Exhibit No.: 4

Issue:

Witness: John Jennings

Sponsoring Party: Big River Telephone

Company, LLC

Type of Exhibit: Direct Testimony Case No.: TC-2012-0284

Filed January 16, 2013 **Data Center** Missouri Public **Service Commission** 

#### BIG RIVER TELEPHONE COMPANY, LLC

**DIRECT TESTIMONY** 

OF

JOHN JENNINGS

TC-2012-0284

September 28, 2012

# PRE-FILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF JOHN JENNINGS

1	Q.	FLEASE STATE TOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.
2	A.	My name is John Jennings. My business address is 24 So. Minnesota Ave., Cape
3		Girardeau, Missouri, 63703.
4	Q.	BY WHOM AND IN WHAT CAPACITY ARE YOU EMPLOYED?
5	A.	I am the CFO of Big River Telephone Company, LLC ("Big River") and have been
6		employed there in that capacity since August 19, 2002.
7	Q.	PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR WORK EXPERIENCE.
8	A.	Prior to joining Big River, I worked in the telecommunications industry for 6 years and
9		worked in the accounting field for 11 years. Immediately prior to joining Big River, I
10		was the Senior Accounting Operations Manager for Nuvox Communications, formerly
11		known as Gabriel Communications, a full service competitive local exchange carrier.
12		At Nuvox, I oversaw various accounting and executive reporting functions, as well as,
13		Billing, Revenue Assurance, Cost Assurance and Collections. Prior to joining Nuvox
14		Communications, I was responsible for accounting operations and reporting at Brooks
15		Fiber Properties. Brooks Fiber Properties was a leading full-service provider of
16		competitive local and long distance communications services in 44 metropolitan areas

1 across the U.S. Prior to joining Brooks Fiber Properties I held various accounting 2 positions in other industries. I have a B.S. in Business - Accounting from the University 3 of Missouri and I am a Certified Public Accountant. 4 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY? 5 A. The purpose of my direct testimony is to address our Percent Enhanced Usage (PEU) 6 factors provided to AT&T, to address changes to the amendment to the interconnection 7 agreement between AT&T and Big River and to address the dispute resolution process. 8 Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR BIG RIVER'S PETITION? 9 Big River and AT&T exchange telecommunications traffic pursuant to a Commission-A. 10 approved interconnection agreement ("ICA"). The ICA contains a provision that 11 exempts enhanced traffic from access charges. The parties previously had a dispute 12 regarding access charges. That dispute was resolved in November 2009. AT&T 13 continued to bill for access charges after the settlement agreement was reached. 14 Q. WHAT DID BIG RIVER DO IN RESPONSE TO AT&T'S BILLING FOR 15 **ACCESS CHARGES?** 16 A. Big River disputed the billing, pointing out that the traffic in question was not subject 17 to access charges since it was enhanced traffic. HOW DID AT&T RESPOND WHEN BIG RIVER OBJECTED TO THE 18 Q. 19 **ACCESS CHARGES?** 

A. AT&T continued to insist that Big River pay the access charges. AT&T eventually threatened to stop processing orders from Big River if the disputed amount was not paid. Big River filed its Petition to avoid any interruption in its services.

#### 4 Q. WHAT IS THE AMOUNT AT ISSUE?

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5 A. AT&T alleges that Big River owes in excess of \$355,000.00.

#### 6 Q. ARE THERE PROVISIONS IN THE ICA WHICH ADDRESS ACCESS

#### CHARGES AND ENHANCED SERVICES?

8 A. Yes. Attachment 12, section 13.3 of the ICA states as follows:

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the Parties shall 9 10 exchange enhanced/information services traffic, including without limitation 11 Voice Over Internet Protocol ("VOIP") traffic and other enhanced services 12 traffic (collectively, "IS Traffic"), in accordance with this section. IS Traffic is 13 defined as traffic that undergoes a net protocol conversion, as defined by the 14 FCC, between the calling and called parties, and/or traffic that features 15 enhanced services that provide customers a capability for generating, acquiring 16 storing, transforming, processing, retrieving, utilizing, or making available 17 information. The Parties shall exchange IS Traffic over the same 18 interconnection trunk groups used to exchange local traffic. In addition to other 19 jurisdictional factors the Parties may report to one another under this 20 Agreement, the Parties shall report a Percent Enhanced Usage ("PEU") factor

