



PublicService Commission <psc@utah.gov>

PUBLIC COMMENTS -- DOCKET NO. 22-049-62

1 message

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December 13, 2022

State of Utah
Public Service Commission
[160 E. 300 South](#), 4th Floor
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

SUBJECT: DOCKET No. 22-049-62

Dear Commissioners and Staff:

As a longtime CenturyLink landline customer (as well as a cell phone user), I respectfully submit my thoughts related to Qwest Corporation d/b/a/CenturyLink QC's Petition for Statewide Exemption from the R746-350-1(b) Carrier of Last Resort Obligation (Docket No. 22-049-62).

I'm very much aware that (as the Petition points out, and as other sources as well as casual observation confirm), the number of subscribers to traditional telephone service (as provided by CenturyLink) has greatly diminished. However, as it considers the Petition, it would be my hope that considerations related to emergency situations would be taken into account, in the Public Service Commission's deliberations.

From my perspective, traditional landlines have a major advantage over other alternatives, in that when 911 is called, the phone number (and location) is reliably transmitted to the emergency response center – even if the caller is unable to communicate their phone number and location (because of, for example, a serious medical episode). This is generally true even in a power outage situation, because of the current that's provided through the copper wiring channel. (I have a corded / cordless combination phone which further assures my connectivity in the event of a power failure.)

As a senior citizen who lives alone, in an apartment, with a number of medical / health risks, this ability to reach emergency services -- even in exceptional circumstances -- is highly important and valuable to me (and, I would venture, to others in my situation). It's something that I'm very willing to pay the current monthly costs (and more) for. While cell phone location technology and implementation appear to have improved in recent years, my understanding is that -- particularly in multifamily buildings such as mine -- location capability is less precise; and in situations where minutes can make a difference, this is not a trivial concern.

Thank you for reading and considering my comments and perspective.

Sincerely,

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