

ISSUED: August 23, 2010

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

UM 1484

In the Matter of

CENTURYLINK, INC.,

Application for Approval of Merger
between CenturyTel, Inc., and Qwest
Communications International, Inc.

RULING

DISPOSITION: MOTIONS TO MODIFY SCHEDULE GRANTED

On August 13, 2010, the Joint CLECs¹ filed a Motion to Modify the Schedule (Motion). In the Motion, Joint CLECs request that the date for submission of testimony by the Commission staff (Staff) be moved from August 24, 2010, to September 3, 2010.

In the Motion, Joint CLECs note that Staff and Intervenors have the same deadline for submission of testimony—August 24, 2010—and that “Staff would have only reviewed Century-Link’s testimony, but would not have the benefit of having reviewed the testimony of other Intervenors, many of whom represent retail and wholesale customers of Qwest and CenturyLink who would be directly impacted by the proposed transaction.”² Joint CLECs contend that it would be beneficial for the Staff’s analysis to have access to the Intervenors’ testimony as well.

By electronic message of August 19, 2010, CenturyLink and Qwest advised the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) that they concurred in the Joint CLEC Motion and noted that the parties had held a settlement conference at which they had all concurred in proposing that the hearing date remain unchanged but that the ALJ revise the prehearing schedule as follows:

¹ The Joint CLEC parties are tw telecom of Oregon, llc; Covad Communications Company; XO Communications Services, Inc.; Integra Telecom of Oregon, Inc.; Advanced TelCom, Inc.; Electric Lightwave, LLC; Eschelon Telecom of Oregon, Inc.; Oregon Telecom Inc.; and United Telecommunications Inc., d/b/a Unicom; Priority One Telecommunications, Inc.; and Charter Fiberlink OR-CCVII LLC, LLC.

² Motion at 1.

Intervenor Testimony Due	August 24, 2010
Settlement conference—Retail Issues	August 30, 2010
Staff Testimony Due	September 3, 2010
Settlement Conference—Wholesale	September 8, 2010
CenturyLink/Qwest Rebuttal Testimony Due	September 21, 2010
Settlement Conference	September 27, 2010
Settlement Conference	October 12, 2010
Hearing	October 20-21, 2010

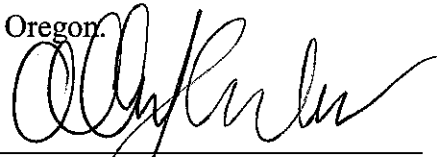
No party has interposed any objection to either the Motion or the CenturyLink/Qwest proposal.

I have reviewed the Motion and Proposal and find that the change in schedule will not unreasonably delay the proceeding. The parties may alter the dates for the Settlement Conferences by mutual agreement without seeking approval from the ALJ.

RULING

The Joint CLEC Motion to Modify the Schedule and the CenturyLink/Qwest proposal to change the schedule are GRANTED.

Dated this 23rd day of August, at Salem, Oregon.



Allan J. Arlow
Administrative Law Judge