

October 28, 2016

#### **Via Electronic Filing**

Ms. Barcy McNeal, Docketing Division Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 East Broad Street, 13th Floor Columbus, OH 43215-0573

Re: CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink

Case No. 90-5010-TP-TRF and Case No. 16-2127-TP- ATA

Dear Ms. McNeal:

Attached for filing, please find the following tariff revisions for CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink's Tariff:

Preface, Third Revised Sheet 2 Section 7, Third Revised Sheet 1 Section 7, Second Revised Sheet 2 Section 7, Second Revised Sheet 3

This filing includes Lifeline revisions compliant with the Third Report and Order, Further Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration, FCC 16-38, In the Matter of Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization (WC Docket No. 11-42), Telecommunications Carriers Eligible for Universal Service Support (WC Docket No. 09-197) and Connect America Fund (WC Docket No. 10-90) adopted on March 31, 2016 and released April 27, 2016.

Changes in eligibility requirements for the Federal Lifeline Program include the addition of Veterans Pension Benefit and Survivors Pension program as a qualifying program. The following programs are removed from the list of programs that qualify customers for Lifeline assistance: Participation in the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Temporary Assistance to Needy Family Program (TANF), and the National School Lunch Program's free lunch program. These programs will no longer qualify customers for federal Lifeline assistance. Applicants whose household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines are eligible for Lifeline assistance, regardless of their participation in one of the qualifying programs.

These revisions also acknowledge the inclusion of qualifying broadband service as a service to which Lifeline credits may be applied. Customers are limited to one Lifeline credit per household, regardless of the qualifying service to which the credit is applied. Additionally, customers who receive a Lifeline credit from another service provider are not eligible to receive a credit for services provided by CenturyLink.

Ms. Barcy McNeal Page 2 October 28, 2016

Additional revisions are solely for the purpose of standardizing tariff language across all CenturyLink Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier tariffs. With these revisions, CenturyLink tariffs will use the same language for the applicable tariffed regulations associated with the Federal Lifeline Program.

This tariff sheet is filed with an October 28, 2016 issue date and an effective date of December 2, 2016.

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please call me or Mr. Joshua Motzer at (614) 221-5354.

Sincerely,

Zarneisha Dixon

Fw Dixm

cc: Joshua Motzer, Centurylink

OH 16-12 (CT)

CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink

P.U.C.O. NO. 12 GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF

Preface Second Revised Sheet 2 Cancels First Revised Sheet 2

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CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink d/b/a CenturyLink

Section 7

P.U.C.O. NO. 12 GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF Second Revised Sheet 1 Cancels First Revised Sheet 1

#### LIFELINE

#### 7. LIFELINE

CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink shall provide Lifeline service as defined in 47 C.F.R. § 54.401(a) on a non-discriminatory basis to all qualifying low-income customers. CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink's Lifeline service offering shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws, including, but not limited to, 47 C.F.R. Part 54, Subpart E; the FCC's Lifeline reform order (Report and Order released February 6, 2012, WC Docket No, 11-42, et. al) and any subsequent clarifying orders; Section 4927.13, Revised Code; Rule 4901:1-6-19, Ohio Administrative Code; and, the Commission's nontraditional Lifeline service order (Finding and Order adopted May 23, 2012, Case No. 10-2377-TP-COI) and any subsequent entries and/or orders.

Pursuant to FCC order 15-71, adopted June 18, 2015, the Company does not provide (N) Lifeline discounted service to resellers effective August 15, 2016. (N)

Issued: August 15, 2016 Effective: September 15, 2016

CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink

By Bill Hanchey, Vice President Wake Forest, North Carolina

In accordance with Case No.: 90-5010-TP-TRF and Case No. 16-1701-TP-ATA Issued by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink
P.U.C.O. NO. 12
GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF

Section 7 First Revised Sheet 2 Cancels Original Sheet 2

**RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE** 

(C)

(D)

(D)

Issued: June 11, 2012 Effective: June 11, 2012

CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink By Todd Schafer, Region President Wake Forest, North Carolina In accordance with Case No.: 90-5010-TP-TRF Issued by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink d/b/a CenturyLink

Section 7

P.U.C.O. NO. 12 GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF First Revised Sheet 3 Cancels Original Sheet 3

**RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE** 

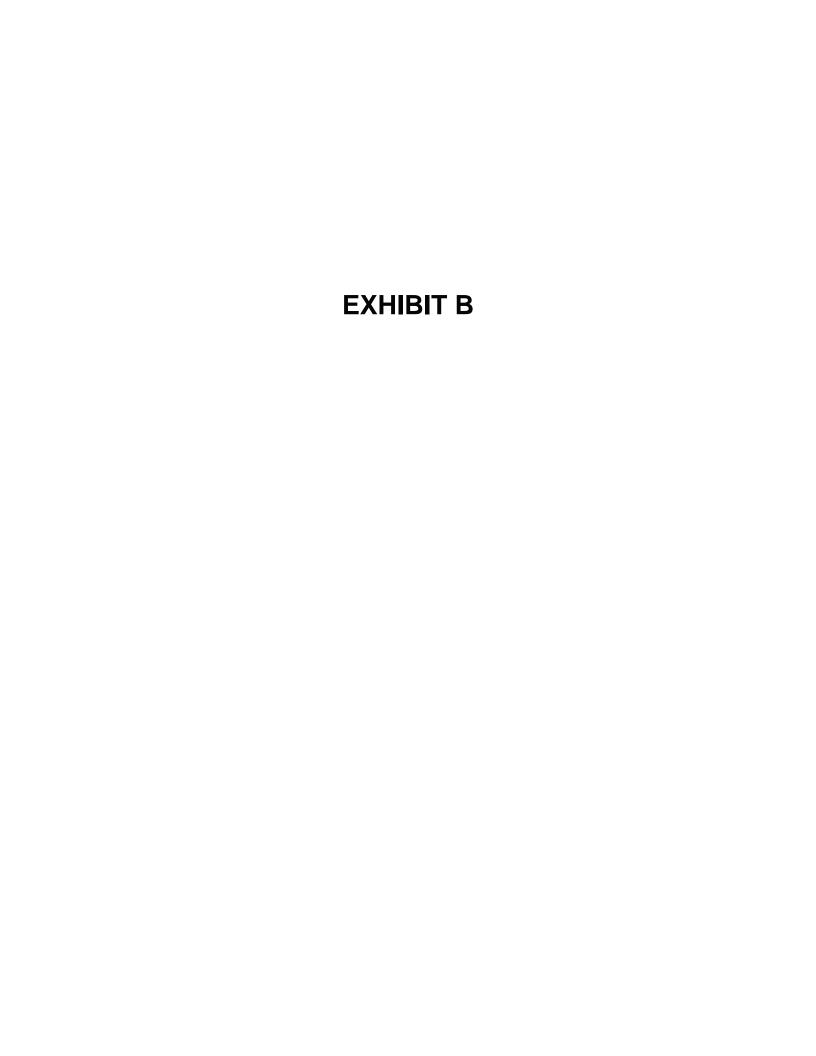
(C)

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Issued: June 11, 2012 Effective: June 11, 2012

CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink By Todd Schafer, Region President Wake Forest, North Carolina In accordance with Case No.: 90-5010-TP-TRF Issued by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio



CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink

#### P.U.C.O. NO. 12 GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF

Preface Third Revised Sheet 2 Cancels Second Revised Sheet 2

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Issued: October 28, 2016 Effective: December 2, 2016

CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink By Bill Hanchey, Vice President Wake Forest, North Carolina

In accordance with Case Nos.: 90-5010-TP-TRF and 16-2127-TP-ATA Issued by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

# P.U.C.O. NO. 12 Third Revised Sheet 1 GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF Cancels Second Revised Sheet 1

#### LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

(T)

Pursuant to FCC order 15-71, adopted June 18, 2015, the Company no longer provides Lifeline discounted service to resellers as of August 15, 2016.

Customers who received Lifeline Assistance prior to December 2, 2016 will continue to receive benefits until their annual re-certification date, at which time customers must demonstrate their continued eligibility by meeting the eligibility requirements in effect as of December 2, 2016.

(C)

(C)

#### 7.1 Federal Lifeline Programs

#### a. Description

The Federal Lifeline Program assists qualified low-income applicants with reductions in their monthly Local Exchange Service rate. The assistance applies to a single telephone line or broadband service at the applicant's principal place of residence.

#### b. Eligibility Requirements

To receive assistance an applicant must demonstrate an annual household income at or below 135 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, or must demonstrate participation by the applicant, applicant's dependent(s) or a member of applicant's household [1] in one of the following programs:

- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA) or Section 8
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veterans Pension Benefit and Survivors Pension

#### c. Terms and Conditions

(1) An applicant may request Lifeline assistance through completion and submission of a form provided by the Company or by an agent of the state or Federal Communications Commission.

A household is defined, for purposes of administering this program, as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses.

Issued: October 28, 2016 Effective: December 2, 2016

CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink By Bill Hanchey, Vice President Wake Forest, North Carolina In accordance with Case Nos.: 90-5010-TP-TRF

and 16-2127-TP-ATA

Issued by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

#### P.U.C.O. NO. 12 GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF

Second Revised Sheet 2 Cancels Third Revised Sheet 2

#### LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

(C)

#### 7.1 Federal Lifeline Programs

(N)

(N)

- c. Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)
  - (2) The Federal Lifeline Program credit may be applied to any qualifying residential Local Exchange Service provided by the Company (including Packaged Services).
  - (3) Customers are limited to one credit per household, which may be applied towards a qualifying wireline service, broadband service or a bundled voice and data service package. Customers are not eligible to receive a credit from the Company if they receive a Federal Lifeline Program credit for a service provided by another Eligible Telecommunications Carrier or Lifeline Broadband Provider.
  - (4) The Federal Lifeline Program credit will be pro-rated on the basis of a 30-day month from the effective date of the customer's application.
  - (5) Applicants must provide proof of eligibility and be deemed eligible for participation before monthly credits begin. Credits will only be issued on a go-forward basis.
  - (6) Nonrecurring charges will not apply when establishing this program on existing service.
  - (7) Partial payments made by Lifeline customers will be applied first towards local service charges.

Effective: December 2, 2016

CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink By Bill Hanchey, Vice President Wake Forest, North Carolina

Issued: October 28, 2016

OH 16-12

In accordance with Case Nos.: 90-5010-TP-TRF and 16-2127-TP-ATA Issued by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

#### P.U.C.O. NO. 12 GENERAL EXCHANGE TARIFF

Second Revised Sheet 3
Cancels First Revised Sheet 3

#### LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

(C)

#### 7.1 Federal Lifeline Programs

(N)

- c. Terms and Conditions (Cont'd)
  - (8) Toll Restriction (also known as Toll Blocking) is available to Lifeline customers upon request at no charge. No service deposit will be required for applicants who voluntarily elect toll restriction with the initiation of Lifeline service.
  - (9) Any Lifeline customer who has a past due balance in toll message charges will be automatically restricted from access to toll services until the outstanding balance is paid. The customer will not be charged for the toll restriction placed on the account. The Restoration Charge applies to Lifeline customers whose message toll service has been restricted for nonpayment.
  - (10) If a Lifeline customer is toll restricted for a second occurrence, the Company may, at its discretion, place the Lifeline customer on a permanent toll restriction. A Lifeline subscriber's request for reconnection or re-establishment of local service will not be denied if the service was previously suspended or disconnected for non-payment of toll charges.
- d. Monthly Credit

Credit Amount

Federal Lifeline Program Credit, per month

\$9.25

### 7.2 Link-Up Program

Link-Up assistance for non-Tribal Lifeline customers was eliminated as of April 1, 2012, pursuant to the FCC's Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, WC Docket No. 11-42, FCC 12-11 (rel. Feb. 6, 2012).

(N)

Issued: October 28, 2016 Effective: December 2, 2016

CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink By Bill Hanchey, Vice President Wake Forest, North Carolina In accordance with Case Nos.: 90-5010-TP-TRF and 16-2127-TP-ATA

Issued by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

# **EXHIBIT C**

This filing proposes changes to tariff provisions compliant with the FCC's Lifeline Modernization Order (16-38). This order includes changes in eligibility requirements for the Federal Lifeline Program and the inclusion of qualifying broadband service as a service for which Lifeline credits may be applied.

#### The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

#### TELECOMMUNICATIONS FILING FORM

(Effective: 9-2-2015)

This form is intended to be used with most types of required filings. It provides check boxes with rule references for the most common types of filings. It does not replace or supersede Commission rules in any way.

In the Matter of the Application of CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc.	TRF Docket No. 90-5010-TP	TRF Docket No. 90-5010-TP-TRF	
d/b/a CenturyLink to revise tariff to comply with FCC Lifeling Modernization Order.	Case No. 16-2127- <b>TP-</b> A	ΓΑ	
	NOTE: Unless you have reserved a fields BLANK.	a Case #, leave the "Case No"	
Name of Registrant(s) CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc.			
DBA(s) of Registrant(s) CenturyLink			
Address of Registrant(s) 100 CenturyLink Drive, Monroe, LA	71203		
Company Web Address www.centurylink.com/tariffs			
Regulatory Contact Person(s) Josh Motzer	Phone 614-221-5354	Fax 614-224-3902	
Regulatory Contact Person's Email Address Josh.Motzer@Co	enturyLink.com		
Contact Person for Annual Report Ken Buchan		Phone 318-362-1538	
Address (if different from above)			
Consumer Contact Information Donna Powell		Phone 800-788-3500	
Address (if different from above)			
Motion for protective order included with filing? ☐ Yes ☒			
Motion for waiver(s) filed affecting this case? $\square$ Yes $\boxtimes$ No	[Note: Waivers may toll any automati	c timeframe.]	
Notes:			

Section I and II are Pursuant to Chapter 4901:1-6 OAC.

