

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

Complaint of Charter Fiberlink, LLC)	
Seeking Expedited Resolution and)	
Enforcement of Interconnection)	
Agreement Terms Between Charter)	Case No. LC-2008-0049
Fiberlink-Missouri, LLC and CenturyTel)	
of Missouri, LLC.)	

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and for its recommendation states:

1. On August 24, 2007, Charter Fiberlink, LLC (Charter), filed a complaint with the Missouri Public Service Commission against CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC (CenturyTel). Charter seeks an order from the Commission “that requires CenturyTel to continue processing requests from Charter to ensure that telephone subscribers in Missouri can continue to ‘port’ (or transfer) their telephone numbers from CenturyTel’s network to Charter’s network.” Charter also seeks “a determination by this Commission that CenturyTel has improperly billed Charter for porting telephone numbers from CenturyTel’s network to Charter’s network, and for other various charges for which CenturyTel is not entitled payment.”

2. On September 24, 2007, CenturyTel filed its Motion to Dismiss, Answer, Affirmative Defenses and Counterclaim. CenturyTel asserts that Charter is obligated to pay charges associated with local service requests that Charter has placed with CenturyTel and states that the “process of obtaining services from an ILEC through the submission of an LSR, and paying applicable administrative charges associated with that LSR, is generally uncontested within the industry.”

3. On September 28, 2007, the Commission directed the Staff to investigate and make a recommendation concerning Charter's complaint and CenturyTel's counterclaim on or before October 26, 2007.

4. Charter's complaint and CenturyTel's counterclaim do not allege tariff, rule or statute violations, which are the usual matters for a Staff investigation.

5. Given that the parties' dispute is not fact-dependent but rather involves the interpretation of the parties' Interconnection Agreement, the Staff recommends that the Commission proceed to schedule a prehearing conference for the parties to develop a proposed procedural schedule. If that schedule calls for the filing of testimony, the Staff would investigate Charter's and CenturyTel's testimony, and then file rebuttal testimony in response.

WHEREFORE, the Staff recommends that the Commission schedule a prehearing conference in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

/ **Blane Baker**

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Missouri Bar No. 58454

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 24th day of October 2007.

/ Blane Baker

Blane Baker