



November 1, 2016

Oregon Public Utility Commission
201 High St SE
Salem, Oregon 97301-3612

RE: Advice No. 2132 for Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC P.U.C. Oregon No. 33 Exchange and Network Services Tariff

Dear Commissioners:

Attached for electronic filing are revised sheets for the Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC P.U.C. Oregon No. 33 Exchange and Network Services Tariff. This filing is being submitted with a proposed effective date of December 2, 2016.

<u>Section</u>	<u>Sheet</u>	<u>Revision</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Sheet</u>	<u>Revision</u>
1	6	4th	5	55	1st
1	20	3rd	5	56	5th
5	Index 1	8th	5	57	2nd
5	52	1st	5	58	9th
5	53	1st	5	58.1	Original
5	54	1st	5	59	3rd

This filing proposes changes compliant with FCC 15-71, adopted June 18, 2015, and released June 22, 2015. Pursuant to the rule changes specified therein, as of August 15, 2016 Carriers no longer receive Lifeline reimbursement for any wholesale services to resellers, and incumbent LEC's are no longer required to offer their Lifeline services to resellers.

This filing also includes Lifeline revisions compliant with the Third Report and Order, Further Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration, FCC 16-38, In the Matter of Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization (WC Docket No. 11-42), Telecommunications Carriers Eligible for Universal Service Support (WC Docket No. 09-197) and Connect America Fund (WC Docket No. 10-90) adopted on March 31, 2016 and released April 27, 2016.

Changes in eligibility requirements for the Federal Lifeline Program include the addition of Veterans Pension Benefit and Survivors Pension program as a qualifying program. The following programs are removed from the list of programs that qualify customers for Lifeline assistance: Participation in the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Temporary Assistance to Needy Family Program (TANF), and the National School Lunch Program's free lunch program. These programs will no longer qualify customers for federal Lifeline assistance. Applicants whose household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines are eligible for Lifeline assistance, regardless of their participation in one of the qualifying programs.

Revisions to the "Federal Lifeline Program" and "Tribal Lands Lifeline Program" sections acknowledge the inclusion of qualifying broadband service as a service to which Lifeline credits may be applied. Customers are limited to one Lifeline credit per household, regardless of the qualifying service to which the credit is applied. Additionally, customers who receive a Lifeline credit from another service provider are not eligible to receive a credit for services provided by CenturyLink.

The "Tribal Lands Lifeline Program" section includes all regulations specifically associated with the additional Lifeline benefit available to customers who reside on federally recognized Tribal Lands. There have been no changes to the list of additional qualifying programs that render Tribal Lands customers eligible for this benefit.

Most of the proposed Tribal Lands Lifeline Program revisions are for consistency and standardization only. Notable revisions include a change in CenturyLink's methodology for determining the Tribal credit amount. Specifically, the methodology for determining the Tribal credit is revised such that the credit calculation no longer deducts \$1.00 from the credit amount. Additional revisions are administrative only and do not reflect changes in eligibility or benefits available to Tribal Lands applicants. The revised language is for the purpose of consistently presenting the conditions of Tribal Land eligibility across all CenturyLink tariffs.

Tariff provisions governing the Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP) were previously intermingled with the Federal Lifeline and Tribal Lands Lifeline Program. This filing separates OTAP, the Federal Lifeline Program and the Tribal Lands Lifeline Program into three separate sections. The OTAP section is presented as a counterpart to the Federal Lifeline Program and refers to the eligibility requirements specified in that section. The \$3.50 state credit in this section is available *only* in conjunction with CenturyLink's local exchange service.

The OTAP portion of the revised tariff omits the following language from the existing OTAP tariff because it assumes a single line serves the customer's principle place of residence when, in fact, many customers have multiple lines (wireline and wireless) serving a single residence. Also the Commission determines eligibility in part by whether the customer's residence has other lines already receiving the OTAP discount.

"The OTAP credit will apply to the single line that serves the customer's principal residence."

The OTAP portion of the revised tariff omits the following language from the existing OTAP tariff as unnecessary and duplicative of language under the Tribal Lands Lifeline Program in the revised tariff:

"Residents living on Tribal Lands can also qualify for the Federal portion of the Lifeline program based on terms and conditions for Tribal Lifeline."

The revised OTAP tariff omits the following language from the existing OTAP tariff because the Service Assistance Program is no longer in effect and because the omitted language duplicates language concerning the applicability of the RSPF to OTAP beneficiaries in the existing tariff at 2.6.E.

"b. A monthly Service Assistance Program surcharge will be billed per access line."

The revised OTAP tariff omits the following language from the existing OTAP tariff as no longer necessary given that the OARs fully address the OTAP.

