## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of a Proposed	)	
Rulemaking of the Missouri	)	Case No. TX-2013-0324
Universal Service Fund	ì	

#### **NOTICE**

Issue Date: November 26, 2013

I received the attached documents from Richard Moore of CenturyLink describing our meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup>.

The Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") has promulgated rules denoted as the "Standards of Conduct" at 4 CSR 240-4.010 and 4.020. Section 4 CSR 240-4.20 specifically deals with Ex Parte and Extra-Record Communication Rules. This notice is filed in conformance with the rule.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Stoll Commissioner

Mark Hughes

Adviser to Commissioner Steve Stoll

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, On this 26<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2013.



November 20, 2013

Mark Hughes Missouri Public Service Commission Post Office Box 360 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Re:

Documentation of Oral Conversation - TX-2013-0324 MO USF Rulemaking Regarding

High Cost Support (4 CSR 240-31.040)

Dear Mr. Hughes:

In accordance with 4 CSR 240-4.020 (8)(B)(1), this letter shall serve as documentation of our recent conversation regarding the pending rulemaking referenced above.

Participants:

Commissioner Stoll

Commissioner Hall

Mark Hughes

Bill Fallin

Richard Moore

Karen Crabtree

Doug Galloway

Date/Time:

2:00 pm on November 13, 2013

Location / Means:

In person meeting in the Agenda Room

Subject:

General CenturyLink company and telecommunication industry

update where TX-2013-0324 MO USF Rulemaking Regarding

High Cost Support (4 CSR 240-31.040) was mentioned.

Pursuant to 4 CSR 240-4.020(8)(B)1, no other disclosure, filing or actions are required.

Sincerely

Richard W. Moore

Missouri Regulatory and

Governmental Affairs Manager



### What's happening with broadband deployment?

- The current Federal Universal Service Fund (FUSF) is used to support voice services. CenturyLink of Missouri receives close to \$22M annually under this program.
- FUSF is being replaced by the Connect America Fund (CAF) for the exclusive use of deploying broadband (BB) services to unserved and underserved areas of the country at minimum speeds of 4Mbps downloads and 1Mbps uploads.
- CAF is being implemented over two phases for Price Cap Carriers (CenturyLink and AT&T in Missouri). Price Cap carriers nationally cover approximate 95% of the geography in the US.
- Rate of Return (RoR) carriers (smaller telco's) will continue to receive FUSF at frozen levels until the Price Cap carrier process is completed, then the FCC will focus on RoR carriers.
- This shift in support for high cost areas is being done at the same time as inter-carrier compensation rate reductions are taking place. (access charges)

#### Background Regarding Funding Parameters/Requirements for CAF Phase I Round 1 & 2

- CenturyLink Missouri impact from CAF I, Round 1 (2012)
  - < \$400K = upgrades to 490 households (HH). CenturyLink matched CAF \$400K. Funding of \$775 per living unit is available to assist in deploying broadband capable networks to areas without broadband service with speeds of at least 768 Kbps / 200 Kbps. The MO PSC notified of upgrade locations.</p>
- CenturyLink Missouri impact from CAF I, Round 2 (2013)
  - < \$2M = upgrades to 3,500 HH. CenturyLink matched CAF \$2M. Funding of \$775 per living unit is available to assist in deploying broadband capable networks to areas without broadband service with speeds of at least 768 Kbps / 200 Kbps. Funding of \$550 per living unit is available to upgrade areas with existing broadband service speeds greater than or equal to 768 Kbps / 200 Kbps, but less than 3 Mbps / 768 Kbps. The MO PSC was notified of upgrade locations. All upgrades must be done within three years.</p>
  - ➤ The FCC recognizes that given the limited time for analysis prior to the CAF Phase I elections as well as the pending introduction of CAF Phase II, companies may ultimately elect to deploy in different locations than those initially selected. As part of that process, CenturyLink will notify the FCC and the state commission prior to enablement at an alternative location.

CenturyLink is the third largest telecommunications company in the United States and is recognized as a leader in the network services market by technology industry analyst firms. The company is a global leader in cloud infrastructure and hosted IT solutions for enterprise customers. CenturyLink provides data, voice and managed services in local, national and select international markets through its high-quality advanced fiberoptic network and multiple data centers for businesses and consumers. The company also offers advanced entertainment services under the CenturyLink<sup>TM</sup> Prism<sup>TM</sup> TV and DIRECTV brands. Headquartered in Monroe, La., CenturyLink is an S&P 500 company and is included among the Fortune 500 list of America's largest corporations.

# CenturyLink in MISSOURI



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#### MISSOURI STATISTICAL PROFILE

Employees	2,140
Annual Payroll	\$148,268,000
Access Lines	459,000
Broadband Availability	87%
Network Investment	\$2,706,481,000

Century Link\*