

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE UNBUNDLING AND RESALE)
REQUIREMENTS AMENDMENT TO THE)
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN QWEST)
CORPORATION DBA CENTURYLINK QC AND LEVEL 3)
COMMUNICATIONS, LLC)
)**

**ORDER APPROVING
REPLACEMENT AMENDMENT
TO INTERCONNECTION
AGREEMENT**

TC21-013

On March 31, 2021, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252 for approval of the FCC Modernizing Unbundling and Resale Requirements Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC (CenturyLink) and Level 3 Communications, LLC (Amendment). The Amendment incorporates forbearance orders FCC 19-66 and FCC 19-72, which were released by the Federal Communications Commission in 2019.

On April 1, 2021, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing of the Amendment to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. The notice stated that initial comments were due April 20, 2021. No comments were filed. On May 5, 2021, the Commission issued an Order Approving Amendment to Interconnection Agreement. On July 13, 2021, CenturyLink filed a letter regarding a Replacement Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-31 and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of August 3, 2021, the Commission considered whether to approve the negotiated Replacement Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between CenturyLink and Level 3 Communications, LLC. Commission staff recommended approval.

In accordance with 47 U.S.C § 252(e)(2)(A), the Commission found that the Replacement Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier that is not a party to the Replacement Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement and the Replacement Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. The Commission unanimously voted to approve the Replacement Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the FCC Modernizing Unbundling and Resale Requirements Replacement Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between CenturyLink and Level 3 Communications, LLC is hereby approved.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 5th day of August 2021.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically or by mail.
By: <u>Karen E. Bremer</u>
Date: <u>08/05/21</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner