixty (60) business days upon receipt of the BFR quotation, to either agree to purchase under the quoted price, or cancel its BFR.

17.9 If CLEC has agreed to minimum volume and term commitments under the preceding paragraph, CLEC may cancel the BFR or volume and term commitment at any time, but may be subject to termination liability assessment or minimum period charges.

17.10 If either Party believes that the other Party is not requesting, negotiating or processing any BFR in good faith, or disputes a determination or quoted price or cost, it may invoke the Dispute Resolution provision of this Agreement.

17.11 All time intervals within which a response is required from one Party to another under this Section are maximum time intervals. Each Party agrees that it will provide all responses to the other Party as soon as the Party has the information and analysis required to respond, even if the time interval stated herein for a response is not over.

17.12 In the event CLEC has submitted a request for Interconnection, Unbundled Network Elements or any combinations thereof, or ancillary services and CenturyLink determines in accordance with the provisions of this Section 17 that the request is Technically Feasible, subsequent requests or orders for substantially similar types of Interconnection, Unbundled Network Elements or combinations thereof or ancillary services by CLEC shall not be subject to the BFR process. To the extent CenturyLink has deployed or denied a substantially similar Interconnection, Unbundled Network Elements or combinations thereof or ancillary services under a previous BFR, a subsequent BFR shall not be required and the BFR application fee shall be refunded immediately. CenturyLink may only require CLEC to complete a New Product Questionnaire before ordering such Interconnection, Unbundled Network Elements or combinations thereof, or ancillary services. ICB pricing and intervals will still apply for requests that are not yet standard offerings. For purposes of this Section 17.12, a "substantially similar" request shall be one with substantially similar characteristics to a previous request with respect to the information provided pursuant to Subsections 17.2.1 through 17.2.8 of Section 17.2 above. The burden of proof is upon CenturyLink to prove the BFR is not substantially similar to a previous BFR.

17.13 The total cost charged to CLEC shall not exceed the BFR quoted price.

17.14 Upon request, CenturyLink shall provide CLEC with CenturyLink's supporting cost data and/or studies for the Interconnection, Unbundled Network Element or ancillary service that CLEC wishes to order within seven (7) business days, except where CenturyLink cannot obtain

a release from its vendors within seven (7) business days, in which case CenturyLink will make the data available as soon as CenturyLink receives the vendor release. Such cost data shall be treated as Confidential Information, if requested by CenturyLink under the non-disclosure sections of this Agreement.

17.15 CenturyLink will provide notice to CLECs of all BFRs which have been deployed or denied, provided, however, that identifying information such as the name of the requesting CLEC and the location of the request shall be removed. CenturyLink shall make available a topical list of the BFRs that it has received from CLECs. The description of each item on that list shall be sufficient to allow CLEC to understand the general nature of the product, service, or combination thereof that has been requested and a summary of the disposition of the request as soon as it is made. CenturyLink shall also be required upon the request of CLEC to provide sufficient details about the terms and conditions of any granted requests to allow CLEC to take the same offering under substantially identical circumstances. CenturyLink shall not be required to provide information about the request initially made by CLEC whose BFR was granted, but must make available the same kinds of information about what it offered in response to the BFR as it does for other products or services available under this Agreement. CLEC shall be entitled to the same offering terms and conditions made under any granted BFR, provided that CenturyLink may require the use of ICB pricing where it makes a demonstration to CLEC of the need therefore.

**Section 18.0 - AUDIT PROCESS**

18.1 Nothing in this Section 18 shall limit or expand the Audit provisions in the Performance Assurance Plan (PAP). Nothing in the PAP shall limit or expand the Audit provisions in this Section 18. For purposes of this section the following definitions shall apply:

18.1.1 "Audit" shall mean the comprehensive review of the books, records, and other documents used in providing services under this Agreement. The term "Audit" also applies to the investigation of company records, back office systems and databases pertaining to Loop information.

18.1.2 "Examination" shall mean an inquiry into a specific element or process related to the above. Commencing on the Effective Date of this Agreement, either Party may perform Examinations as either Party deems necessary.

18.2 This Audit shall take place under the following conditions:

18.2.1 Either Party may request to perform an Audit or Examination.

18.2.2 The Audit or Examination shall occur upon thirty (30) business days written notice by the requesting Party to the non-requesting Party.

