

¹ There is not a docket number associated with this Application but pursuant to Sections 63.63(a), (b), 47 C.F.R. §§ 63.63(a), (b), CenturyLink is filing the Application via the “Submit a Non-Docketed Filing” module of the Commission’s Electronic Comment Filing System.

more storms occurred after that time which brought additional flooding and another impairment of service to the area. At this point in time, service remains impacted as a result of standing water that has been slow to recede while a more permanent solution to restore service is implemented.

II. INFORMATION REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SECTION 63.63(a)

A. Effective Date of Impairment and Service Areas Affected

CenturyLink first started experiencing flood-related service outages on approximately May 1, 2019 with respect to approximately five (5) customers. As mentioned above, CenturyLink believes that service was briefly restored at the end of June before more flooding occurred and another impairment followed. As of this filing, CenturyLink has yet to restore service in limited portions of the Huron wire center from this most recent impairment and makes this filing out of an abundance of caution.

B. Nature and Estimated Duration of the Conditions Causing the Impairment

The initial flooding that caused the service impairment occurred in May 2019 but subsequent storms since that time have caused the standing water to return. Due to high water and continued additional precipitation in the area, standing water has not yet receded. To restore service, within approximately one week CenturyLink intends to install a new cable that will be located outside of the flood plain.

C. Facts Showing That Such Conditions Could Not Have Been Reasonably Foreseen to Prevent Such Impairment

CenturyLink has had facilities in this area for decades to serve customers in this portion of the Huron wire center. CenturyLink last experienced flooding and standing water of this magnitude approximately twenty years ago, which shows how unusual these circumstances are.

Given how rarely this type of serious weather event has occurred, the flooding and resulting impairment of CenturyLink's services from this event were not foreseeable and could not have been reasonably prevented.

D. A Description of the Service Involved

CenturyLink's wireline telecommunications services and other real-time two-way voice communications services, as defined in Section 63.60(f) of the Commission's Rules, have been impaired in limited areas of the Huron, South Dakota wire center, approximately 15-18 miles north of the town of Huron.

E. The Nature of Service Which Will Be Available or Substituted

As mentioned above, CenturyLink expects to restore service in the very near term. Temporary service from CenturyLink is not available in the affected area due to the standing water that remains.

F. The Effect Upon Rates to any Person in the Community

CenturyLink does not yet have enough information to state what effect this impairment may have upon the rates CenturyLink charges its customers in this area.

G. Restoration Efforts

As mentioned above, restoration efforts are nearing completion as CenturyLink is slated to install a new cable outside of the flood plain within approximately one week. CenturyLink has devoted substantial man-hours to restoring service that was impaired by flooding in the Upper Midwest, and thankfully only a small number of customers remain without service in this area. CenturyLink expects that this service impairment will be resolved shortly and that no further filings will be necessary.


III. CONCLUSION


For the foregoing reasons, in light of the substantial flooding and standing water present in portions of the Huron, South Dakota wire center, CenturyLink respectfully requests Commission approval of this Application.

Respectfully submitted,

**QWEST CORPORATION d/b/a
CENTURYLINK QC**

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