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CenturyLink™

100 CenturyLink Drive
Monroe, LA 71203
Tel: 318.388.9000

June 23, 2020

Ms. Jocelyn Boyd, Esquire
Chief Clerk and Administrator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210

Re: CenturyLink 2020 Federal ETC Filing
(United Telephone Company of the Carolinas d/b/a CenturyLink)

Dear Ms. Boyd:

On November 18, 2011 the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") released its *USF/ICC Transformation Order* in WC Docket No. 10-90 et al. With that Order, the FCC began a transition to a national framework for certification of Eligible Telecommunications Carriers ("ETCs") and set forth a standard set of information that all ETCs must file with the FCC typically by July 1st of each year.

Annual ETC reporting requirements for recipients of federal high-cost support are contained in 47 C.F.R. § 54.313 of the FCC's rules. For the reporting of most of the data and certifications required by 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313 and 54.422, the FCC has developed a reporting template, Form 481, to be utilized by ETCs.

Beginning with the filing due on July 1, 2018, the FCC Form 481 no longer requires that high-cost recipients file information regarding network outages; unfulfilled service requests; the number of complaints received by an ETC per 1,000 subscribers for voice and broadband services; and pricing for voice and broadband services. The FCC Form 481 also no longer includes certifications for high-cost recipients regarding service quality standards and consumer protection rules. Finally, filing of the FCC Form 481 has changed such that one filing is made with the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) and ETCs no longer file duplicate copies of FCC Form 481 with the FCC and with states, U.S. Territories, and Tribal governments.

These filings are now provided to USAC through their online "E-File" portal and are available to state commissions through the portal. State commissions can contact USAC for additional information on obtaining FCC Form 481 information from the portal.

Consistent with past years, we request that you certify to the FCC pursuant to 47 C.F.R § 54.314 by October 1, 2020 in order for CenturyLink to continue receiving federal high-cost support in South Carolina.

Please do not hesitate to contact Terrance Hinkston at (318) 388-9629 should you have any questions regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

Terrance Hinkston
Lead Analyst – State Government Affairs
CenturyLink

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