

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

In The Matter of CenturyTel of Missouri,)
LLC's Request for Competitive) Case No. IO-2008-_____
Classification Pursuant to Section)
392.245.5, RSMo.)

**CENTURYTEL OF MISSOURI, LLC'S
APPLICATION FOR COMPETITIVE CLASSIFICATION**

COMES NOW CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC ("CenturyTel"), pursuant to Section 392.245.5 RSMo., and hereby requests that the Commission conduct a 30-day competitive classification review pursuant to Section 392.245.5(6) RSMo. and approve CenturyTel's Application for Competitive Classification for all its residential services, other than exchange access service, for the following exchanges: (a) Branson, (b) Exeber, (c) Rockaway Beach, and (d) Wright City; and for all of its business services, other than exchange access services, in the following exchanges: (a) Cabool, (b) Dardenne, (c) Hallsville, (g) Warrenton, (h) Winfield, and (i) Wright City. Concurrent with the filing of this Application, CenturyTel is filing proposed tariffs, with thirty day effective dates, reflecting grants of the requested competitive classification. In support of its Application, CenturyTel states as follows:

1. CenturyTel is a Louisiana limited liability corporation that is duly authorized to do business in the state of Missouri. Copies of CenturyTel's Certificate of Authority to transact business in Missouri from the Missouri Secretary of State were filed in Case No. TM-2002-232, and are incorporated herein by reference pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.060(1)(G). CenturyTel is a "local exchange telecommunications company" and a "public utility," and is duly authorized to provide

“telecommunications service” within the State of Missouri as each of those terms is defined in Section 386.020, RSMo. 2000. Pursuant to the Commission’s *Report and Order* issued in Case No. TM-2002-232, CenturyTel is a large incumbent local exchange carrier subject to Price Cap Regulation under Section 392.245 RSMo.

2. All correspondence, communications, and orders and decisions of the Commission issued in this matter should be sent to:

Becky Owenson Kilpatrick
CenturyTel
220 Madison Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101
Telephone: (573) 634-4261
Facsimile: (573) 636-6826

3. CenturyTel has no pending action or final unsatisfied judgments or decisions against it from any state or federal agency or court that involve customer service or rates, which action, judgment or decision has occurred within three (3) years of the date of the Application. No Missouri annual reports or assessment fees are overdue.

4. Missouri statute Section 392.245.5 RSMo., allows carriers subject to Price Cap Regulation to seek competitive classification for each telecommunications service offered to business and residential customers, other than exchange access service, in any exchange in which at least two non-affiliated entities are providing basic local telecommunications service to customers within the exchange. CenturyTel respectfully submits that all the exchanges listed above meet the requisite criteria set out in Section 392.245.5 RSMo. Specifically, at least one non-affiliated wireless carrier is providing service in all the exchanges. In addition, CenturyTel’s primary wireline competitors in these exchanges are facilities-based CLECs or cable operators that are providing local phone service via their own facilities over the same cable which provides cable-

TV/cable-broadband service. Exhibit A is a matrix depicting the various non-affiliated entities providing services in the subject CenturyTel exchanges.

Section 392.245.5 RSMo., states as follows:

5. Each telecommunications service offered to business customers, other than exchange access service, of an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company regulated under this section shall be classified as competitive in any exchange in which at least two non-affiliated entities in addition to the incumbent local exchange company are providing basic local telecommunications service to business customers within the exchange. Each telecommunications service offered to residential customers, other than exchange access service, of an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company regulated under this section shall be classified as competitive in an exchange in which at least two non-affiliated entities in addition to the incumbent local exchange company are providing basic local telecommunications service to residential customers within the exchange. For purposes of this subsection:

(1) Commercial mobile service providers as identified in 47 U.S.C. Section 332(d)(1) and 47 C.F.R. Parts 22 or 24 shall be considered as entities providing basic local telecommunications service, provided that only one such non-affiliated provider shall be considered as providing basic local telecommunications service within an exchange;

(2) Any entity providing local voice service in whole or in part over telecommunications facilities or other facilities in which it or one of its affiliates have an ownership interest shall be considered as a basic local telecommunications service provider regardless of whether such entity is subject to regulation by the commission. A provider of local voice service that requires the use of a third party, unaffiliated broadband network or dial-up Internet network for the origination of local voice service shall not be considered a basic local telecommunications service provider. For purposes of this subsection only, a broadband network is defined as a connection that delivers services at speeds exceeding two hundred kilobits per second in at least one direction;

(3) Regardless of the technology utilized, local voice service shall mean two-way voice service capable of receiving calls from a provider of basic local telecommunications services as defined by subdivision (4) of section 386.020, RSMo;

(4) Telecommunications companies only offering prepaid telecommunications service or only reselling telecommunications service as defined in subdivision (46) of section 386.020, RSMo, in the exchange being considered for competitive classification shall not be considered entities providing basic telecommunications service; and

(5) Prepaid telecommunications service shall mean a local service for which payment is made in advance that excludes access to operator assistance and long distance service;

(6) Upon request of an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company seeking competitive classification of business service or residential service, or both, the commission shall, within thirty days of the request, determine whether the requisite number of entities are providing basic local telecommunications service to business or residential customers, or both, in an exchange and if so, shall approve tariffs designating all such business or residential services other than exchange access service, as competitive within such exchange.

5. Section 392.245.5(1) RSMo. states that commercial mobile service providers shall be considered as entities providing basic local telecommunications service, provided that only one such non-affiliated provider shall be considered as providing basic local telecommunications service within an exchange. CenturyTel has numerous non-affiliated wireless providers operating in its exchanges providing local service. Exhibits B through J identify wireless carriers, including (a) AT&T Wireless, (f/k/a Cingular), (b) Verizon, (c) T-Mobile, (d) Alltel, (e) US Cellular, and (f) Sprint/Nextel providing local service in the above CenturyTel exchanges. (See Exhibits B through J for Wireless Carriers Operating in CenturyTel Exchanges.)

6. Section 392.245.5(2) RSMo. allows any wireline carrier providing local phone service in whole or in part over telecommunications facilities it owns to be considered as entities providing basic local telecommunications service, including cable operators that are also providing local phone service. Specific to this Application, MCC Telephony of Missouri, Inc. is providing residential phone service, using facilities it owns in part or whole, in the CenturyTel exchange of Exeter. Cebridge Communications, LLC d/b/a Suddenlink Communications¹ is providing residential phone service, using facilities

¹ "Suddenlink Communications" is a fictitious name registered by Universal Cable Holdings, Inc., Classic Cable, Inc., Cequel III Communications II, LLC, Friendship Cable of Arkansas, Inc., W.K.

it owns in part or whole, in the CenturyTel exchanges of: (a) Branson and (b) Rockaway Beach. Charter Fiberlink-Missouri, LLC is providing business phone service, using facilities it owns in part or whole, in the CenturyTel exchange of Dardenne. Socket Telecom, LLC is providing business phone service, using facilities it owns in part or whole, in the CenturyTel exchanges of: (a) Cabool, (b) Dardenne, (c) Hallsville, (d) Warrenton, (e) Winfield, and (f) Wright City; and is providing residential phone service, using facilities it owns in part or whole in the CenturyTel exchange of Wright City. Each of these carriers is discussed in detail below:

a. MCC Telephony of Missouri, Inc. (“Mediacom”) provides local phone service to residential customers in direct competition with CenturyTel in the CenturyTel exchange of Exeter.

i. As reflected in the attached printout taken directly from Mediacom’s Internet website,² Mediacom provides local phone service in Exeter (*See Exhibit E (Sec. 1)*). Mediacom’s phone service does not require a special phone, and the customer may use “existing home phone equipment, jacks, outlets and in-home wiring”; and includes vertical features such as voice mail, caller ID and call waiting.

ii. Upon information and belief, CenturyTel understands that Mediacom utilizes, in addition to its own facilities, a portion of other CLECs’ facilities. Accordingly, pursuant to Section

Communications, Inc., Cebridge Telecom MO, LLC, and Cebridge Acquisitions, L.P., all of which share the same address (*see Missouri Secretary of State business registration website*).

² Mediacom’s Internet website allows a customer to search for available service by zip code. The printouts found in Exhibits D, E, and H through K, reflect the services and pricing available in the CenturyTel exchanges of Cabool, Cassville, Forsyth, Kimberling City, Mansfield and Marshfield.

392.245.5(6), CenturyTel respectfully requests that the Commission consider its own records concerning ownership of facilities, and CenturyTel will cooperate with the Commission's Staff to facilitate the Commission in "making all inquiries as are necessary and appropriate from regulated providers of local voice services to determine the extent and presence of regulated local voice providers in an exchange."

- iii. In addition, migrations of residential customers from CenturyTel to Mediacom are reflected in CenturyTel's internal business records showing the disconnection of customers' loops from CenturyTel's switch. CenturyTel numbers in the Exeter NPA/NXX have been ported to such CLEC to assist in the provision of such services. (See attached **HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL Exhibit E (Sec. 2)**).

- b. Cebridge Communications, LLC d/b/a Suddenlink Communications ("Suddenlink") provides local phone service to residential customers in direct competition with CenturyTel in the following CenturyTel exchanges: (a) Branson and (b) Rockaway Beach.

- i. Upon information and belief, Suddenlink is not a reseller of CenturyTel's services but uses its own facilities. Suddenlink is a cable operator that has its own facilities deployed throughout the above-mentioned exchanges.
- ii. In addition, migrations of residential customers from CenturyTel to Suddenlink are reflected in CenturyTel's internal business records showing the disconnection of customers' loops from CenturyTel's

switch. CenturyTel numbers in the Branson and Rockaway Beach NPA/NXXs have been ported to Suddenlink to assist in the provision of residential services. (See attached **HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL Exhibits B (Sec. 2) and G (Sec. 2))**).

c. Charter Fiberlink-Missouri, LLC ("Charter") provides local phone service to business customers in direct competition with CenturyTel in the CenturyTel exchange of Dardenne.

i. Charter obtained a Certificate to Provide Basic Local and Interexchange Telecommunications Services within Missouri, including the exchanges now owned by CenturyTel, on April 5, 2001 (Case No. TA-2001-346).

ii. Charter is not a reseller of CenturyTel's services but uses its own facilities. Charter has its own facilities extensively deployed throughout the above-mentioned exchanges.

iii. Based upon Charter's website, as well as advertisements and marketing materials, it is providing business service in the CenturyTel exchange of Dardenne.³ (See Exhibit D (Sec.1)).

iv. In addition, migrations of business customers from CenturyTel to Charter are reflected in CenturyTel's internal business records showing the disconnection of customers' loops from CenturyTel's switch. CenturyTel numbers in the Dardenne NPA/NXXs have been ported to Charter to assist in the provision of business

³ Charter's website allows a customer to search for service and rates within a particular zip code. The printout found in Exhibit D, reflect the business services available in the CenturyTel exchange of Dardenne.

services. (See attached **HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL Exhibits D (Sec. 2)**).⁴

d. Socket Telecom, LLC (“Socket”) provides local phone service to business customers in direct competition with CenturyTel in the CenturyTel exchanges of (a) Cabool, (b) Dardenne, (c) Hallsville, (d) Warrenton, (e) Winfield, and (f) Wright City; and provides local phone service to residential customers in direct competition with CenturyTel in the CenturyTel exchange of Wright City.

i. Socket was certificated by the Commission in Case No. TA-2001-0671 to provide basic local telecommunications services in Missouri, including the exchanges now owned by CenturyTel.

ii. Upon information and belief, CenturyTel understands that Socket utilizes, in addition to its own facilities, a portion of other CLECs' facilities. Accordingly, pursuant to Section 392.245.5(6), CenturyTel respectfully requests that the Commission consider its own records concerning ownership of facilities, and CenturyTel will cooperate with the Commission's Staff to facilitate the Commission “making all inquiries as are necessary and appropriate from regulated providers of local voice service to determine the extent and presence of regulated local voice providers in an exchange.” In fact, this Commission has found Socket is providing service in CenturyTel exchanges with its own facilities, and it is

⁴ All “Highly Confidential” exhibits attached to this Application are filed pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.135.

recognized as a facilities-based local exchange carrier. (*See*, Transcript pp. 266-267, Case No. CO-2005-0066.)

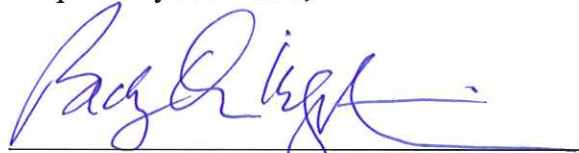
- iii. Migrations of business customers from CenturyTel to Socket are reflected in CenturyTel's internal business records showing the disconnection of customers' loops from CenturyTel's switch. CenturyTel numbers in the Cabool, Dardenne, Hallsville, Warrenton, Winfield and Wright City NPA-NXXs have been ported to Socket to assist in the provisioning of business services (*See* attached **HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL Exhibits C (Sec. 2), D (Sec. 2), F (Sec. 2), H (Sec. 2), I (Sec. 2) and J (Sec. 3)**).
- iv. Finally, migrations of residential customers from CenturyTel to Socket are reflected in CenturyTel's internal business records showing the disconnection of customers' loops from CenturyTel's switch. CenturyTel numbers in the Wright City NPA-NXX have been ported to Socket to assist in the provisioning of residential services (*See* attached **HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL Exhibit J (Sec. 3)**).

7. CenturyTel's Application for Competitive Classification is not a request for any price changes and the above-referenced tariffs being filed concurrently herewith (attached copies for illustrative purposes only as Exhibit K) reflect administrative changes only indicating the new competitive classification. In fact, CenturyTel acknowledges that all rates currently in effect for these exchanges will remain in effect until such time CenturyTel files a tariff requesting a price change. CenturyTel will be

required to file tariffs for any future price changes, either increases or decreases, associated with these exchanges which will continue to require Commission approval. Furthermore, CenturyTel will be required to notify its customers of any future price increase.

WHEREFORE CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC respectfully requests the Commission to approve CenturyTel's Application for Competitive Classification and its tariffs filed concurrently herewith, pursuant to Section 392.245.5 RSMo. CenturyTel has demonstrated that at least two non-affiliated entities are providing basic local telecommunications service to customers within each of the listed exchanges. CenturyTel's Application and tariffs meet the statutory requirements for competitive classification and should become effective in no more than 30 days.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorney for CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC

VERIFICATION

I, Arthur P. Martinez, Director Government Relations for CenturyTel, hereby verify and affirm that I have read the foregoing Application for Competitive Classification and that the statements contained therein are true and correct to the best of my information and belief.


Arthur P. Martinez

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 25th day of January, 2008.


Notary Public

My Appointment Expires:

8/6/2011

JANE OLIVER
Notary Public - Notary Seal
STATE OF MISSOURI
County of Osage
My Commission Expires 8/6/2011
Commission # 07494938

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that on this 25th day of January, 2008, a copy of the above and foregoing document and attachments were served via electronic mail, facsimile or U.S. Mail, postage prepaid to each of the following:

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LIST OF EXHIBITS

Exhibit A	Matrix of CenturyTel Exchanges	
Exhibit B	Branson Exchange:	Section 1: Residential Section 2: LNP Report (NP & HC)
Exhibit C	Cabool Exchange:	Section 1: Business Section 2: LNP Report (NP & HC)
Exhibit D	Dardenne Exchange:	Section 1: Business Section 2: LNP Report (NP & HC)
Exhibit E	Exeter Exchange:	Section 1: Residential Section 2: LNP Report (NP & HC)
Exhibit F	Hallsville Exchange:	Section 1: Business Section 2: LNP Report (NP & HC)
Exhibit G	Rockaway Beach Exchange:	Section 1: Residential Section 2: LNP Report (NP & HC)
Exhibit H	Warrenton Exchange:	Section 1: Business Section 2: LNP Report (NP & HC)
Exhibit I	Winfield Exchange:	Section 1: Business Section 2: LNP Report (NP & HC)
Exhibit J	Wright City Exchange:	Section 1: Residential Section 2: Business Section 3: LNP Report (NP & HC)
Exhibit K	CenturyTel Illustrative Tariffs	