on a statewide basis or as otherwise determined by CLEC at its sole discretion. The numerator of the PEU factor shall be the number of minutes of IS Traffic sent to the other Party for termination to such other Party's customers. The denominator of the PEU factor shall be the total combined number of minutes of traffic, including IS Traffic, sent over the same trunks as IS Traffic. Either Party may audit the other Party's PEU factors pursuant to the audit provisions of this Agreement. The Parties shall compensate each other for the exchange of IS Traffic applying the same rate elements used by the Parties for the exchange of ISP-bound traffic whose dialing patterns would otherwise indicate the traffic is local traffic. This compensation regime for IS Traffic shall apply regardless of the locations of the calling and called parties, and regardless of the originating and terminating NPA/NXXs. Further, Big River Telephone and AT&T amended its interconnection agreement on November 2, 2009. The amendment stated, in pertinent part: The Parties shall exchange interconnected voice over Internet Protocol ("VOIP") served traffic, as defined in Section 386.020 RSMo. subject to appropriate exchange access charges to the same extent that telecommunications services are subject to such charges; provided, however, to the extent that as of August 28, 2008, the Agreement contains intercarrier compensation provisions specifically applicable to interconnected voice over internet protocol service traffic, those provisions shall remain in effect through

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	December 31, 2009, and the intercarrier compensation arrangement described in
	the first clause of this Section shall not become effective until January 1, 2010.
Q.	DID BIG RIVER PROVIDE AT&T WITH BIG RIVER'S PERCENT ENHANCED
	USAGE?
A.	Yes. On October 20, 2005, I provided a letter to AT&T (see Jennings Direct Schedule
	1) stating that 100% of our traffic sent over our local interconnecting truck groups in
	Missouri was enhanced. This was a requirement of our interconnection agreement with
	AT&T as stated in Attachment 12 Section 13.3.
Q.	DID AT&T EVER REQUEST TO AUDIT BIG RIVER'S PEU FACTOR?
A.	No. Per Attachment 12 Section 13.3 of our interconnection agreement with AT&T they
	could request to audit this factor, but they never did.
Q.	YOU MENTIONED EARLIER THAT THE ICA WAS SUBSEQUENTLY
	AMENDED; DID THE NEGOTIATIONS OF THAT AMENDMENT PROVIDE
	ANY INSIGHT INTO THE APPLICABILITY OF THE AMENDMENT?
A.	Yes. Prior to the final version of the amendment, paragraph 6 of the amendment had
	language that addressed enhanced/information services traffic such that
	enhanced/information services traffic would be treated like VOIP and be subject to
	access charges. However, the reference to enhanced/information services was struck
	by AT&T prior to Big River even raising the issue with them in negotiations. By
	A. Q.

1 AT&T striking the enhanced language it clearly means that billing of Enhanced traffic 2 was still subject to the terms agreed to in the original interconnection agreement, as the 3 ICA, as amended currently stands. (see Jennings Direct Schedule 2) Q. DID BIG RIVER TELEPHONE FILE DISPUTES WITH AT&T REGARDING 4 THIS BILLING ISSUE? 5 6 A. Yes. Big River Telephone disputed each month with AT&T. In many cases AT&T 7 required Big River Telephone to provide the disputed details by CLLI per AT&T's 8 request. I have no idea why AT&T required such detail, I only know that it required a 9 significant amount of effort on our part to comply with their request and culminated in 10 over a 1,000 rows of data which basically replicated their entire invoice. 11 WHERE YOU ABLE TO RESOLVE ANY DISPUTES REGARDING ENHANCED 12 WITH THIS DISPUTE PROCESS? 13 No. A. 14 Q. HOW DID YOU ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE THIS DISPUTE NEXT? 15 A. On April 19, 2011 I sent a letter to AT&T requesting that we enter into the informal 16 dispute resolution process, to which AT&T subsequently agreed. In my letter to AT&T, 17 as well as in subsequent discussions, I clearly indicated that our dispute was in regards 18 to enhanced traffic and not VOIP traffic. (see Jennings Direct Schedule 3) Per

AT&T's request, I sent a follow up letter on May 19, 2011 providing the rationale as to

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1 why this traffic is enhanced. (see Jennings Direct Schedule 4)

#### 2 Q. DID THE INFORMAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS RESOLVE ANY

#### DISPUTES REGARDING ENHANCED TRAFFIC?

A. No. After multiple meetings and correspondences we were never able to resolve this issue. AT&T continued to state that the disputed traffic was VOIP traffic. In one of our last meetings to resolve the dispute, held on January 12, 2012, AT&T brought in an expert, Stanley Mensinger, to explain AT&T's position. Mr. Mensinger went on to explain that Big River, as an Interconnected VOIP provider, was sending AT&T VOIP traffic that was subject to access charges. Mr. Mesinger also indicated that Big River had failed to file as an interconnected VOIP provider with the Missouri Public Service Commission. I explained to Mr. Mensinger that Big River was not an Interconnected VOIP provider, but was a certificated CLEC in the state of Missouri. I further pointed out the letter I sent to AT&T in May of 2011 where I explained the rationale on why our traffic is enhanced. Mr. Mensinger seemed surprised at these revelations and simply continued to contend that Big River's traffic is VOIP and subject to access charges. At this point it was clear that our explanation and detailed descriptions of the nature of our traffic as enhanced was falling on deaf ears.

#### 18 Q. DOES THAT CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?

19 A. Yes.

STATE OF MISSOURI	) ) SS.				
COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS	)				
<u>YERIFICATION</u>					
John F. Jennings, being duly sworn upon h	is oath deposes and states that he is the Chief				
Financial Officer of Big River Telephone Co	mpany, LLC, that he has prepared and reviewed				
the foregoing, Direct Testimony, and that the statements contained therein are true and correct					
to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.					
Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary	John F. Jennings  Public, this				
	Andrew Sthomas Schwaudher Notary Public				
My Commission Expires:	1101114 1 10110				
5/31/2014	ANDREW THOMAS SCHWANTHER Notery Public - Notery Beel STATE OF MISSOLPH Jefferson County Commission Number 16883876 My commission expires May 31, 2014				

Case No. TC-2012-0284



Big River Telephone Company 12444 Powerscourt Drive Saite 370 St. Leuis, Misseum 63134 Phone: 4314) 225-2262 Fax: (314) 225-2268 erroll: jieuningsrephigus ondephone.com

October 20, 2005

Ms. Debbie Josephson Account Manager – Industry Markets Southwestern Beli Telephone, L.P 311 S. Akard St., Four SBC Plaza Room 720.03 Dallas Texas – 75202-5398

Subject: Big River Telephone Missouri Percent Enhanced Usage (PEU)

Dear Ms Josephson,

Our interconnection agreement with SBC Missouri requires us to provide SBC with our Percent Enhanced Usage (PEU). This requirement is addressed in Attachment 12 Intercurrier Compensation, Section 13.3. Big River Telephone's PEU for the state of Missouri is 100% as of the effective date of the interconnection agreement. This factor encompasses all traffic sent over our local interconnecting trusk groups as required.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

John Jennings

Vice President-Controller

Case No. TC-2012-0284

AMENIONENT CONFERM TO CASE NO. 665-CV-1264 CAB AND CASE NOS, 66-3701, 66-2725, AND 88-3727 AND EXTEND SERVE CASE NO. 665-CV-1264 CAB AND CASE NOS, 66-3701, 66-2725, AND 88-3727 AND EXTEND SERVE CASE NOT PACE 1 OF 4

ATEX MERCULARING PRINCIPAL COMPANY, LLC.

