

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of the Joint Application of)	Application No.17-03-016
)	(Filed: March 22, 2017)
Broadwing Communications, LLC (U-5525-C);)	
Global Crossing Local Services, Inc. (U-5685-)	
C); Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc.)	
(U-5005-C); IP Networks, Inc. (U-6362-C);)	
Level 3 Communications, LLC (U-5941-C);)	
Level 3 Telecom of California, LP (U-5358-C);)	
WilTel Communications, LLC (U-6146-C);)	
)	
and)	
)	
Level 3 Communications, Inc., a Delaware)	
Corporation;)	
)	
and)	
)	
CenturyLink, Inc., a Louisiana Corporation,)	
)	
_____)	
For Approval of Transfer of Control of the)	
Level 3 Operating Entities Pursuant to)	
California Public Utilities Code Section 854(a))	
_____)	

**JOINT APPLICANTS' EXPEDITED MOTION FOR REDUCTION
OF 30-DAY COMMENT PERIOD
ON PROPOSED DECISION PURSUANT
TO CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE §311**

Kristie Ince
Level 3 Communications
Vice President State Public Policy
1025 Eldorado Blvd.
Broomfield, CO 80021
Tele: 972.455.7833
Email: kristie.ince@level3.com

Jeffrey L. Lindsey
CenturyLink, Inc.
VP Regional Regulatory and Legislative Affairs
20 East Thomas Road
Phoenix, AZ 85012
Tele: 602.630.1942
Email: jeffrey.l.lindsey@centurylink.com

Catherine Wang, Esq.
Danielle Burt, Esq.
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
Tele 202.739.3000
Fax: 202.739.3001
E-mail: catherine.wang@morganlewis.com
danielle.burt@morganlewis.com

Anita Taff-Rice
iCommLaw
1547 Palos Verdes, #2498
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
Tele: 415.699.7885
Email: anita@icommlaw.com

*On Behalf of Level 3 Communications, Inc. and
the Level 3 Operating Entities*

Dated: August 29, 2017

Norman G. Curtright
Senior Counsel
CenturyLink, Inc.
20 East Thomas Road
Phoenix, AZ 85012
Tele: 602.630.2187
Email: norm.curtright@centurylink.com

Leon M. Bloomfield
Law Offices of Leon M. Bloomfield
1901 Harrison St., Suite 1400
Oakland, CA 94610
Tele: 510.625.1164
E-mail: lmb@wblaw.net

*On behalf of CenturyLink, Inc. and the
CenturyLink Operating Entities*

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of the Joint Application of)	Application No.17-03-016
)	(Filed: March 22, 2017)
Broadwing Communications, LLC (U-5525-C);)	
Global Crossing Local Services, Inc. (U-5685-)	
C); Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc.)	
(U-5005-C); IP Networks, Inc. (U-6362-C);)	
Level 3 Communications, LLC (U-5941-C);)	
Level 3 Telecom of California, LP (U-5358-C);)	
WilTel Communications, LLC (U-6146-C);)	
)	
and)	
)	
Level 3 Communications, Inc., a Delaware)	
Corporation;)	
)	
and)	
)	
CenturyLink, Inc., a Louisiana Corporation,)	
)	
<hr/>)	
For Approval of Transfer of Control of the)	
Level 3 Operating Entities Pursuant to)	
California Public Utilities Code Section 854(a))	
<hr/>)	

**JOINT APPLICANTS’ EXPEDITED MOTION FOR REDUCTION
OF 30-DAY COMMENT PERIOD
ON PROPOSED DECISION PURSUANT
TO CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE §311**

Pursuant to Rule 11.1 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, Joint Applicants¹ hereby move the Commission for a reduction of the 30-day comment period on the

¹ The Joint Applicants include the following: Broadwing Communications, LLC (U-5525-C), Global Crossing Local Services, Inc. (U-5685-C), Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc. (U-5005-C), IP Networks, Inc. (U-6362-C), Level 3 Communications, LLC (U-5941- C), Level 3 Telecom of California, LP (U-5358-C), and WilTel Communications, LLC (U-6146-C) (collectively the “Level 3 Operating Entities”); CenturyLink, Inc., the post-merger ultimate parent of the Level 3 Operating Companies; and Level 3 Communications, Inc., the current ultimate parent of the Level 3 Operating Entities.

