

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON  
STAFF REPORT  
PUBLIC MEETING DATE: February 11, 2021

REGULAR \_\_\_\_\_ CONSENT  X  EFFECTIVE DATE  February 13, 2021

DATE: January 15, 2021

TO: Public Utility Commission

FROM: Malia Brock

THROUGH: Bryan Conway, Michael Dougherty, and Bruce Hellebuyck **SIGNED**

SUBJECT: QWEST CORPORATION:  
(Docket No. ADV 1229/Advice No. 2158)  
Oregon Telephone Assistance Program Revisions.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the filed tariff be allowed to go into effect for service on and after February 13, 2021.

**DISCUSSION:**

Issue

Whether to allow the revised tariff filed by Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC (Qwest) to go into effect with service on and after February 13, 2021.

Applicable Law

Telecommunications utilities are required under ORS 759.175 to submit tariff filings to the Commission whenever they intend to change their rates, terms, or conditions of service. On September 28, 2018, with Order No. 18-359, the Commission approved a Price Plan applicable to Qwest, as allowed by ORS 759.255.

Section (8)(a)(i) of Qwest's Price Plan requires tariff changes to be filed at least thirty days prior to their effective dates.

Filings that propose any change in rates, tolls, charges, rules, or regulations must be filed with the Commission at least 30 days before the effective date of the change. ORS 759.190.

### Analysis

Qwest originally filed on January 7, 2021, to propose revisions to Section 5, Sheets 55, 56, and 57 of its Exchange and Network Services Tariff, P.U.C. OR. No. 33. Qwest made a subsequent related filing on January 14, 2021.

These filings were made to conform Qwest's tariff language to federal changes in Lifeline benefit amounts effective December 1, 2020. Language is added that states, "Effective December 1, 2020, the Company will issue an additional federal credit equal to the difference between the interstate subscriber line charge and the federal lifeline credit when the interstate subscriber line charge exceeds the federal lifeline credit amount."

The filings also conform to Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP) changes adopted in Commission Order No. 20-492 issued December 29, 2020. Commission Order No. 20-492 amended the OTAP rules in Division 33 and include clarifying revisions for support of broadband service. The filing initially reduced the OTAP benefit amount from \$12.00 to \$7.00, but as revised, the specific dollar figure of the benefit is removed with reference instead to the current authorized credit amount.

### Conclusion

Staff finds that the filing complies with the requirements of the Qwest Price Plan and Oregon statutes.

### **PROPOSED COMMISSION MOTION:**

Allow Qwest Advice No. 2158 to go into effect for service rendered on and after February 13, 2021.