

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPROVAL OF AN )  
UNBUNDLED NETWORK ELEMENTS – RESALE )  
FORBEARANCE AMENDMENT TO THE )  
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN )  
QWEST CORPORATION DBA CENTURYLINK QC )  
AND NORTHERN VALLEY COMMUNICATIONS, )  
LLC )

**ORDER APPROVING  
AMENDMENT TO  
INTERCONNECTION  
AGREEMENT**

**TC20-037**

On July 7, 2020, 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 Northern Valley Communications, LLC (Northern Valley). The Amendment incorporates forbearance orders FCC 19-66 and FCC 19-72, which were released by the Federal Communications Commission in 2019.

On July 9, 2020, 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 any person wishing to comment on the parties' request for approval had until July 27, 2020, to do so. 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 August 4, 2020, the Commission considered whether to approve the negotiated Amendment between CenturyLink and Northern Valley. Commission staff recommended approval.

In accordance with 47 U.S.C § 252(e)(2), the Commission found that the Amendment does not discriminate against a telecommunications carrier that is not 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 Interconnection Agreement between CenturyLink and Northern Valley is hereby approved.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 7<sup>th</sup> day of August 2020.

**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: Karen E. Cremer

Date: 08/06/20

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen  
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner