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## P. U. C. DOCKET NO. 40342

RULEMAKING TO CONSIDER AMENDING SUBSTANTIVE RULE §26.403, RELATING TO THE TEXAS HIGH COST UNIVERSAL SERVICE PLAN	***	BEFORE THE PUBLIC UEIL	19 JAN 25 PM	ES
CENTURYLINK'S STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			3: 57	

United Telephone Company of Texas, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink and Central Company of Texas, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink (collectively "CenturyLink") hereby provides notice to all parties in this project of its Confidential Response to Commission Staffs request for data, which has been designated as "Protected Material" pursuant to Section 5 of the Confidentiality Agreement signed by participants in this rulemaking project and is being submitted under seal to the Public Utility Commission (the "Commission" or "PUC") on January 25, 2013. The Protected Material, consisting of CenturyLink's Confidential Data necessary for an analysis of the impact on CenturyLink of the three proposed alternative amendments to P.U.C. SUBST. R. 26.403 filed by Staff in this project on December 18, 2012, is being served upon the Commission Staff, the requesting party, and will be provided to any authorized individuals pursuant to the terms of the Confidentiality Agreement upon reasonable request.

CenturyLink asserts that the confidential information included within its Confidential Data should be afforded "Protected Material" treatment because it is excepted from public disclosure under Sections 552.104 and 552.110 of the Texas Public Information Act, TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. §§552.001-.353 (Vernon 2004 and Supp. 2009). The confidential information contains proprietary and confidential residential and business line count information that, if divulged, would cause competitive disadvantage and harm to CenturyLink because the

disclosure of the information would enable CenturyLink's competitors to compete unfairly with CenturyLink. The information also includes square mileage information that was obtained through a license from a proprietary source. CenturyLink does not publicly disclose this proprietary, trade secret information and views it as commercially sensitive. All of this same information was afforded confidential treatment in prior Docket No. 40521.

By the signature below counsel for CenturyLink certifies that he/she has reviewed the confidential information sufficiently to state in good faith that it is exempt from public disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act and merits the "Protected Material" designation.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin K. Zarling, TX Bar No. 22249300

Associate General Counsel 400 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Ste. 315

Austin, Texas 78701-1600 (512) 867-1075

(Fax) (512) 472-8362

kevin.k.zarling@centurylink.com

ATTORNEY FOR UNITED TELEPHONE COMPANY OF TEXAS, INC. D/B/A CENTURYLINK; CENTRAL TELEPHONE COMPANY OF TEXAS, INC. D/B/A CENTURYLINK

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served upon all parties of record by electronic mail on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2013.