Proposed Decision (“PD”) *to be issued* on their Joint Application for Approval of Transfer of Control (“Application”). The Joint Applicants’ request for a reduction of the time for comments on the PD is necessitated by an extraordinary condition in which time is of the essence. Thus, shortening the comment period is permissible pursuant to Rule 14.6 and California Public Utilities Code Section 311(g).² Given the time-sensitive nature of this motion, the Joint Applicants are filing a contemporaneous motion to shorten time for replies to this motion to September 5, 2017.

Except for California, the Joint Applicants have confirmed that they have received all state³ approvals (or secured their equivalent) needed for the transfer of control to close on September 30, 2017. The Joint Applicants completed the regulatory processes for approval of the transaction in 24 other states and territories when, on August 23, 2017, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities issued an order approving the transfer of control. The Joint Applicants similarly are working with the Department of Justice (“DOJ”) and the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) to secure their approval in time to close by September 30, 2017.

In order for the Joint Applicants to receive approval from the Commission in time to close on September 30, 2017, the PD must be placed on the September 28, 2017 public meeting agenda. Section 311(d) establishes a 30-day notice period prior to a Commission vote on a PD unless the comment period is otherwise shortened. Thus, a PD would have had to be issued by close of business today (August 29) in order for the PD to be voted on at the September 28, 2017 public agenda meeting with the normal 20-day opening comment and 5-day reply comment periods provided by the Rules. As of the filing of this motion, however, no PD had been issued. Therefore, the notice period set forth in Rule 14.3 must be reduced in order for the vote on the Application to occur on September 28, 2017.

² All subsequent statutory citations refer to the California Public Utilities Code unless otherwise noted.

³ The District of Columbia is included in these approvals.

Rule 14.6 and Section 311(g) allow for such reduction under circumstances such as the one here. Rule 14.6(a) provides that the 30-day period “for public review and comment on [a] proposed decision....” may be reduced in an unforeseen emergency situation, which the Commission defines as “a matter that requires action or a decision by the Commission more quickly than would be permitted if advance publication were made on the regular meeting agenda.” Examples of situations justifying reduction of the period for public review and comment, include requests for relief based on extraordinary conditions in which time is of the essence.⁴ For a PD issued in a proceeding which, as here, had no hearings, the Commission may reduce the 30-day period for public review and comment on its own motion or the motion of a party if it determines that the public necessity requires it.⁵ Public necessity includes “circumstances where failure to adopt a decision before expiration of the 30-day review and comment period would cause significant harm to public health or welfare.”⁶

The Commission has reduced the 30-day notice period in a number of situations to protect the public welfare where physical harm or damage might occur absent the shortened notice and comment period.⁷ The Commission has also reduced the notice and comment periods in order to facilitate business transactions that protect the public welfare. For example, in Resolution E-4797, the Commission reduced the notice and comment period for a resolution

⁴ Rule 14.6(a)(6).

⁵ Rule 14.6(c)(9).

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ *See e.g.*, D.04-07-028 (reducing notice and comment period to 3 days for PD clarifying utility short-term procurement practices to accommodate need of the California Independent System Operator to manage congestion and enhance reliability on electrical transmission system in Southern California); Resolution W-5103 (reducing notice and comment period on resolution ordering water utilities to comply with May 18, 2016 regulation from State Water Control Board extending water use restrictions during drought).

extending price agreements for three months beyond expiration with two biomass facilities receiving dead trees from high fire threat zones.⁸ Similarly, the Commission reduced the notice and comment period to seven days for Resolution G-3518, which closed a loophole allowing customers to evade daily balancing requirements for natural gas deliveries to accounts off of Southern California Gas' system without having actual customers to receive those deliveries in order to avoid buy-back charges.⁹ While reductions of the notice and comment period for PDs or resolutions are not routine, the Joint Applicants have identified 11 instances in 2016 and 3 instances in 2017 in which notice and/or comment periods were reduced pursuant to Section 311(g).

The Joint Applicants respectfully submit that a similar public interest warrants reduction of the 30-day notice period in this instance. As the Joint Applicants have explained previously, delay in the closing date beyond the end of September has material negative consequences including, but not limited to, the additional accrual of substantial ticking fees (i.e., the fee charged by the lenders in exchange for their commitment to lend money) and interest payments without any of the anticipated incoming revenue to offset those costs. In addition, the inability to close in a timely fashion creates business and marketplace uncertainty. Competitors can capitalize on the uncertainty to generate doubt in the marketplace affecting decision by CenturyLink and Level 3's current and potential customers. Delays in the planned closing also delays the implementation of the public interest benefits embodied in the commitments made in the Settlement Agreement as well as those which are inherent to the merger itself for employees,

⁸ Resolution E-4797, at p. 15 (mimeo) (Aug. 18, 2016).

⁹ Resolution G-3518, at p. 10 (mimeo) (Aug. 18, 2016).

customers, shareholders and vendors (e.g., the outside vendors that do the actual buildout of the network) that rely on the Joint Applicants and the markets both in California and beyond.

The September 30th target closing date was not chosen lightly. It was based on a number of factors including the expected timeframe for satisfying all conditions precedent (e.g., obtaining the necessary regulatory approvals and consents from all the jurisdictions noted above); the desirability from an accounting standpoint of closing at the end of a quarter; mitigating the accrual of substantial financing costs without the benefit on any anticipated post-merger revenue; and the safeguard of satisfying all the conditions precedent in advance of the Merger Agreement's Termination Date to promote the timely and orderly consummation of the merger.

There has been substantial interest in this proceeding since it became clear that California would be one of the last, if not *the* last state to approve the transaction. On the same day as the issuance of the Scoping Ruling without a specified approval date that allowed for a September 30, 2017 closing, CenturyLink's share price fell by over 7%.¹⁰ The Joint Applicants note that a loss in market capitalization affects their ability to compete against the largest market players in California such as ILECs and cable companies and affects the value of stock held by employees, investors and pension funds including large California based pension funds.

In light of the extraordinary conditions presented by this Application, and in order to satisfy the public necessity of ensuring a timely closing of the underlying transaction, the Joint Applicants respectfully request that the Commission reduce the public review and comment period provides by Rule 14.3 so that the PD can be voted on at the September 28, 2017 meeting.

¹⁰ See <http://www.barrons.com/articles/the-biggest-loser-centurylink-sinks-7-2-1503004764>, estimating a nearly \$1B impact to CenturyLink's market capitalization alone.

While the Joint Applicants are uncertain of the date on which the PD will be issued, they suggest the following possible comment periods based on hypothetical issuance dates.

PD issuance date	Opening Comments	Reply Comments	# of days in notice/comment period
By September 1, 2017	September 18, 2017	September 25, 2017	Notice: 27 Opening: 17 Reply: 5*
After September 1, 2017 but by September 7, 2017	September 18, 2017	September 25, 2017	Notice: 21 Opening: 11 Reply: 5*
After September 7, 2017 but by September 14, 2017	September 21, 2017	September 26, 2017	Notice: 14 Opening: 7 Reply: 5
*the deadline rolls forward to the following Monday because the 5 th day falls on a Saturday			

The Joint Applicants submit that any of the comment periods above are consistent with reductions made by the Commission in other cases, and provide ample opportunity for interested parties to make their views known to the Commission in two rounds of comments. These notice and comment periods are especially appropriate given the small number of parties and the limited scope of issues (*i.e.*, whether the transfer of control is adverse to the public interest under Section 854(a) and whether the Joint Applicants' settlement agreement with ORA, TURN and Greenlining creates tangible public interest benefits for California).

///

///

///

Respectfully submitted this 29th day of August, 2017 in San Francisco, California.

/s/

Kristie Ince
Level 3 Communications
Vice President State Public Policy
1025 Eldorado Blvd.
Broomfield, CO 80021
Tele: 972.455.7833
Email: kristie.ince@level3.com

Catherine Wang, Esq.
Danielle Burt, Esq.
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
Tele 202.739.3000
Fax: 202.739.3001
E-mail: catherine.wang@morganlewis.com
danielle.burt@morganlewis.com

Anita Taff-Rice
iCommLaw
1547 Palos Verdes, #298
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
Tele: 415.699.7885
Email: anita@icommlaw.com

*On Behalf of Level 3 Communications, Inc. and
the Level 3 Operating Entities*

/s/

Jeffrey L. Lindsey
CenturyLink, Inc.
VP Regional Regulatory and Legislative Affairs
20 East Thomas Road
Phoenix, AZ 85012
Tele: 602.630.1942
Email: jeffrey.l.lindsey@centurylink.com

Norman G. Curtright
Senior Counsel
CenturyLink, Inc.
20 East Thomas Road
Phoenix, AZ 85012
Tele: 602.630.2187
Email: norm.curtright@centurylink.com

Leon M. Bloomfield
Law Offices of Leon M. Bloomfield
1901 Harrison St., Suite 1400
Oakland, CA 94610
Tele: 510.625.1164
E-mail: lmb@wblaw.net

*On behalf of CenturyLink, Inc. and the
CenturyLink Operating Entities*

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of the Joint Application of)	Application No.17-03-016
)	(Filed: March 22, 2017)
Broadwing Communications, LLC (U-5525-C);)	
Global Crossing Local Services, Inc. (U-5685-)	
C); Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc.)	
(U-5005-C); IP Networks, Inc. (U-6362-C);)	
Level 3 Communications, LLC (U-5941-C);)	
Level 3 Telecom of California, LP (U-5358-C);)	
WilTel Communications, LLC (U-6146-C);)	
)	
and)	
)	
Level 3 Communications, Inc., a Delaware)	
Corporation;)	
)	
and)	
)	
CenturyLink, Inc., a Louisiana Corporation,)	
)	
_____)	
For Approval of Transfer of Control of the)	
Level 3 Operating Entities Pursuant to)	
California Public Utilities Code Section 854(a))	
_____)	

**JOINT APPLICANTS' MOTION FOR AN ORDER SHORTENING TIME TO SUBMIT
COMMENTS ON THE EXPEDITED MOTION FOR REDUCTION OF 30-DAY
COMMENT PERIOD ON PROPOSED DECISION PURSUANT
TO CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE §311**

Kristie Ince
Level 3 Communications
Vice President State Public Policy
1025 Eldorado Blvd.
Broomfield, CO 80021
Tele: 972.455.7833
Email: kristie.ince@level3.com

Jeffrey L. Lindsey
CenturyLink, Inc.
VP Regional Regulatory and Legislative
Affairs
20 East Thomas Road
Phoenix, AZ 85012
Tele: 602.630.1942
Email: jeffrey.l.lindsey@centurylink.com

Catherine Wang, Esq.
Danielle Burt, Esq.
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
Tele 202.739.3000
Fax: 202.739.3001
E-mail: catherine.wang@morganlewis.com
danielle.burt@morganlewis.com

Norman G. Curtright
Senior Counsel
CenturyLink, Inc.
20 East Thomas Road
Phoenix, AZ 85012
Tele: 602.630.2187
Email: norm.curtright@centurylink.com

Anita Taff-Rice
iCommLaw
1547 Palos Verdes, #2498
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
Tele: 415.699.7885
Email: anita@icommlaw.com

Leon M. Bloomfield
Law Offices of Leon M. Bloomfield
1901 Harrison St., Suite 1400
Oakland, CA 94610
Tele: 510.625.1164
E-mail: lmb@wblaw.net

*On Behalf of Level 3 Communications, Inc. and
the Level 3 Operating Entities*

*On behalf of CenturyLink, Inc. and the
CenturyLink Operating Entities*

Dated: August 29, 2017

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of the Joint Application of)	Application No.17-03-016
)	(Filed: March 22, 2017)
Broadwing Communications, LLC (U-5525-C);)	
Global Crossing Local Services, Inc. (U-5685-)	
C); Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc.)	
(U-5005-C); IP Networks, Inc. (U-6362-C);)	
Level 3 Communications, LLC (U-5941-C);)	
Level 3 Telecom of California, LP (U-5358-C);)	
WilTel Communications, LLC (U-6146-C);)	
)	
and)	
)	
Level 3 Communications, Inc., a Delaware)	
Corporation;)	
)	
and)	
)	
CenturyLink, Inc., a Louisiana Corporation,)	
)	
<hr/>)	
For Approval of Transfer of Control of the)	
Level 3 Operating Entities Pursuant to)	
California Public Utilities Code Section 854(a))	
)	
<hr/>)	