18.2.3 The Audit or Examination shall occur during normal business hours. However, such Audit will be conducted in a commercially reasonable manner and both Parties will work to minimize disruption to the business operations of the Party being audited.

18.2.4 There shall be no more than two (2) Audits requested by each Party under this Agreement in any twelve (12) month period. Either Party may audit the other Party's books, records and documents more frequently than twice in any twelve (12) month period (but no more than once in each quarter) if the immediately preceding audit found previously uncorrected net variances, inaccuracies or errors in invoices in the audited Party's favor with an aggregate value of at least two percent (2%) of the amounts payable for the affected services during the period covered by the Audit.

18.2.5 The requesting Party may review the non-requesting Party's records, books and documents, as may reasonably contain information relevant to the operation of this Agreement.

18.2.6 The location of the Audit or Examination shall be the location where the requested records, books and documents are retained in the normal course of business.

18.2.7 All transactions under this Agreement which are over twenty-four (24) months prior to the date of request will be considered accepted and no longer subject to Audit. In the event an audit is initiated, the Parties agree to retain records of all transactions under this Agreement for at least twenty-four (24) months and all subsequent transactions will also be subject to audit.

18.2.8 Audit or Examination Expenses

18.2.8.1 Each Party shall bear its own expenses in connection with

conduct of the Audit or Examination. The requesting Party will pay for the reasonable cost of special data extractions required by the Party to conduct the Audit or Examination. For purposes of this section, a "Special Data Extraction" means the creation of an output record or informational report (from existing data files) that is not created in the normal course of business. If any program is developed to the requesting Party's specification and at that Party's expense, the requesting Party will specify at the time of request whether the program is to be retained by the other Party for reuse for any subsequent Audit or Examination.

18.2.8.2 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the non-requesting Party shall pay all of the requesting Party's commercially reasonable expenses in the event an Audit or Examination identifies a difference between the amount billed and the amount determined by the Audit that exceeds five percent (5%) of the amount billed and results in a refund and/or reduction in the Billing to the requesting Party.

18.2.9 The Party requesting the Audit may request that an Audit be conducted by a mutually agreed-to independent auditor, which agreement will not be unreasonably withheld or delayed by the non-requesting Party. Under this circumstance, the costs of the independent auditor shall be paid for by the Party requesting the Audit subject to Section 18.2.8.2.

18.2.10 In the event that the non-requesting Party requests that the Audit be performed by an independent auditor, the Parties shall mutually agree to the selection of the independent auditor. Under this circumstance, the costs of the independent auditor shall be shared equally by the Parties. The portion of this expense borne by the requesting Party shall be borne by the non-requesting Party if the terms of Section 18.2.8.2 are satisfied.

18.2.11 Adjustments, credits or payments will be made and any corrective action must commence within thirty (30) Days after the Parties' receipt of the final Audit report to compensate for any errors and omissions which are disclosed by such Audit or Examination and are agreed to by the Parties. The interest rate payable shall be in accordance with Commission requirements. In the event that any of the following circumstances occur within thirty (30) business days after completion of the Audit or Examination, they may be resolved at either Party's election, pursuant to the Dispute Resolution Process; (i) errors detected by the Audit or Examination have not been corrected; (ii) adjustments, credits or payments due as a result of the Audit or Examination have not been made, or (iii) a dispute has arisen concerning the Audit or Examination.

18.2.12 Neither the right to examine and Audit nor the right to receive an adjustment will be affected by any statement to the contrary appearing on checks or otherwise.

18.2.13 This Section will survive expiration or termination of this Agreement for a period of two (2) years after expiration or termination of the Agreement.

18.3 All information received or reviewed by the requesting Party or the independent auditor in connection with the Audit is to be considered Proprietary Information as defined by this Agreement in Section 5.16. The non-requesting Party reserves the right to require any non-

employee who is involved directly or indirectly in any Audit or the resolution of its findings as described above to execute a nondisclosure agreement satisfactory to the non-requesting Party. To the extent an Audit involves access to information of other competitors, CLEC and CenturyLink will aggregate such competitors' data before release to the other Party, to insure the protection of the proprietary nature of information of other competitors. To the extent a competitor is an Affiliate of the Party being audited (including itself and its subsidiaries), the Parties shall be allowed to examine such Affiliate's disaggregated data, as required by reasonable needs of the Audit. Information provided in an Audit or Examination may only be reviewed by individuals with a need to know such information for purposes of this Section 18 and who are bound by the nondisclosure obligations set forth in Section 5.16. In no case shall the Confidential Information be shared with the Parties' retail marketing, sales or strategic planning.