Section III - Carrier to Carrier is Pursuant to 4901:1-7 OAC, and Wireless is Pursuant to 4901:1-6-24 OAC.

Section IV - Attestation.

- (1) Indicate the Carrier Type and the reason for submitting this form by checking the boxes below.
- (2) For requirements for various applications, see the identified section of Ohio Administrative Code Section 4901 and/or the supplemental application form noted.
- (3) Information regarding the number of copies required by the Commission may be obtained from the Commission's web site at www.puco.ohio.gov under the docketing information system section, by calling the docketing division at 614-466-4095, or by visiting the docketing division at the offices of the Commission.
- (4) An Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC) offering basic local exchange service (BLES) outside its traditional service area should choose CLEC designation when proposing to offer BLES outside its traditional service area or when proposing to make changes to that service.

All Filings that result in a change to one or more tariff pages require, at a minimum, the following exhibits.

Exhibit	Description:
A	The tariff pages subject to the proposed change(s) as they exist before the change(s)
В	The Tariff pages subject to the proposed change(s), reflecting the change, with the change(s) marked in the
	right margin.
С	A short description of the nature of the change(s), the intent of the change(s), and the customers affected.
D	A copy of the notice provided to customers, along with an affidavit that the notice was provided according to the applicable rule(s).

# $Section \ I-Part \ I-Common \ Filings$

Carrier Type  Other (explain below	)	For Prof	fit ILEC	Not For I	Profit ILEC	☐ CI	EC
Change terms & conditions of existing BLES		ATA <u>1-6-14(H)</u> (Auto 30 days)		ATA <u>1-6-6</u> (Auto 30 days			A <u>1-6-14(H)</u> 30 days)
Introduce non-recurring charge, surcharge, or fee to BLES							A <u>1-6-14(H)</u> 30 days)
Introduce or Increase Late	Payment	ATA <u>1</u> - (Auto 30 day	ys)	ATA <u>1-6</u> (Auto 30 days			A <u>1-6-14(I)</u> 30 days)
Revisions to BLES Cap.		TTA <u>1-0</u> (0 day Notic	ce)				
Introduce BLES or expand service area (calling area)	local	ZTA <u>1-0</u> (0 day Notic		ZTA <u>1-6-</u> (0 day Notice			'A <u>1-6-14(H)</u> Notice)
Notice of no obligation to of facilities and provide BLE.		ZTA <u>1-0</u> (0 day Notic		ZTA <u>1-6-</u> (0 day Notice			
Change BLES Rates		TRF <u>1-6-14(F)</u> (0 day Notice)		TRF <u>1-6-14(F)(4)</u> (0 day Notice)		TRF <u>1-6-14(G)</u> (0 day Notice)	
To obtain BLES pricing flexibility		BLS <u>1-6-6</u> (Auto 30 da	-14 (C)(1)(c) nys)				
Change in boundary		ACB <u>1-6-32</u> (Auto 14 days)		ACB <u>1-6-32</u> (Auto 14 days)			
Expand service operation area					•	☐ TR	F <u>1-6-08(G)</u> (0 day)
BLES withdrawal							'A <u>1-6-25(B)</u> Notice)
Other*		⊠Complian (	nce Filing				
Section I – Part II – Cus  Type of Notice		ification Off		uant to Chapt Insert	er <u>4901:1-6-7</u> Bill Nota		Electronic Mail
☐ 15-day Notice							
☐ 30-day Notice			[				
Date Notice Sent:							
Section I – Part III –IOS Offerings Pursuant to Chapter 4901:1-6-22 OAC							
IOS	Introdu	ice New	Tariff Change		Price Cha	nge	Withdraw
□ IOS							

## Section II - Part I - Carrier Certification - Pursuant to Chapter 4901:1-6-08, 09 & 10 OAC

	ILEC	CLEC	Telecommunications	CESTC	CETC
Certification	(Out of Territory)		Service Provider		
			Not Offering Local		
* See Supplemental	ACE <u>1-6-08</u>	ACE <u>1-6-08</u>	ACE <u>1-6-08</u>	ACE <u>1-6-10</u>	UNC <u>1-6-09</u>
form	* (Auto 30- day)	*(Auto 30 day)	*(Auto 30 day)	(Auto 30 day)	*(Non-Auto)

<sup>\*</sup>Supplemental Certification forms can be found on the Commission Web Page.

#### Section II - Part II - Certificate Status & Procedural

Certificate Status	ILEC	CLEC	Telecommunications Service Provider Not Offering Local
Abandon all Services		ABN <u>1-6-26</u> (Auto 30 days)	ABN <u>1-6-26</u> (Auto 30 days)
Change of Official Name *	ACN <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	ACN <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	CIO <u>1-6-29(C)</u> (0 day Notice)
Change in Ownership *	ACO <u>1-6-29(E)</u> (Auto 30 days)	ACO <u>1-6-29(E)</u> (Auto 30 days)	CIO <u>1-6-29(C)</u> (0 day Notice)
Merger *	AMT <u>1-6-29(E)</u> (Auto 30 days)	AMT <u>1-6-29(E)</u> (Auto 30 days)	CIO <u>1-6-29(C)</u> (0 day Notice)
Transfer a Certificate *	ATC <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	ATC <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	CIO <u>1-6-29(C)</u> (0 day Notice)
Transaction for transfer or lease of property, plant or business *	ATR <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	ATR <u>1-6-29(B)</u> (Auto 30 days)	CIO <u>1-6-29(C)</u> (0 day Notice)

<sup>\*</sup> Other exhibits may be required under the applicable rule(s). ACN, ACO, AMT, ATC, ATR and CIO applications see the 4901:1-6-29 Filing Requirements on the Commission's Web Page for a complete list of exhibits.

## Section III – Carrier to Carrier (Pursuant to 4901:1-7), and Wireless (Pursuant to 4901:1-6-24)

Carrier to Carrier	ILEC	CLEC
Interconnection agreement, or amendment to	☐ NAG <u>1-7-07</u>	☐ NAG <u>1-7-07</u>
an approved agreement	(Auto 90 day)	(Auto 90 day)
Request for Arbitration	ARB <u>1-7-09</u> (Non-Auto)	ARB <u>1-7-09</u> (Non-Auto)
Introduce or change c-t-c service tariffs,	ATA <u>1-7-14</u> (Auto 30 days)	ATA <u>1-7-14</u> (Auto 30 days)
Request rural carrier exemption, rural carrier	UNC <u>1-7-04</u> or 05	
suspension or modification	(Non-Auto)	
Changes in rates, terms & conditions to Pole	☐ ATA <u>1-3-04</u>	
Attachment, Conduit Occupancy and Rights-	(Auto 30 days)	
of-Way.		
	RCC	□NAG
Wireless Providers See 4901:1-6-24	[Registration &	[Interconnection
	Change in Operations]	Agreement or

# Registrant hereby attests to its compliance with pertinent entries and orders issued by the Commission.

## **AFFIDAVIT**

# Compliance with Commission Rules

I am an officer/agent of the applicant corporation. Century Link, and am authorized to make this statement on its behalf

Tain an officer/agent of the applicant corporation, CenturyLink, and an authorized to make this statement on its behan.
Please Check ALL that apply:
☑ I attest that these tariffs comply with all applicable rules for the state of Ohio. I understand that tariff notification filings do not imply Commission approval and that the Commission's rules as modified and clarified from time to time, supersede any contradictory provisions in our tariff. We will fully comply with the rules of the state of Ohio and understand that noncompliance can result in various penalties, including the suspension of our certificate to operate within the state of Ohio.
☐ I attest that customer notices accompanying this filing form were sent to affected customers, as specified in Section II, in accordance with Rule 4901:1-6-7, Ohio Administrative Code.
I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.
Executed on October 28, 2016 at Monroe, Louisiana
*/s/ Tw Diam , Regulatory Operations Analyst October 28, 2016
• This affidavit is required for every tariff-affecting filing. It may be signed by counsel or an officer of the applicant, or an authorized agent of the applicant.
<u>VERIFICATION</u>
I, Zarneisha Dixon verify that I have utilized the Telecommunications Filing Form for most proceedings provided by the Commission and that all of the information submitted here, and all additional information submitted in connection with this case, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
*/s/ Zw Diam , Regulatory Operations Analyst October 28, 2016
*Verification is required for every filing. It may be signed by counsel or an officer of the applicant, or an authorized agent of the applicant.
Send your completed Application Form, including all required attachments as well as the required number of copies, to:
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio Attention: Docketing Division 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215-3793 Or
Make such filing electronically as directed in Case No 06-900-AU-WVR

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in

Case No(s). 16-2127-TP-ATA

Summary: Tariff FCC DECEMBER 2016 LIFELINE RULE CHANGES electronically filed by Mrs. Zarneisha Dixon on behalf of CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc d/b/a CenturyLinik