#### **AMENDMENT TO**

#### INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT UNDER SECTIONS 251 AND 252 OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1986

#### BETWEEN

## SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY d/h/a AT&T MISSOURI AND

#### **BIG RIVER TELEPHONE COMPANY, LLC**

The interconnection Agreement dated August 9, 2006 by and between Southwestern Bell Telephone Company dib/e AT&T Missouri\* ("AT&T Missouri") and Big River Telephone Company, LLC ("CLEC") ("Agreement") affective in the State of Missouri is hereby amended as follows:

WHEREAS, the Parties filed for arbitration under Section 251 and 252 of the Act and the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") lessed an Arbitration Order dated July 11, 2005 ("July 11, 2005 Arbitration Order");

WHEREAS, the Perties conformed the Agreement (including the Remand Order Embedded Base Rider) to the July 11, 2005 Arbitration Order and the Commission approved the Agreement:

WHEREAS, ATAT INSCOUNT filed an action seating declaratory and injunctive relief claiming that the July 11, 2005 Arbitration Order was, among other things, contrary to federal law;

WHEREAS, ATAT IMESCURE's request for a Preliminary Injunction in Case No. 4:05-cv-01264-CAS was granted on September 1, 2005, enjoining the July 11, 2005 Arbitration Order and related orders approving the Agreement to the extent they required <u>ATAT NISSOURI</u> to \$1 new orders for unbundled local switching or UNE-P pursuant to the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1995;

WHEREAS, the Eastern Division of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, Case Number 4:05-CV-1264 CAS, issued its Memorandum and Order and its Declaratory Judgment and Permanent Injunction on September 14, 2006, granting in part and denying in part the relief sought by <u>ATAT</u> MISSOURI:

WHEREAS, the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, Case Numbers 06-3701, 08-3726 and 08-3727 issued its Order on June 20, 2808, affirming the District Court's judgment;

WHEREAS, the Parties with to amend the Agreement to reflect the District Court's and Eighth Circuit Court's orders; and

WHEREAS, the Parties wish to amend the Agreement to reflect the Missessi legislation in House Bill 1779 related to the appropriate companisation for voice over internet protocol (VoIP) service effective August 28, 2008.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, and the promises and mutual agreements set forth in the Agreement and in this Amendment, the Agreement is hereby amended:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On December 30, 2001, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company is Missouri exponsion) was serged with and into Southwestern Bell Texas, Inc. (a Texas coporation) and, pursuent to Texas law, was converted to Southwestern Bell Telephone, I.P., a Texas lawled partnership. On June 28, 2007, Southwestern Bell Telephone, I.P., a Texas lawled partnership, was merged with and into SWETI fac., a Missouri corporation, with SWETI fac. as the survivor entity. Simultaneous with the everyor, SWETI fac. changed its name to Southwestern Bell Telephone Company. Southwestern Bell Telephone Company.

## AMENDMENT CONFORM TO CASE NO. 405-CM-1284 CAS AND CASE NOS. 88-2791, US-3736, AND 6-3727 AND EXTEND TERM DATE: SCHTHMESTERM SELL TELEPHONE COMPANY PAGE 2 OF 4

ATAT MORCEMUNG RIVER TELEPHONE COMPANY, LLC

- 1. Recitals. The above recitals are hereby incorporated in their entirely into this Amendment.
- 2. Declaratified Switching and UNIS-P. In accordance with the Agreement, including the Researd Order Embedded Base Rider, ATST MISSOUM has no obligation under this Agreement to provide CLEC with ULS, whether alone, in combination (as with "UNIS-P"), or otherwise (including, without limitation, any of the items listed in Section 2.1.1 of the Embedded Sees Rider). As of the Amendment Effective Date, ATST MISSOURI may disconnect such elements at its sets discretion in the event those stamping are not stately converted to LVIC by the Rise Within the date intologing contract stamping.
- 3. Section 271 Elements. AT&T MESCURI has no obligation under this Agreement to provide CLEC with any Section 271 enhanding and/or Section 271 competitive checktet flows (including, without fimilation, the following Section 271 elements required to be provided pursuant to the July 11, 2005 Arbitration Order: switching, UNE-P. high capacity loops, dedicated transport, OCn level dedicated transport, OCn level dedicated transport, OCn level dedicated transport and feeder subloops?, either stone or in combination (whether new, existing, or pre-existing) ("Section 271 Elements") with any other element, service or functionality. CLEC shall be prohibited from submitting any orders for any Section 271 Elements under this Agreement. The Parties handly acknowledge that CLEC has been enjoined from ordering any evillohing and UNE-Platform under Section 251 or 271 of the Act under this Agreement, and CLEC has not ordered any Section 271 switching and/or UNE-P. As of Amendment Effective Date, AT&T MESCURI may convert, re-price, or disconnect such elements at its sole discorption, according to the AT&T will provide to CLEC 80-day advance written notice.