**JOINT APPLICANTS’ MOTION FOR AN ORDER SHORTENING TIME TO SUBMIT
COMMENTS ON THE EXPEDITED MOTION FOR REDUCTION OF 30-DAY
COMMENT PERIOD ON PROPOSED DECISION PURSUANT
TO CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE §311**

Pursuant to Rule 11.1 of the California Public Utilities Commission's ("Commission")
and consistent with Rule 12.1(c) of the Commission’s Rules, the Joint Applicants¹
hereby submit this Motion for an Order to Shorten Time to Submit Comments on the Expedited

¹ The Joint Applicants include the following: Broadwing Communications, LLC (U-5525-C), Global Crossing Local Services, Inc. (U-5685-C), Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc. (U-5005-C), IP Networks, Inc. (U-6362-C), Level 3 Communications, LLC (U-5941- C), Level 3 Telecom of California, LP (U-5358-C), and WilTel Communications, LLC (U-6146-C) (collectively the “Level 3 Operating Entities”); CenturyLink, Inc., the post-merger ultimate parent of the Level 3 Operating Companies; and Level 3 Communications, Inc., the current ultimate parent of the Level 3 Operating Entities.

Motion For Reduction of 30-Day Comment Period On Proposed Decision Pursuant To California Public Utilities Code §311 (the “Motion to Reduce Comment Period”) that was filed contemporaneously with this motion. Specifically, the Joint Applicants request that comments in response to the Motion to Reduce Comment Period, if any, be submitted no later than September 5, 2017 and that reply comments, if any, be filed no later than two (2) days after the filing of opening comments (i.e., by September 7, 2017).

In particular, as more fully discussed in the Motion to Reduce Comment Period, the Joint Applicants here reiterate that the consequences of any delay in the approval of this proposed Settlement Agreement, or the underlying Application for transfer of control, are significant. The closing deadline in the Merger Agreement requires completion of a number of regulatory and operational steps prior to September 30, 2017, including closing on financing agreements. Any delay in approval could result in, among other things, substantial financing costs. In addition, the uncertainty caused by any potential delay in closing of the Transaction impacts the timing for implementation of the material benefits of the Transaction, including those commitments made by the Joint Applicants in the Settlement Agreement, for employees, customers, vendors that rely on the Joint Applicants.

The Joint Applicants note that except for California, the Joint Applicants have confirmed that they have received all state² approvals (or secured their equivalent) needed for the transfer of control to close on September 30, 2017. The Joint Applicants completed the regulatory processes for approval of the transaction in 24 other states and territories when, on August 23, 2017, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities issued an order approving the transfer of control. The Joint Applicants similarly are working with the Department of Justice (“DOJ”) and the

² The District of Columbia is included in these approvals.

Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) to secure their approval in time to close by September 30, 2017.

The Joint Applicants further note that the requested comment periods provided for in the Motion to Reduce will not prejudice any other party who may wish to submit comments on the Proposed Decision. Under any of the scenarios identified in that motion, parties are provided at least seven (7) and as many as eighteen (18) days to provide comments. In addition, the Joint Applicants note that parties have already been provided with the opportunity to file comments on the transfer of control and the settlement agreement in the context of the pending Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement.

Given the upcoming holiday weekend, the Settling Parties respectfully request a ruling on this Motion to Shorten Time by this Friday, September 1, 2017. The Settling Parties appreciate the special effort required to issue a ruling on a short time frame, but note that expedited review and ruling will set the framework for a schedule that allows for a fulsome comment period on the Proposed Decision, Commission approval of the Proposed Decision at the September 28, 2017 public voting meeting, as well as the closing of the transaction by September 30, 2017. A proposed order is attached to this motion.

Respectfully submitted this 29th day of August, 2017.

