

Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20555

In the Matter of

2013 NOV -4 P 5: 28

319833

Section 63.71 Application of

RECEIVED

Qwest Communications Company, LLC  
d/b/a CenturyLink QCC

For Authority Pursuant to Section 214 of  
the Communications Act of 1934, As Amended,  
to Discontinue the Provision of Service

SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION

Qwest Communications Company, LLC, d/b/a CenturyLink QCC (CenturyLink) hereby applies for authority pursuant to Section 63.71 of the Federal Communications Commission's (Commission) rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, and Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214, to discontinue its QCC Frame Relay service and QCC Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) service throughout all 50 states, U.S. possessions and territories.

CenturyLink is a non-dominant provider of QCC Frame Relay and QCC ATM services.

CenturyLink submits the following information in support of its application:

**1. Name and address of carrier**

CenturyLink  
100 CenturyLink Drive  
Monroe, Louisiana 71203

**2. Date of planned service discontinuance**

As of December 15, 2013, or as soon thereafter as the necessary regulatory approvals can be obtained, CenturyLink will no longer offer these services to new customers or accept new

orders from existing customers (except to the extent such orders are permitted by contract).

Existing customers of these services will be grandfathered as follows:

- Existing contracts for these services will not be renewed.
- Customers with a contract that expires *prior to December 15, 2014* may retain their QCC Frame Relay and/or QCC ATM service covered by that contract on a month-to-month basis until December 15, 2014.
- Customers with a contract that expires *after December 15, 2014* may retain their QCC Frame Relay and/or QCC ATM service covered by that contract until the expiration of that contract.

**3. Points of geographic areas of service affected**

CenturyLink seeks authority to discontinue the provision of QCC Frame Relay and QCC ATM services in all 50 states, U.S. possessions and territories.

**4. Brief description of the type of services affected**

QCC Frame Relay Service is a connection-oriented packet-switched data service allowing for the interconnection of Local Area Networks (LAN) or other compatible customer equipment. QCC ATM Service is a connection-oriented multiplexing and switching service based on ATM cell-based switching technology. This service uses fixed-length cells to support transmission of multiple types of traffic (such as data, voice and video) over a LAN or Wide Area Network (WAN).

In 2011, CenturyLink was advised by equipment manufacturer Alcatel-Lucent that the equipment used for QCC Frame Relay and QCC ATM services would no longer be manufactured as of December 31, 2011 and that all support would be discontinued as of December 31, 2014.

CenturyLink currently has approximately 160 customers purchasing QCC Frame Relay and QCC ATM services. Current customers have the option of moving to alternative CenturyLink services, such as IQ Networking Private Port Service, which uses the latest

technology to create a robust VPN service. Customers can also turn to numerous other providers of similar services.

**5. Brief description of the dates and methods of notice to all affected customers**

CenturyLink notified its retail, wholesale, and federal government customers of QCC's Frame Relay and ATM services by letter. Retail customers were sent the letter shown in Attachment A by U.S. Mail on October 23, 2013. Wholesale customers were sent the letter shown in Attachment A by email on October 25, 2013 and by U.S. Mail on October 30, 2013. Federal government customers were sent either the letter shown in Attachment A or the letter shown in Attachment B,<sup>1</sup> depending on whether their service is provided pursuant to the federal government's Networx contract. Government customers receiving the Attachment A letter were sent that letter by email and U.S. Mail on October 28, 2013. Government customers receiving the Attachment B letter were sent that letter by email on October 18, 2013 and by U.S. Mail on October 30, 2013.

**6. Dominance of carrier with respect to the service to be discontinued**

CenturyLink is a non-dominant carrier with regard to the services to be discontinued.

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<sup>1</sup> CenturyLink has redacted customer-specific information in Attachment B.

7. Service

In accordance with 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a), CenturyLink has mailed a copy of this application to the Governor and public utility commission as identified in Paragraph 3 above, as well as to the Special Assistant for Telecommunications under the Secretary of Defense.

Respectfully submitted,

CENTURYLINK

By:



Craig J. Brown  
1099 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 250  
Washington, DC 20001  
Phone: 303-992-2503  
[Craig.J.Brown@CenturyLink.com](mailto:Craig.J.Brown@CenturyLink.com)

October 31, 2013

ATTACHMENT A

October 23, 2013



100 CenturyLink Drive  
Monroe, LA 71203



John Q. Sample  
123 Anystreet  
Anytown, US 12345-6789

Dear <Customer Name>,

At CenturyLink, our goal is to provide you with great quality and value while still remaining competitive. Changing market conditions require that we continually evaluate our prices, product offerings and infrastructure.

Occasionally our evaluation directs us to make changes to some products; therefore, we are writing to inform you of CenturyLink's plan to grandfather, and ultimately discontinue, its interstate and intrastate Qwest Communications Company Frame Relay (QCC Frame Relay) service and interstate and intrastate QCC Asynchronous Transfer Mode (QCC ATM) service in all 50 states, U.S. possessions and territories, as the equipment used to deliver these services has been discontinued by the manufacturer.

As of December 15, 2013, or as soon after that date as authorized by the Federal Communications Commission and relevant state regulatory commissions, CenturyLink's QCC Frame Relay service and QCC ATM service will no longer be available to new customers or for new orders from existing customers (except to the extent permitted by contract).

Existing customers of these services will be grandfathered as follows:

- Existing contracts for these services will not be renewed.
- Customers with a contract that expires prior to December 15, 2014 may retain their QCC Frame Relay and/or QCC ATM service covered by that contract on a month-to-month basis until December 15, 2014.
- Customers with a contract that expires after December 15, 2014 may retain their QCC Frame Relay and/or QCC ATM service covered by that contract until the expiration of that contract.

We encourage you to contact your account team to discuss alternatives to QCC Frame Relay and QCC ATM Service, such as IQ Networking Private Port Service, which uses the latest technology to create a robust VPN service.

If you have any questions about these changes, please contact your CenturyLink Service Manager or Sales Representative. Thank you for choosing CenturyLink for your communication needs—we value you as our customer.

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<sup>1</sup>CenturyLink currently provides interstate QCC Frame Relay and QCC ATM services pursuant to section 8 of its QCC Rates and Services Schedule Interstate No. 3. See CenturyLink website, [http://www.centurylink.com/tariffs/fcc\\_qcc\\_ixc\\_rss\\_no\\_3\\_part1.pdf](http://www.centurylink.com/tariffs/fcc_qcc_ixc_rss_no_3_part1.pdf)

## ATTACHMENT A

**The following statement is required by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC):**

The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service (or reduction or impairment) unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than 15 days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. Address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the Sec. 63.71 Application of CenturyLink. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance (or reduction or impairment) upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

ATTACHMENT B



Qwest Government Services, Inc.  
dba CenturyLink QGS  
4250 N. Fairfax Drive  
Arlington, VA 22203

October 18, 2013

General Services Administration/FAS/ITS  
Office of Acquisition Operations  
1800 F Street, NW 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Washington, DC 20405

**Attention:** Mr. Timothy J. Horan  
Contracting Officer - Networx Universal and Enterprise

**Reference:** Networx Universal Contract # GS00T07NSD0002  
Networx Enterprise Contract # GS00T07NSD0040

**Subject:** Notification of ATM and Frame Relay Service Discontinuation under Contracts

Dear Mr. Horan:

Pursuant to Section C.2.1 of the subject contracts, notification is hereby provided that CenturyLink will, effective December 15, 2013, and contingent on Federal Communications Commission and relevant state regulatory commission approvals, grandfather and discontinue its interstate and intrastate commercial Qwest Communications Company Frame Relay (QCC Frame Relay) service and interstate and intrastate QCC Asynchronous Transfer Mode (QCC ATM) service offerings in all 50 states, U.S. possessions and territories. Our decision to do so is based on changing market conditions, including the fact that the equipment used to deliver these services has been discontinued by the manufacturer.<sup>1</sup>

As of December 15, 2013, the services will no longer be available to new commercial customers or for new orders from existing commercial customers. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We will advise GSA when FCC and state regulatory commissions have approved.

The agencies impacted by this notification, their current services and monthly billings are identified below:

Agency: [REDACTED]  
Service: Frame Relay  
Current Monthly Billing: [REDACTED]

<sup>1</sup> CenturyLink currently provides interstate QCC Frame Relay and QCC ATM services pursuant to section 8 of its QCC Rates and Services Schedule Interstate No. 3. See CenturyLink website, [http://www.centurylink.com/tariffs/fcc\\_qcc\\_ixc\\_rss\\_no\\_3\\_part1.pdf](http://www.centurylink.com/tariffs/fcc_qcc_ixc_rss_no_3_part1.pdf).

ATTACHMENT B



Qwest Government Services, Inc.  
dba CenturyLink QGS  
4250 N. Fairfax Drive  
Arlington, VA 22203

Agency: [REDACTED]  
Service: Frame Relay  
Current Monthly Billing: [REDACTED]

Agency: [REDACTED]  
Service: Frame Relay  
Current Monthly Billing: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please feel free to contact me with any additional information you deem necessary to execute a contract modification.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the undersigned at 703-363-4351.

Sincerely,  
Qwest Government Services, Inc. dba CenturyLink QGS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


**The following statement is required by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC):**

The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service (or reduction or impairment) unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than 15 days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. Address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the Sec. 63.71 Application of CenturyLink. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance (or reduction or impairment) upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Joan O'Donnell, do hereby certify that I have caused the foregoing **SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION** to be 1) filed with the Secretary of the FCC via courier (original and five copies plus one for stamp and return), 2) served, via U.S. Mail on the Governors of the states, territories and commonwealths listed on the attached service list, 3) served, via U.S. Mail, on the Public Utility Commissions listed on the attached service list, and 4) served via U.S. Mail on the Special Assistant for Telecommunications under the Secretary of Defense.

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Joan O'Donnell

October 31, 2013

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