

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Spectra Communications)	
Group, LLC d/b/a CenturyTel's Request for)	
Competitive Classification Pursuant to)	<u>Case No. IO-2006-0108</u>
Section 392.245.5, RSMo (2005))	

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL'S
OBJECTIONS AND RECOMMENDATION

The Office of Public Counsel submits its objection and recommendation and asks the Public Service Commission to require strict proof of compliance with the requirements of Section 392.245, RSMo 2000 (as amended 2005) relating to Spectra Communications Group, LLC d/b/a CenturyTel's application to classify all of its residential services as competitive for the exchanges of Ewing, LaBelle, Lewistown, Macon, and Savannah and for its business services in the exchanges of Ewing, LaBelle, Lewistown, and Macon.

The reclassification of these rural exchanges from price cap regulated exchanges to competitive classification has significant impact on the customers in these communities in that they will lose the price cap protection of a 5% limit on nonbasic services and the annual limit on basic local service of the Consumer Price Index-Telecommunications Services. For that reason, Public Counsel urges the Commission to make an evidentiary record to serve as the basis of the Commission's decision.

Public Counsel urges the Commission to require the applicant to fully disclose the facts that support its assertion that it faces competition in these exchanges so that the

Commission and the public will be advised of the real state of competition for these services.

Respectfully submitted,

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was mailed, emailed and/or hand delivered this 19th day of September 2005 to the following attorneys of record:

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