

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	<u>Case No. IC-2008-0068</u>
)	
Socket Telecom, LLC,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

Spectra Communications Group, LLC,)	
d/b/a CenturyTel,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	<u>Case No. IC-2008-0127</u>
)	
Socket Telecom, LLC,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

ORDER CONSOLIDATING CASES

Issue Date: November 6, 2007

Effective Date: November 6, 2007

On September 5, 2007, CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC (CenturyTel), filed a complaint with the Missouri Public Service Commission against Socket Telecom, LLC (Socket). On October 26, 2007, Spectra Communications Group, LLC, d/b/a CenturyTel (Spectra) filed a similar complaint against Socket with the Commission. Spectra's complaint was assigned Commission Case No. IC-2008-0127. At the same time Spectra filed its complaint, CenturyTel filed a motion in this case to consolidate its complaint with Case

No. IC-2008-0127. On October 30, 2007, Spectra filed a similar motion to consolidate these two cases in Case No. IC-2008-0127. In support of their respective motions to consolidate, Spectra and CenturyTel each state that the two complaints present related questions of law and fact, and consolidation would promote more efficient resolution by alleviating unnecessary costs and delay on the parties.

On October 31, 2007, Socket filed Socket Telecom's Consent to Consolidation, in which Socket agreed with the Complainants that the two cases should be addressed in a single proceeding and that such consolidation would conserve party and Commission resources. However, Socket requested clarification from the Commission that its answer to Spectra's complaint in Case No. IC-2008-0127 will still be due on November 28, 2007. On November 5, 2007, Socket filed its answer to Spectra's complaint in Case No. IC-2008-0127. Also, on October 31, 2007, the Commission's Staff filed a Staff Response in Support of CenturyTel's Motion to Consolidate, concurring in the arguments presented by Spectra and CenturyTel.

More than ten days have passed since CenturyTel filed its motion to consolidate. All the parties in both cases, except the Office of the Public Counsel, have filed pleadings indicating they support consolidation of the two cases. Public Counsel has not filed an objection to the proposed consolidation.

4 CSR 240-2.110(3) allows the Commission to consolidate pending actions involving related questions of law or fact. The issues in IC-2008-0068 are clearly related to those in Case No. IC-2008-0127. Keeping the cases separate would not provide any benefit, and would require duplicate filings of every pleading and order. Therefore, the cases should be

consolidated for all purposes. Case No. IC-2008-0068 will be designated as the lead case and hereafter all pleadings filed in the consolidated case will be filed in IC-2008-0068.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. Case No. IC-2008-0127 is consolidated with Case No. IC-2008-0068. Case No. IC-2008-0068 is designated as the lead case.
2. This order shall become effective on November 6, 2007.

BY THE COMMISSION



Colleen M. Dale
Secretary

(S E A L)

Cherlyn D. Voss, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 6th day of November, 2007.