BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Assessment Against)	
the Public Utilities in the State of Missouri)	Case No. AO-2002-1156
for the Expenses of the Commission for)	
the Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2002.)	

CENTURYTEL OF MISSOURI, LLC'S APPLICATION TO INTERVENE

COMES NOW CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC ("CenturyTel"), pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.075 and Section 386.420, RSMo 2000, and respectfully seeks to intervene in this proceeding. In support of its Application to Intervene, CenturyTel states as follows:

- 1. CenturyTel is a Louisiana limited liability corporation that is duly authorized to do business in the state of Missouri, with its principal place of business located at 100 CenturyTel Drive, Monroe, Louisiana. CenturyTel is a "local exchange telecommunications company" authorized to provide "telecommunications service" and a "public utility," as defined in Section 386.020, RSMo 2000.
- 2. In its Order Setting Prehearing Conference and Setting Intervention Deadline issued in this matter on December 2, 2002, the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") determined that it was "... appropriate to establish an intervention deadline so that utility companies which are regulated by the Missouri Public Service Commission will have an opportunity to intervene, along with any other interested party." The Commission accordingly set an intervention deadline of December 31, 2002. As a utility company required to pay the Commission's assessment, CenturyTel has a substantial interest in this proceeding.

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

> James M. Fischer Larry W. Dority FISCHER & DORITY, P.C. 101 Madison, Suite 400 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 (573) 636-6758 Telephone:

Facsimile: (573) 636-0383

- 4. CenturyTel seeks to intervene in this proceeding because it has an interest which is different from that of the general public and which may be adversely affected by a final order arising from the case. No other party to this proceeding will adequately protect CenturyTel's interest. At this point in time, CenturyTel is unsure of the position it will be taking on issues that may come before the Commission in this case.
- 5. Granting of this intervention will serve the public interest because CenturyTel will bring to this proceeding its expertise in the areas being investigated and its experience as a telecommunications provider.

WHEREFORE, CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC respectfully requests that the Commission grant its Application to Intervene in this proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorneys for CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was hand-delivered, emailed or mailed this 30⁻¹ day of December, 2002 to:

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Jefferson City, MO 65102

Mr. Paul Boudreau Brydon, Swearengen & England 312 E. Capitol Ave.

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Mr. Tom Byrne Ameren Services Company 1901 Chouteau Avenue P.O. Box 66149 (MC 1310) St. Louis, MO 63166-6149 Mr. Dan Joyce, General Counsel Missouri Public Service Commission

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Lerry W. Dority