_____/s/
Kristie Ince
Level 3 Communications
Vice President State Public Policy
1025 Eldorado Blvd.
Broomfield, CO 80021
Tele: 972.455.7833
Email: kristie.ince@level3.com

_____/s/
Jeffrey L. Lindsey
CenturyLink, Inc.
VP Regional Regulatory and Legislative Affairs
20 East Thomas Road
Phoenix, AZ 85012
Tele: 602.630.1942
Email: jeffrey.l.lindsey@centurylink.com

Catherine Wang, Esq.
Danielle Burt, Esq.
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
Tele 202.739.3000
Fax: 202.739.3001
E-mail: catherine.wang@morganlewis.com
danielle.burt@morganlewis.com

Anita Taff-Rice
iCommLaw
1547 Palos Verdes, #298
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
Tele: 415.699.7885
Email: anita@icommlaw.com

On Behalf of Level 3 Communications, Inc. and
the Level 3 Operating Entities

Norman G. Curtright
Senior Counsel
CenturyLink, Inc.
20 East Thomas Road
Phoenix, AZ 85012
Tele: 602.630.2187
Email: norm.curtright@centurylink.com

Leon M. Bloomfield
Law Offices of Leon M. Bloomfield
1901 Harrison St., Suite 1400
Oakland, CA 94610
Tele: 510.625.1164
E-mail: lmb@wblaw.net

*On behalf of CenturyLink, Inc. and the
CenturyLink Operating Entities*

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES

COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Joint Application of) Application No. 17-03-016
) (Filed: March 22, 2017)
Broadwing Communications, LLC (U-5525-C);)
Global Crossing Local Services, Inc. (U-5685-)
C); Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc.)
(U-5005-C); IP Networks, Inc. (U-6362-C);)
Level 3 Communications, LLC (U-5941-C);)
Level 3 Telecom of California, LP (U-5358-C);)
WilTel Communications, LLC (U-6146-C);)
)
and)
)
Level 3 Communications, Inc., a Delaware)
Corporation;)
)
and)
)
CenturyLink, Inc.; a Louisiana Corporation,)
)
_____)
For Approval of Transfer of Control of the)
Level 3 Operating Entities Pursuant to)
California Public Utilities Code Section 854(a))
_____)

[PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING THE JOINT APPLICANTS’ MOTION FOR AN ORDER SHORTENING TIME TO SUBMIT COMMENTS ON THE EXPEDITED MOTION FOR REDUCTION OF 30-DAY COMMENT PERIOD ON PROPOSED DECISION PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE §311

On August 29, 2017, the Joint Applicants¹ submitted a Motion for an Order to Shorten Time to Submit Comments on the Expedited Motion For Reduction of 30-Day Comment Period On Proposed Decision Pursuant To California Public Utilities Code §311 (the “Motion to

¹ The Joint Applicants include the following: Broadwing Communications, LLC (U-5525-C), Global Crossing Local Services, Inc. (U-5685-C), Global Crossing Telecommunications, Inc. (U-5005-C), IP Networks, Inc. (U-6362-C), Level 3 Communications, LLC (U-5941- C), Level 3 Telecom of California, LP (U-5358-C), and WilTel Communications, LLC (U-6146-C) (collectively the “Level 3 Operating Entities”); CenturyLink, Inc., the post-merger ultimate parent of the Level 3 Operating Companies; and Level 3 Communications, Inc., the current ultimate parent of the Level 3 Operating Entities.

Reduce Comment Period”). Specifically, the Joint Applicants requested that comments in response to the Motion to Reduce Comment Period, if any, be submitted no later than September 5, 2017 and that reply comments, if any, be filed no later than two (2) days after the filing of opening comments (i.e., by September 7, 2017).

The Commission has considered this Motion and all supporting materials and orders as follows:

For GOOD CAUSE, the Motion for an Order Shortening Time to Submit Comments on the Expedited Motion for Reduction of 30-Day Comment Period on Proposed Decision Pursuant to California Public Utilities Code §311 is GRANTED. Accordingly, comments on the Joint Applicants’ Motion for Reduction of 30-Day Comment Period on Proposed Decision Pursuant to California Public Utilities Code §311, if any, must be submitted on September 5, 2017 and reply comments, if any, must be filed no later than September 7, 2017.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: _____, 2017

Administrative Law Judge DeAngelis