Comment [self.]: 100000 - Nets from Swen Eamp in response to Big River's respect for 500days: 90 days in Box of 90 days was offered by AFET because of the appropring heliday, houstwar, F Big Polor will provide an allocate conversion plan with a specific amount of fines that will be converted each morth, along with a completion date, we will be glad to consider

#### 4. Entrance Facilities.

- 4.1 AT&T\_NNSSOUR! shall provide CLEC access to Entrance Facilities at TELRIC rates solely for interconnection purposes within the meening of Section 251(c)(2) of the Act for the transmission and routing of interhone exchange service and exchange access service. Entrance Facilities are transmission facilities that connect CLEC networks with ILEC networks. CLEC is not entitled to Entrance Facilities for any other purpose, including, without similation (i) as unbundled network elements under Section 251(c)(3) of the Act, or (ii) for backinsuling (e.g., to provide a final link in the dedicated transmission path between a CLEC's customer and the CLEC's switch, or to carry traffic to and from its own and users) ("Declassified Entrance Facilities").
- 4.2 CLEC shall not exhall any orders for Declassified Entrance Facilities. As of the Amendment Effective Date, <u>ATRT MISSOURI</u> may disconnect, convert or reprice such elements at its sole discretion, <u>brounded</u>, <u>however</u>, <u>ATRT will assuide to CLEC 90-day advance unition notice</u>.
- Pricing Schedules. The Parties agree to delete the schedule entitled "Section 271-Interim Rates Per the Missouri's PSC's July 11, 2005 Arbitration Order" in its entirety. In addition, the Parties agree that the reference to the header "interconnection Dedicated Transport Entrance Facilities" in the "Schedule of Prices-Missouri" is deemed to be replaced with the header "interconnection Facility (CLEC to AT&T Missouri)" for DS1 and DS3 Interconnection Facilities.
- House IIII 1779, Section 382.580. The Parties shall exchange interconnected voice over enhanced/information controls traffic, including without limitation Vision Over-Internet Perotocol (2/OIP<sup>2</sup>) service traffic, as defined in Section 385.020 RSMo, and other enhanced controls builto (collectively, 15 Traffic) - subject to the appropriate exchange access charges to the same extent that telecommunications services are subject to such charges; provided, however, to the extent that -ex of

Communit (not-2): 103009 — Note from Suite Kamp in respons to Sig Alver's request for 90-day notice: ATST offers the reaffine languages regarding 60-day suitten advance realize.

Commont [mik2]: 10309 - Hore from Suson Comp in response to Hig Biron's request for 90-day union. ATST offers the redfine language equiving 90-day written advance nation.

Communit (milet): HOUSE—Hair from Same Kong, Pingsa certity) that the filter consumnith the redition in Bootles 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The Parlies disagree as to whether any or all of these elements are § 271 compositive checklet hims or required to be offered under §271 of the Act.

AMERICAGENT CONFORM TO CASE NO. 426-CV-1284 CAS AND CASE NOS. 05-3701, 05-3725, AND 66-3727 AND EXTERIO TERM DATE.

SCHTTMERS TOWN ASS. 1. TRUSPHONE COMPANY, LLC
ASS. T. INSECULATION TOWN TELEPHONE COMPANY, LLC

August 28, 2006, the Agreement contains intercenter compensation provisions specifically applicable to interconnected voice over internet protocol service trafficis. Traffic, those provisions shall remain in effect through December 31, 2009, and the intercenter compensation arrangement described in the first clause of this Section shall not become effective unit January 1, 2010.

