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Via ECFS

March 18, 2016

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: *Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization*, WC Docket No. 11-42; *Lifeline and Link Up*, WC Docket No. 03-109; *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket No. 96-45; *Advancing Broadband Availability Through Digital Literacy Training*, WC Docket No. 12-23

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On March 16, 2016, Melissa Newman and Jeb Benedict of CenturyLink met with Travis Litman about the Commission's proposal to reform the Lifeline program to support broadband service. On March 17, 2016, Melissa Newman and Jeb Benedict met, in separate meetings, with Nick Degani and Amy Bender to discuss the same topic.

CenturyLink explained that the current Lifeline program is overly complex for consumers and providers. If the program is to be modernized to support broadband, program administration needs to be meaningfully streamlined for all providers – particularly by promptly shifting eligibility verification to a third party and by not requiring offering of all Lifeline options. The company also cautioned against making participation mandatory for any providers or applying a rigid 10/1 Mbps minimum service level for wireline broadband service, as it would limit options for consumers who may prefer less expensive options or who live in areas where only lower speeds are currently available.

Pursuant to section 1.1206(b)(2) of the Commission's rules, this notice letter is being submitted to these dockets.

Sincerely,

/s/ Melissa E. Newman

Copy via email to:
Amy Bender
Nick Degani
Travis Litman