



October 31, 2019

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. 19-2006-TP-ATA

Dear Ms. McNeal:

This filing revises the Lifeline Assistance Programs section of CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. P.U.C.O. No. 12 General Exchange Tariff to establish a concurrence with United Telephone Company of Ohio d/b/a CenturyLink (United). This revision also includes a hyperlink to United's tariff document found on the Company's website.

United's 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. Specifically, the proposed revisions reflect the phased-in reductions in the Federal Lifeline credit that will begin on December 1, 2019 when the credit is applied towards a qualifying voice service. This filing also adds clarifying language regarding qualifying services.

The following revisions are included in this filing:

Section 7, Fourth Revised Sheet 1
Section 7, Third Revised Sheet 2
Section 7, Third Revised Sheet 3

These tariff sheet(s) are filed with an October 31, 2019 issue date and an effective date of December 1, 2019.

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

Sincerely,

/s/ Debra Levy

Debra Levy

cc: Joshua Motzer, CenturyLink

OH 19-09

DEBRA LEVY
Manager, Government Operations
Debra.Levy@Centurylink.com
600 New Century Pkwy
New Century, KS 66031
Mailstop: 1D102
Tel: (913) 884-1132

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FILING FORM

(Effective: 10-11-2017)

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
d/b/a CenturyLink to revise its Lifeline Assistance Programs) Case No. 19-2006-TP-ATA
in compliance with FCC 16-38.)

NOTE: Unless you have reserved a Case #, leave the "Case No" fields BLANK.

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@CenturyLink.com
Contact Person for Annual Report Ken Buchan Phone 318-362-1538
Address (if different from above) _____
Consumer Contact Information Lori Ann Johnson Phone 800-877-3345
Address (if different from above) _____

Motion for protective order included with filing? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Motion for waiver(s) filed affecting this case? ☐ Yes ☒ No [Note: Waivers may toll any automatic timeframe.]

Notes:

Section I and II are Pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code Chapter [4901:1-6](#).

Section III – Carrier to Carrier is Pursuant to Ohio Adm. Code [4901:1-7](#), and Wireless is Pursuant to Ohio Adm. Code [4901:1-6-24](#).

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 Admin. Code Section 4901 and/or the supplemental application form noted.

(3) Information regarding the number of copies required by the PUCO may be obtained from the PUCO's website 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 PUCO.

(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)
B	The tariff pages subject to the proposed change(s), reflecting the change, with the change(s) marked in the right margin.
C	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 <input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain below)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Profit ILEC	<input type="checkbox"/> Not For Profit ILEC	<input type="checkbox"/> CLEC
Change terms & conditions of existing BLES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ATA 1-6-14(H) (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA 1-6-14(H) (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA 1-6-14(H) (Auto 30 days)
Introduce non-recurring charge, surcharge, or fee to BLES			<input type="checkbox"/> ATA 1-6-14(H) (Auto 30 days)
Introduce or Increase Late Payment	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA 1-6-14(I) (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA 1-6-14(I) (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA 1-6-14(I) (Auto 30 days)
Revisions to BLES Cap.	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA 1-6-14(F) (0 day Notice)		
Introduce BLES or expand local service area (calling area)	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA 1-6-14(H) (0 day Notice)	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA 1-6-14(H) (0 day Notice)	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA 1-6-14(H) (0 day Notice)
Notice of no obligation to construct facilities and provide BLES	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA 1-6-27(C) (0 day Notice)	<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA 1-6-27(C) (0 day Notice)	
Change BLES Rates	<input type="checkbox"/> TRF 1-6-14(F) (0 day Notice)	<input type="checkbox"/> TRF 1-6-14(F)(4) (0 day Notice)	<input type="checkbox"/> TRF 1-6-14(G) (0 day Notice)
To obtain BLES pricing flexibility	<input type="checkbox"/> BLS 1-6-14(C)(1)(c) (Auto 30 days)		
Change in boundary	<input type="checkbox"/> ACB 1-6-32 (Auto 14 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ACB 1-6-32 (Auto 14 days)	
Expand service operation area			<input type="checkbox"/> TRF 1-6-08(G) (0 day)
BLES withdrawal			<input type="checkbox"/> ZTA 1-6-25(B) (0 day Notice)
Other*			

Section I – Part II – Customer Notification Offerings Pursuant to Chapter [4901:1-6-7 OAC](#)

Type of Notice	Direct Mail	Bill Insert	Bill Notation	Electronic Mail
<input type="checkbox"/> 15-day Notice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 30-day Notice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Date Notice Sent: November 1, 2019 through November 30, 2019, by bill cycle				

Section I – Part III –IOS Offerings Pursuant to Chapter [4901:1-6-22 OAC](#)

IOS	Introduce New	Tariff Change	Price Change	Withdraw
<input type="checkbox"/> IOS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

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

*Supplemental Certification forms can be found on the PUCO webpage.

Section II – Part II – Certificate Status & Procedural

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

* 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 PUCO's webpage](#) 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 an approved agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> NAG 1-7-07 (Auto 90 day)	<input type="checkbox"/> NAG 1-7-07 (Auto 90 day)
Request for Arbitration	<input type="checkbox"/> ARB 1-7-09 (Non-Auto)	<input type="checkbox"/> ARB 1-7-09 (Non-Auto)
Introduce or change c-t-c service tariffs	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA 1-7-14 (Auto 30 days)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA 1-7-14 (Auto 30 days)
Request rural carrier exemption, rural carrier suspension or modification	<input type="checkbox"/> UNC 1-7-04 or 05 (Non-Auto)	
Changes in rates, terms & conditions to Pole Attachment, Conduit Occupancy and Rights- of-Way. (13-579-AU-ORD 11/30/16 Entry)	<input type="checkbox"/> ATA 1-3-04 (Auto 60 days)	
Wireless Providers See 4901:1-6-24	<input type="checkbox"/> RCC [Registration & Change in Operations] (0 day)	<input type="checkbox"/> NAG [Interconnection Agreement or Amendment] (Auto 90 days)

Section IV. – Attestation

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, CenturyLink, and am authorized to make this statement on its behalf.

Debra A. Levy, Manager, Government Operations

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 Ohio Adm. Code 4901:1-6-7.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on October 31, 2019 at New Century, Kansas

*/s/ Debra A. Levy, Manager, Government Operations

October 31, 2019

**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.*

VERIFICATION

I, Debra A. Levy, 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/ Debra A. Levy, Manager, Government Operations

October 31, 2019

**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.*

File document electronically as directed in Case Number 06-900-AU-WVR

or

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**

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)

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.

^[1] 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.

(C)

LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

(C)

7.1 Federal Lifeline Programs

(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.

(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

LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

7.1 Federal Lifeline Programs

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

	<u>Credit Amount</u>
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).

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 B

LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

7.1 Federal Lifeline Programs

- a. CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink concurs in Lifeline Assistance Programs rates and regulations in Section 7 of United Telephone Company of Ohio d/b/a CenturyLink P.U.C.O. No. 5 General Exchange Tariff for the purpose of providing this service.

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).

(M) Material was previously located on Second Revised Sheet 3 of this section.

Issued: October 31, 2019

Effective: December 1, 2019

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 19-2006-TP-ATA
Issued by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE

(C)

(D)

(D)

Issued: October 31, 2019

Effective: December 1, 2019

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 19-2006-TP-ATA
Issued by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

RESERVED

(C)

(D)

(D)

(M)

(M)

(M) Material was moved to Sheet 1 of this section.

Issued: October 31, 2019

Effective: December 1, 2019

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 19-2006-TP-ATA
Issued by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

EXHIBIT C

This filing revises the Lifeline Assistance Programs section of CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. P.U.C.O. No. 12 General Exchange Tariff to establish a concurrence with United Telephone Company of Ohio d/b/a CenturyLink (United). This revision also includes a hyperlink to United's tariff document found on the Company's website.

United's 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. Specifically, the proposed revisions reflect the phased-in reductions in the Federal Lifeline credit that will begin on December 1, 2019 when the credit is applied towards a qualifying voice service. This filing also adds clarifying language regarding qualifying services.

EXHIBIT D

**CENTURYTEL OF OHIO, INC. d/b/a CENTURYLINK
CUSTOMER NOTICE**

In compliance with OAC 4901:1-6-07 Customer Notice Requirements, CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink will send the following bill message on customer bills beginning November 1, 2019.

Effective December 1, 2019, the amount for the Federal Lifeline discount for voice services will decrease by \$2.00, from \$9.25 to \$7.25. This will cause an increase in your total amount billed. If you have any questions, please call the Customer Contact Center at the number located on this invoice.

CUSTOMER NOTICE AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF: KANSAS

SS:

COUNTY OF: JOHNSON

AFFIDAVIT

I, Debra Levy, am an authorized agent of the applicant corporation, CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink and am authorized to make this statement on its behalf. I attest that customer notice accompanying this affidavit will be sent to affected customers through bill message beginning November 1, 2019 in accordance with Rule 4901:1-6-07 (C), Ohio Administrative Code. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on October 29, 2019, New Century, Kansas 66031

Debra Levy
Debra Levy

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th Day of October 2019.

Linda K. Joseph

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: October 19, 2022

Linda K. Joseph

My Appt. Exp. 10-19-22



This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on

10/31/2019 4:25:29 PM

in

Case No(s). 90-5010-TP-TRF, 19-2006-TP-ATA

Summary: Tariff In the Matter of the Application of CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink to revise its Lifeline Assistance Programs in compliance with FCC 16-38. electronically filed by Ms. Debra A Levy on behalf of CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink