

September 26, 2024

Sallie V. Dietrich
Senior Counsel
Nebraska Public Service Commission
300 The Atrium
1200 N. Street
Lincoln, NE 68509-4027

Re: Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program (NBBP) Grant Application Docket C-5661 - Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC

Dear Ms. Dietrich:

On July 1st, 2024, Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC (Qwest) filed a Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program (NBBP) Grant Application for a project in Waterloo NE east of the Platte River and approximately 3 miles south of Valley, NE (Valley Waterloo Project), before the Nebraska Public Service Commission (NPSC). The Project will take fiber to the premise to offer an estimated maximum connection bandwidth of 8,000/8,000. On September 13, 2024, the NPSC issued a notice of defects to applicants that must be cured along with any areas of overlap with other applications. After reviewing the Waterloo Project Application, the NPSC determined that the documentation provided for rates reflects Quantum Fiber rates, but the Application was submitted under Qwest d/b/a CenturyLink QC. The NSPC requests clarification regarding the matter.

Qwest is the entity that provides NPSC regulated telecommunications services in Nebraska. Quantum is the brand under which Qwest provides fiber to the home (FTTH) and voice over internet protocol (VOIP) services, neither of which are regulated services pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-124(d). The infrastructure to be built at the Valley Waterloo Project, if an NBBP grant is allocated to Qwest, ultimately will be owned by Qwest. Quantum is not a separate entity nor is it a DBA. The purpose of the Quantum brand is to distinguish the services provided by our more modern technology. Considering these services are in fact a different product, we keep the CenturyLink (POTS/regulated service) brand separated from the Quantum brand. This approach is consistent with previous grant applications filed by CenturyLink.

We are confident that this should clarify any questions the NPSC may have regarding this matter. Please, feel free to contact us if you have additional questions or concerns.

Very Truly Yours,

Monica Echevarria-Garcia

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