

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

In the Matter of a Request for Expansion of            )  
the St. Louis Metropolitan Calling Area Plan to        )  
Include the Exchanges of Washington, Union,        )        Case No. TO-2005-0141  
Wright City, St. Clair, Marthasville, Beaufort,     )  
Foley, and Warrenton.                                    )

**STATUS REPORT OF  
CENTURYTEL OF MISSOURI, LLC**

COMES NOW CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC (“CenturyTel”) and, pursuant to the Commission’s Order Setting Local Public Hearing issued in this matter on December 8, 2005 (“December 8 Order”), respectfully states as follows:

1. In its December 8 Order, the Commission acknowledged that “On December 5, 2005 CenturyTel filed its Status Report, indicating that it is diligently pursuing settlement discussions and negotiations with regard to the CenturyTel exchanges of Foley, Marthasville, Warrenton and Wright City.” In its December 5<sup>th</sup> Status Report, CenturyTel requested, with the support of both the Commission Staff and the Office of the Public Counsel, that the Commission not schedule local public hearings for its exchanges at this time, and stated that it would file another status report no later than January 5, 2006. (December 8 Order at 3).

However, the Commission found it “appropriate to schedule a local public hearing in either Innsbrook or Wright City, Missouri, rather than delay such scheduling until after a status report is filed in January 2006.” (*Id.*). The Commission also encouraged the parties to continue their settlement negotiations and to file a status report or stipulation as soon as possible. In Ordered Paragraph 6, the Commission ordered “That CenturyTel of

Missouri, LLC, shall file either another status report or a stipulation and agreement as soon as possible, but in no event later than January 5, 2006.” (*Id.* at 5).

2. The Commission scheduled a local public hearing on January 12, 2006, in Washington, Missouri. “The Commission finds that it is appropriate to schedule a local public hearing in Washington, Missouri, regarding the proposed Stipulation and Agreement” [the Agreement was filed December 2, 2005 with respect to the SBC Missouri exchanges]. (*Id.*, at 3). By its subsequent Order Setting Additional Local Public Hearing issued on December 9, 2005, the Commission scheduled an additional local public hearing on January 18, 2006, in Innsbrook, Missouri.

3. Mindful of the local public hearing scheduled on January 18, 2006, CenturyTel files this Status Report to advise the Commission that its analysis, settlement discussions and negotiations continue with regard to the CenturyTel exchanges.

WHEREFORE, CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC respectfully submits its Status Report herein.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Larry W. Dority**

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been hand-delivered, transmitted by e-mail or mailed, First Class, postage prepaid, this 5th day of January, 2006, to:

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**/s/ Larry W. Dority**

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