"c. OTAP became effective April 1, 1989 by authority of the P.U.C. of Oregon Order No. 89-269."

The revised OTAP tariff omits language concerning disconnection for non-payment of toll, toll restriction at no charge and waiving advanced deposit requirements for OTAP applicants who elect toll restriction because these topics are addressed elsewhere in the tariff, specifically:

- 2.2.9.A.4 provides: "EXCEPTION: Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP) customers may not be disconnected for nonpayment of toll."
- 10.4.4.B.6. provides: "Toll Restriction will be provided at no charge to qualifying Oregon Telephone Assistance Program customers."
- 2.3.3.A.2.a. provides: "Qualifying applicants for the Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP) may initiate service without paying a deposit if they voluntarily elect to have Toll Restriction of their line. Toll Restriction will be provided at no charge to qualifying OTAP customers."

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The re-positioning of the “Lifeline Assistance Programs” section to present the Federal Lifeline Program, OTAP, and the Tribal Lands Lifeline Program separately is solely for the purpose of standardizing tariff language across all CenturyLink Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier tariffs. With these revisions, the tariffed regulations associated with the Federal Lifeline Program and Tribal Lands Lifeline Program will be identical in all CenturyLink tariffs.

Questions concerning this filing may be directed to Phil Grate at (206) 345-6224.

Sincerely,

Darlene N. Terry

Attachment

cc: Phil Grate, CenturyLink
John Felz, CenturyLink

OR 2016-017

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Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC

**P.U.C. OREGON No. 33
EXCHANGE AND
NETWORK SERVICES**

**SECTION 1
4th Revised Sheet 6
Cancels 3rd Revised Sheet 6**

1. APPLICATION AND REFERENCE

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5.4.3	101	CUSTOM CALLING SERVICES.....

(T)

Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC

**P.U.C. OREGON No. 33
EXCHANGE AND
NETWORK SERVICES**

**SECTION 1
3rd Revised Sheet 20
Cancels 2nd Revised Sheet 20**

1. APPLICATION AND REFERENCE

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(D)

Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC

P.U.C. OREGON No. 33
EXCHANGE AND
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Section 5
8th Revised Index Sheet 1
Cancels 7th Revised Index Sheet 1

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

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Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC

P.U.C. OREGON NO. 33
EXCHANGE AND
NETWORK SERVICES

SECTION 5
1st Revised Sheet 52
Cancels Original Sheet 52**

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE (Cont'd)

5.2.6 LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Pursuant to FCC order 15-71, adopted June 18, 2015, the Company no longer provides Lifeline discounted service to resellers as of August 15, 2016.

Customers who received Lifeline Assistance prior to December 2, 2016 will continue to receive benefits until their annual re-certification date, at which time customers must demonstrate their continued eligibility by meeting the eligibility requirements in effect as of December 2, 2016.

A. Federal Lifeline Program

1. Description

The Federal Lifeline Program assists qualified low-income applicants with reductions in their monthly local exchange service rate. The assistance applies to a single telephone line or broadband service at the applicant's principal place of residence.

2. Eligibility Requirements

To receive assistance an applicant must demonstrate an annual household income at or below 135 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, or must demonstrate participation by the applicant, applicant's dependent(s) or a member of applicant's household^[1] in one of the following programs:

- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA) or Section 8
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veterans Pension Benefit and Survivors Pension

^[1] A household is defined, for purposes of administering this program, as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses.

** Original Sheet 52 was cancelled with the issuance of 2nd Revised Sheet 51, effective December 7, 2009.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.6 LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

A. Federal Lifeline Program

3. Terms and Conditions

- a. An applicant may request Lifeline assistance through completion and submission of a form provided by the Company or by an agent of the state or Federal Communications Commission.
- b. The Federal Lifeline Program credit may be applied to any qualifying residential Local Exchange Service provided by the Company (including Packaged Services).
- c. Customers are limited to one credit per household, which may be applied towards a qualifying wireline service, broadband service or a bundled voice and data service package. Customers are not eligible to receive a credit from the Company if they receive a Federal Lifeline Program credit for a service provided by another Eligible Telecommunications Carrier or Lifeline Broadband Provider.
- d. The Federal Lifeline Program credit will be pro-rated on the basis of a 30-day month from the effective date of the customer's application.
- e. Applicants must provide proof of eligibility and be deemed eligible for participation before monthly credits begin. Credits will only be issued on a go-forward basis.
- f. Nonrecurring charges will not apply when establishing this program on existing service.