- 7. Section 4 of the General Terms and Conditions is amended by adding the following section:
  - 4.2.1.2 Notwithstending anything to the contrary in this Section 4, the original expiration date of this Agreement, as modified by this Amendment, will be extended for a period of three (3) years from November 10, 2008 until Movember 10, 2011 (the "Extended Expiration Date"). The Agreement shall expire on the Extended Expiration Date; provided, however, that during the pariod from the effective date of this Amendment until the Extended Expiration Date, the Agreement may be terminated earlier either by written notice from CLEC, by AT&T pursuant to the Agreement's early termination provisions, by mutual agreement of the parties, or upon the effective date of a written and signed experceding agreement between the parties.
- The Parties acknowledge and agree that AT&T Miseouri shall permit the extension of this Agreement, autiject to amendment to reflect future changes of law as and when they may arise.
- Nothing in this Amendment shall effect the general application and effectiveness of the Agreement's
  "change of law," "intervening law", "successor rates" and/or any similarly purposed provisions. The
  rights and obligations set forth in this Amendment apply in addition to any other rights and obligations
  that may be created by such intervening law, change in law or other autostantively similar provision.
- EXCEPT AS MODIFIED HEREIN, ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE UNDERLYING AGREEMENT SHALL REMAIN UNCHANGED AND IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.
- 11. The Parties agree that this Amendment will act to supercode, amend and modify the applicable provisions contained in the Agreement. To the extent there are any inconsistencies between the provisions of this Amendment and the Agreement, the provisions in this Amendment shall govern.
- 12. In entering into this Amendment, neither Party waives, and each Party expressly reserves, any rights, remedies or arguments it may have at low or under the intervening law or regulatory change provisions in the underlying Agreement (including intervening law rights asserted by either Party via written notice predating this Amendment) with respect to any orders, decisions, legislation or proceedings and any remands thereof, which the Parties have not yet fully incorporated into this Agreement or which may be the subject of further review.
- 13. This Amendment shall be filed with and is subject to approval by the Missouri Public Service Commission and shall become effective ten (10) days following approval by such Commission ("Amendment Effective Deta").

# AMENDMENT CONFORM TO CASE NO. 4.05 CV-1264 CAS AND CASE NOS. 65-37N, 65-372N, AND 16-3727 AND EXTREMO TERMINATE BOUTHWRITTEN BULL TR. EPHONE COMPANY PAGE 4 OF 4 ATET MINIOLINING PAGE TELEPHONE COMPANY, LLC 60 1608

Big River Telephone Company, LLC	Southwestern Bell Telephone Company dible AT&T Mescuri by AT&T Operations, inc., its authorized agent	
<b>Ә</b> у:	Ву.	
Name: (Print or Type)	Name: Eddie A. Reed, Jr.	
Title:(Print or Type)	Title: Director-Interconnection Agreements	
Delec	Dale:	

UNE OCN# 9562

RRESALE OCN # 8788

SWITCH BASED OCH # 023B

ACNA: LGD

Case No. TC-2012-0284

## **BIG RIVER**

pursuages before

To whom it may concern,

Big River Telephone Company, LLC is invoking our right to an informal dispute in regards to enhanced traffic usage that is being billed on BAN 110 401 0113 803. We have disputed this issue with the local billing group in the past; however with the continuous denial of these disputes the matter remains unresolved. The claim number assigned by AT&T is LIS004026008A, with a spreadsheet identifier of 501631. We've been billed for this type of usage as of the February 5, 2010 invoice through and including the March 5, 2011 invoice. The total amount billed during this timeframe is \$202,990.19, with 4,644,926 total minutes of use (16,889 interstate minutes, 4,487,739 intrastate minutes, and 140,298 local minutes). We are disputing 100% of the billing based on the following facts:

Per the Interconnection Agreement between SBC Missouri and Big River Telephone Company, Attachment 12 - Section 13.3, "In addition to other jurisdictional factors the Parties may report to one another under this Agreement, the Parties shall report a Percent Enhanced Usage ("PEU") factor on a statewide basis or as otherwise determined by CLBC at its sole discretion." Therefore in accordance with the terms of this section we submitted the PBU factor of 100% on October 20, 2005 to our account manager at that time, Debbie Josephson. Please see the attached PDF document for a copy of this letter, Attachment A. AT&T never implemented our PEU factor and continued to bill Big River in full for this enhanced traffic. Because of the continued billing of enhanced traffic and other billing issues with AT&T, Big River filed a Inwauit with AT&T.

The result of this lawsuit was a settlement between Big River and AT&T in November 2009 where this Enhanced Usage billing error was addressed. In the settlement, AT&T credited, in full, the billing on this account for both past and present invoices. The Enhanced Usage as a going forward concern was addressed per the settlement, section 1 (b) "On and after January 1. 2010, the Parties' respective obligations will be governed by the Interconnection Agreement to be amended as described herein." Again, the Interconnection Agreement states, "In addition to other jurisdictional factors the Parties may report to one another under this Agreement, the Parties shall report a Percent Enhanced Usage ("PEU") factor on a statewide basis or as otherwise determined by CLEC at its sole discretion." Again, our original PEU factor should therefore be applied to this usage and the appropriate credits need to be issued.

While the prior dispute resolutions mentioned VoIP traffic multiple times, the fact remains that our traffic on this BAN is Enhanced Usage which is governed by the terms of our Interconnection Agreement. This has been the case from the time we originally executed the

Interconnection Agreement, and has been further affirmed by the November 2009 lawsuit settlement agreement executed by AT&T. We have continually pointed out the fact that this traffic is Enhanced, and that the PEU factor should apply to our billing. This fact has been recognized by AT&T in the lawsuit settlement agreement by their crediting of all charges through that time period. AT&T did agree to adhere to the terms of the Interconnection Agreement for all future dealings with this enhanced traffic which plainly states that AT&T will apply our PBU factor. Therefore, we are submitting the dispute again via the informal dispute process, based on the fact that the traffic is Enhanced and is therefore governed by the Interconnection Agreement terms. The PBU factor that should have been applied since 2005 is attached, and per the ICA (and the settlement agreement that points back to us being governed by the ICA), we are allowed to submit this PBU factor to be implemented on our invoice, which we have done. In summary we request this PBU factor be applied to our present invoices, going forward invoices, and retroactively applied to all past invoices dating back to February 5, 2010 therefore generating the appropriate credits.

Big River Telephone's point of contact for this dispute is John Jennings and he can be reached at 573-388-2697 or <u>JJennings@BigRiverTelephone.com</u>.

Respectfully.

John F. Jennings

Chief Financial Officer

Big River Telephone Company, LLC

Case No. TC-2012-0284



May 19, 2011

**Janice Mullins** ATAT

RE: Enhanced Services - Informal Dispute

Dear Ms. Mullins.

Per your request from our conference call on May 13, 2011, Big River Telephone is providing AT&T with the following examples of enhanced services that it provides to its eastomers:

- Big River's switching system employs computer processing that changes the format of communication media received from, and delivered to, the public switched telephone network (PSTN). The system first receives media in digital PCM form from the PSTN and packetizes the media into iP datagrams, with the use of an audio codec, a software program resident on a digital signal processor (DSP) the media is further altered by compressing the content, as an example, from 64Kbps to 8Kbps. An "audio codec" is a computer program implementing an algorithm that compresses and decompresses digital audio data according to a given audio file format. The system is also capable of transcoding (direct digital-to-digital conversion of one audio codec to another).
- The awitching system employs computer processing that allows a subscriber to record a call and store the recording in the switching system. This feature is enabled by keying specific dual-tone multifrequency (DTMF) tone sequence to initiate recording the cult from that point forward until the end of the call.
- The switching system employs computer processing that allows a subscriber to view and configure and manage their call-handling options. For example, a subscriber may wish their phone to ring as normal, reject the call, forward the call (to voicemail or another number), challenge callers who have withheld their number to record their name or have their phone ring with a special tone. The subscriber can set these rules to apply to specific callers, for example to those in a specific contact group or to callers who have withheld their number. The subscriber can also set the incoming call manager (FCM) to apply a different set of rules at different times, by defining a schedule. For example, when actting up ICM on a home land line, the subscriber can tell ICM to forward calls from their office to a mobile phone - but only during working hours, not during evenings or at the weekend. The subscriber can configure their ICM rules and achedules using a Big River web portal.

We can discuss any questions you may have on our next conference call.

Chief Financial Officer