18.3.1 Either Party may request an Audit of the other's compliance with this Agreement's measures and requirements applicable to limitations on the distribution, maintenance, and use of proprietary or other protected information that the requesting Party has provided to the other. Those Audits shall not take place more frequently than once in every three (3) years, unless cause is shown to support a specifically requested Audit that would otherwise violate this frequency restriction. Examinations will not be permitted in connection with investigating or testing such compliance. All those other provisions of this Section 18 that are not inconsistent herewith shall apply, except that in the case of these Audits, the Party to be audited may also request the use of an independent auditor.

**Section 19.0 - CONSTRUCTION CHARGES**

19.1 All rates, charges and initial service periods specified in this Agreement contemplate the provision of network Interconnection services and access to Unbundled Loops or ancillary services to the extent existing facilities are available. Except for modifications to existing facilities necessary to accommodate Interconnection and access to Unbundled Loops or ancillary services specifically provided for in this Agreement, CenturyLink will consider requests to build additional or further facilities for network Interconnection and access to Unbundled Loops or ancillary services, as described in the applicable section of this Agreement.

19.2 All necessary construction will be undertaken at the discretion of CenturyLink, consistent with budgetary responsibilities, consideration for the impact on the general body of End User Customers and without discrimination among the various Carriers.

19.3 A quotation for CLEC's portion of a specific job will be provided to CLEC. The quotation will be in writing and will be binding for ninety (90) business days after the issue date. When accepted, CLEC will be billed the quoted price and construction will commence after receipt of payment. If CLEC chooses not to have CenturyLink construct the facilities, CenturyLink reserves the right to bill CLEC for the expense incurred for producing the engineered job design.

19.4 In the event a construction charge is applicable, CLEC's service Application Date will become the date upon which CenturyLink receives the required payment.

## **Section 20.0 - SERVICE PERFORMANCE**

20.1 Performance Indicator Definitions (PIDs), in their current form are included in Exhibit B of this Agreement. Subsequent changes to these PIDs submitted to the Commission shall be incorporated into Exhibit B as soon as they are effective either by operation of law or Commission order, whichever occurs first and without further Amendment to this Agreement.



**Section 21.0 - NETWORK STANDARDS**

21.1 The Parties recognize that CenturyLink services and Network Elements have been purchased and deployed, over time, consistent with Telcordia and CenturyLink technical standards. Specification of standards is built into the CenturyLink purchasing process, whereby vendors incorporate such standards into the equipment CenturyLink purchases. CenturyLink supplements generally held industry standards with CenturyLink Technical Publications.

21.2 The Parties recognize that equipment vendors may manufacture Telecommunications equipment that does not fully incorporate and may differ from industry standards at varying points in time (due to standards development processes and consensus) and either Party may have such equipment in place within its network. Except where otherwise explicitly stated within this Agreement, such equipment is acceptable to the Parties, provided said equipment does not pose a security, service or safety hazard to Persons or property.

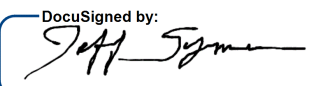
21.3 Intentionally Left Blank

21.4 CenturyLink has developed its own standards for some Network Elements. Details of these standards are documented in the CenturyLink Technical Publications. CenturyLink Technical Publications have been developed to support CenturyLink service offerings, inform End User Customers and suppliers, and promote engineering consistency and CenturyLink's deployment of developing technologies. CenturyLink provides all of its Technical Publications at no charge via CenturyLink's wholesale web site.

**Section 22.0 - SIGNATURE PAGE**

By signing below, and in consideration of the mutual promises set forth herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the Parties agree to abide by the terms and conditions set forth in this Interconnection Agreement.

**Valley Communications, Inc.  
dba Valley FiberCom**

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Symens  
Name Printed/Typed

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CEO/GM  
Title  
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10/26/2018  
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Date

**Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC**

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Signature

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Kimberly J. Povirk  
Name Printed/Typed

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Director Sales Support  
Title  
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10/26/2018  
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Date