** Original Sheet 53 was cancelled with the issuance of 2nd Revised Sheet 51, effective December 7, 2009.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.6 LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A. Federal Lifeline Program

3. Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)

- g. Partial payments made by Lifeline customers will be applied first towards local service charges.
- h. Toll Restriction is available to Lifeline customers upon request at no charge. No service deposit will be required for applicants who voluntarily elect toll restriction with the initiation of Lifeline service.

Any Lifeline customer who has a past due balance in toll message charges will be automatically restricted from access to toll services until the outstanding balance is paid. The customer will not be charged for the toll restriction placed on the account. The Restoration Charge applies to Lifeline customers whose message toll service has been restricted for nonpayment.

If a Lifeline customer is toll restricted for a second occurrence, the Company may, at its discretion, place the Lifeline customer on a permanent toll restriction. A Lifeline subscriber's request for reconnection or re-establishment of local service will not be denied if the service was previously suspended or disconnected for non-payment of toll charges.

- i. Customers residing on federally recognized Tribal Lands who receive the Federal Lifeline Program credit also qualify for an additional monthly credit. See Tribal Lands Lifeline Program in Section 5.2.6.C. following.

** Original Sheet 54 was cancelled with the issuance of 2nd Revised Sheet 51, effective December 7, 2009.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

(N)

5.2.6 LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A. Federal Lifeline Program (Cont'd)

(N)

4. Monthly Credit

(T)

(M)

**CREDIT
USOC**

**CREDIT
AMOUNT**

Federal **Lifeline Program** Credit

See Note ^[1]

\$9.25

(T)

(M)

^[1] Credit is applied as follows: ASGFX* (\$6.50) + ASGF2 (\$2.75) = \$9.25
 * When a Tribal Lifeline Credit also applies, the Federal Lifeline Program
 Credit USOCs are ASGFR + ASGF2.

(T)

(M)

(T)

(M)

** Original Sheet 55 was cancelled with the issuance of 2nd Revised Sheet 51,
 effective December 7, 2009.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.6 LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (CONT'D)

(T)

B. Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP)

(T)

1. Description

The Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP) is designed to provide low income subscribers who meet OTAP eligibility requirements a reduced rate or discount for basic service at their principal place of residence whether sold separately or in combination with other services. For purposes of OTAP, "basic service" means "basic telephone service" as defined in OAR 860-032-0190. For qualifying low-income subscribers, basic service also includes access to toll-limitation services. The OTAP discount is limited to one single line, or single line equivalent, per economic unit at the customer's principal residence in Oregon.

(C)

(C)

2. Eligibility Requirements

(N)

To be eligible for the OTAP discount, a residential service subscriber, one or more of the subscriber's dependents or the subscriber's household must:

a. Receive benefits from one of the following public assistance programs:

- Medicaid under Title XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act;
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program;
- Supplemental Security Income;
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8);
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program;
- National School Lunch Program's free lunch program; or
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; or

receive benefits from another Commission-approved low-income public assistance program for which eligibility requirements do not exceed 135 percent of the applicable federal poverty guidelines.

b. Have income that is at or below 135 percent of the applicable federal poverty guidelines for a household of that size.

(N)

(M) Material previously appearing on this page now appears on Sheets 55 and 57.

(M)

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.6 LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

B. Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP)

3. Terms and Conditions

a. To qualify for the OTAP discount, a subscriber must demonstrate eligibility for OTAP by making application to the Oregon Public Utility Commission (OPUC) on an OPUC-approved form.

b. The Company provides an OTAP-eligible subscriber the OTAP discount in the form of a monthly credit on the subscriber's bill effective with the date specified for the subscriber by the OPUC. The OTAP credit will be prorated on the basis of a 30-day month from the effective date of the subscriber's eligibility.

4. Monthly Credit

	Credit USOC	Credit Amount	
State Credit for the exchange access line for OTAP participants	ASGSX	\$3.50	

C. Tribal Lands Lifeline Program

1. Description

The Tribal Lands Lifeline Program provides a monthly credit in addition to the Federal Lifeline Program credit for qualifying low-income individuals who reside on Tribal Lands defined in paragraph (e) of Title 47 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 54.400.

2. Eligibility Requirements

a. To receive Tribal Lands Lifeline credit, applicants must meet the eligibility criteria specified in 5.2.6.A.2 preceding or must demonstrate participation by the applicant, applicant's dependent(s) or a member of applicant's household in one of the following qualifying programs:

- **Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) general assistance program**
- **Tribally administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)**
- **Head Start programs (under income qualifying eligibility provision only)**
- **Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations**

(M) Material previously appeared on 4th Revised Sheet 56.

(M1) Certain material previously appearing on this sheet now appears on Sheet 58.

