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UTAH DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Division of Public Utilities

MARGARET W. BUSSE
Executive Director

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Division Director

Action Request Response

To: Public Service Commission of Utah

From: Utah Division of Public Utilities

Chris Parker, Director
Brenda Salter, Assistant Director
Abdinasir Abdulle, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor
Ron Slusher, Utility Technical Consultant

Date: December 15, 2023

Re: **Docket No. 23-049-17**, Agreement filing in the Matter of the Forbearance Master Services Agreement between Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC and Windstream Entities.

Recommendation (Acknowledge)

The Division of Public Utilities (“Division”) recommends that the Public Service Commission (“Commission”) acknowledge the receipt of this Forbearance Master Services Agreement.

Discussion

On or about December 14, 2023, Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC (“CenturyLink”) filed the Forbearance Master Services Agreement per the above-referenced docket in accordance with § 54-8b-2.2(1) (d) of the *Utah Code*. This Agreement had been fully executed through voluntary negotiations on January 28, 2021, and amended on December 14, 2023, with Windstream Entities. (“Windstream”).

The Division has reviewed the above-mentioned Agreement between CenturyLink and Windstream and sees no reason to reject it. Specifically, the Division believes that the Agreement was negotiated in good faith and without unfair discrimination. Both parties also recognize that, to the extent that the existing rules are changed, vacated, dismissed,

Division of Public Utilities

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stayed, or modified, this Agreement and all contracts adopting all, or part of this Agreement will be amended to reflect such modification or change of the existing rules. Therefore, the Division recommends that the Commission acknowledge the receipt of this Amended Forbearance Master Services Agreement.

cc: Kimberly J. Povirk, Sr. Dir. Bus. Ops Wholesale Sales, Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC
Scott Terry, Windstream Entities
Patricia Schmid, Assistant Attorney General, State of Utah
Patrick Grecu, Assistant Attorney General, State of Utah
Office of Consumer Services, State of Utah