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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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Arizona Corporation Commission

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COMMISSIONERS

KRISTIN K. MAYES - Chairman
GARY PIERCE
PAUL NEWMAN
SANDRA D. KENNEDY
BOB STUMP

2010 SEP 21 P 2:34

ARIZONA CORPORATION
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IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT APPLICATION OF QWEST CORPORATION, QWEST COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY, LLC, QWEST LD CORP., EMBARQ COMMUNICATIONS D/B/A CENTURYLINK COMMUNICATIONS, EMBARQ PAYPHONE SERVICES, INC. D/B/A CENTURYLINK, AND CENTURYTEL SOLUTIONS, LLC FOR APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED MERGER OF THEIR PARENT CORPORATIONS QWEST COMMUNICATIONS INTERNATIONAL INC. AND CENTURYTEL, INC.

DOCKET NO. T-01051B-10-0194
T-02811B-10-0194
T-04190A-10-0194
T-20443A-10-0194
T-03555A-10-0194
T-03902A-10-0194

COMMISSION STAFF'S REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE INITIAL TESTIMONY

On May 13, 2010, Qwest Corporation, Qwest Communications Company, LLC, Qwest LD Corp., (hereinafter referred to as "Qwest") Embarq Communications, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink Communications, Embarq Payphone Services, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink and CenturyTel Solutions, LLC, (hereinafter referred to as "CenturyLink")(together, the "Joint Applicants"), filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") a joint application for approval of the proposed merger of the Applicants' respective parent corporations, Qwest Communications International Inc., and CenturyTel, Inc. On May 24, 2010, the Joint Applicants filed Direct Testimony in support of their Application.

By Procedural Order dated July 2, 2010, the deadline for Staff and Intervenors' testimony on Qwest's and CenturyLink's Application was set at September 27, 2010. While Staff has been diligently working on this matter since the Application was filed, Staff requests an extension of time of two weeks until October 12, 2010 to file its initial testimony. Due to the nature of the issues raised in this case, Staff would like an opportunity to review all parties' initial testimony before it files its initial testimony in this case. This same approach has been utilized in other telecommunications dockets. Staff also seeks the additional time because it will allow Staff to continue to monitor the

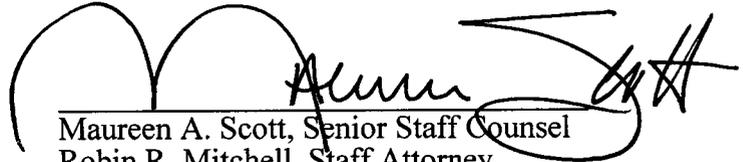
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positions of other State commission staffs in the Qwest 14 state region and take those into account when it files its testimony in early October.

Staff does not believe that its request for extension should necessitate any change in the remainder of the schedule. Assuming that other Intervenors adhere to the September 27, 2010 deadline, and Staff files on October 12, 2010; this still would give Qwest and CenturyLink a month to respond to all Intervenor testimony and two weeks to respond to Staff's testimony since the Joint Applicants' rebuttal testimony is due on or before October 27, 2010.

WHEREFORE, the Commission Staff respectfully requests an extension of time until October 12, 2010 to file its initial testimony in this case for the reasons discussed above

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 21st day of September, 2010.



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Original and thirteen (13) copies of the foregoing filed this 21st day of September 2010 with:

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