(T)

(M)

(T)

(C)

(C)

(M)

(T)

(T)

(T)

(T)

(T)

(M1)

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P.U.C. OREGON NO. 33
EXCHANGE AND
NETWORK SERVICES

SECTION 5
9th Revised Sheet 58
Cancels 8th Revised Sheet 58

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.6 LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (T)

C. Tribal Lands Lifeline Program (T)

2. Eligibility Requirements (Cont'd) (N)

Applicants who qualify for the Tribal Lands Lifeline credit through participation in one of the above listed programs are automatically eligible for the Federal Lifeline Program Credit. (N)

3. Terms and Conditions (M)

a. Applicants residing on Tribal Lands must sign under penalty of perjury that they reside on a reservation, as defined in Title 47 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 54.400(e) and receive benefits from at least one of the qualifying programs or have an annual household income at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines. Tribal Lands applicants must also agree to notify the Company if they cease to participate in the qualifying program or programs. (T) (M)

b. Tribal Lands Lifeline benefits apply to the primary flat local residential access line, including Extended Area Service (EAS), mileage charges, zone charges, or other non-discretionary charges associated with basic residential service or qualified broadband service. The benefit may not bring the basic local residential access line rate below zero during any month. (C)

c. The Tribal Lands Lifeline credit does not apply to state or federal taxes, universal service fund fees, surcharges for 911 service or TDD service fees. (N) (N)

d. Customers are limited to one Tribal Lands Lifeline credit per household from the Company, which may be applied towards a qualifying wireline service, broadband service or a bundled voice and data service package. Customers are not eligible to receive a Tribal Lands Lifeline credit from the Company if they receive a Federal Lifeline Program credit for a service provided by another Eligible Telecommunications Carrier or Lifeline Broadband Provider. (C) (C)

(M1)

(M1)

(M) Material previously appeared on 1st Revised Sheet 57.

(M1) Material previously appearing on this sheet now appears on Sheets 55 and 58.1.

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.6 LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

(T) (M)

C. Tribal Lands Lifeline Program (Cont'd)

(T)

4. Monthly Credit

**CREDIT
USOC** **CREDIT
AMOUNT**

- Flat individual line (1FR)

ASGFT^[2] Up to \$25.00^[1]

(T)

^[1] The Tribal Lifeline Credit is up to \$25.00, but **will not result in a rate of less than zero for the service against which the credit is applied.** The credit amount is calculated by adding the applicable rates for a flat individual line (1FR), including Extended Area Service and other non-discretionary charges for basic residential service and the interstate subscriber line charge. The Federal Lifeline credit specified in 5.2.6.A.4. is subtracted from the total and the remaining difference is the applicable credit amount. For example: Tribal Lifeline customer in CenturyLink QC's Klamath Falls exchange - 1FR \$15.80 + \$1.28 + \$6.50 = \$23.58 - \$9.25 = \$14.33 credit.

^[2] The Tribal Lifeline credit for CenturyLink QC customers is as follows:

- Athena \$15.33
- Camp Sherman 16.25
- Culver 15.25
- Klamath Falls 13.33
- Pendleton 13.33
- Siletz 15.78
- Warm Springs 16.25

(M)

(M) Material previously appeared on 8th Revised Sheet 58.

Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC

P.U.C. OREGON NO. 33
EXCHANGE AND
NETWORK SERVICES

SECTION 5
3rd Revised Sheet 59
Cancels 2nd Revised Sheet 59

5. EXCHANGE SERVICES

5.2 LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

5.2.6 LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

D. Tribal Link-Up Program

As of April 1, 2012, non-Tribal Lifeline customers **are not eligible for** Link-Up support. **Eligible** residents of federal Tribal Lands may receive Link-Up support to cover 100% of the customary charges up to \$100.00 in connection with commencing telecommunications service to the qualifying customer's principal place of residence on tribal lands. Tribal Link-Up applies to qualifying low-income residence customers of the Company who apply for basic residential service and who meet the eligibility criteria established by the Federal Communications Commission. The customer may defer payment on up to \$200.00 of the above charges without interest for a period not to exceed one year. The deferred charges do not include the deposit if required.

An eligible resident of Tribal Lands may receive the benefit of the Tribal Link-Up program for a second or subsequent time only for otherwise qualifying commencement of telecommunications service at a principal place of residence with an address different from the address for which Tribal Link-Up assistance was provided previously.

CREDIT USOC

- Tribal Link-Up

LNK/
LNKEL

E. Application of **Lifeline** Assistance Programs to Concession Accounts

1. Description

Concession groups: These individuals will receive 100% **Lifeline Assistance Program** benefits less the amount of concession-able discount. For example, **persons who receive** a 50% discount on their End User Common Line Charges **will** receive 50% of their TAP benefits.