

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPROVAL OF AN)
UNBUNDLED NETWORK ELEMENTS (UNES) –)
RESALE FORBEARANCE AMENDMENT TO THE)
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN QWEST)
CORPORATION DBA CENTURYLINK QC AND CLEAR)
RATE COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR THE STATE OF)
SOUTH DAKOTA)

**ORDER APPROVING
AMENDMENT TO
INTERCONNECTION
AGREEMENT**

TC21-027

On May 20, 2021, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252 for approval of an Amendment to an Interconnection Agreement (Amendment) between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC (CenturyLink) and Clear Rate Communications, Inc. The Amendment incorporates forbearance orders FCC 19-66 and FCC 19-72, which were released by the Federal Communications Commission in 2019.

On May 27, 2021, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. The notice stated that initial comments were due June 9, 2021. No comments were filed.

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 June 10, 2021, the Commission considered whether to approve the negotiated Amendment between CenturyLink and Clear Rate Communications, Inc. Commission staff recommended approval.

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

ORDERED, that the Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between CenturyLink and Clear Rate Communications, Inc. is hereby approved.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 11th day of June 2021.

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| 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>Amanda M. Reiss</u> |
| Date: <u>6/11/2021</u> |
| (OFFICIAL SEAL) |

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner