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EX PARTE

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March 23, 2011

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

Re: *In the Matter of Qwest Communications International Inc., Transferor, and CenturyTel, Inc. D/B/A CenturyLink, Transferee, Application for Transfer of Control under Section 214 of the Communications Act, as amended, WC Docket No. 10-110*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On March 23, 2011, the undersigned spoke by telephone with Zachary Katz, Legal Advisor to Chairman Julius Genachowski, to update the Chairman's office on the status of the CenturyLink/Qwest merger. I informed the Chairman's office that CenturyLink and Qwest intend to close the transaction on April 1, 2011.

I also stated that the combined company intends to comply with all FCC rules, including the recently adopted rules relating to open Internet.<sup>1</sup> CenturyLink has publicly affirmed that its practices and policies are consistent with the Commission's open Internet rules.

All of us at the new CenturyLink look forward to working with the Commission to improve our industry and the experience of our customers across industry segments and across the country.

This *ex parte* is being filed electronically pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.49(f) and 1.1206(b).

Sincerely,

/s/ Melissa E. Newman

Copy via email to:  
Zachary Katz

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<sup>1</sup> *Open Internet Order: Preserving the Open Internet; Broadband Industry Practices*, GN Docket No. 09-191 and WC Docket No. 07-52, Report and Order, FCC 10-201 (rel. Dec. 23, 2010).]