

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office in
Jefferson City on the 1st day of
June, 2006.

In the Matter of the Application of CenturyTel of)	
Missouri, LLC, for Review and Reversal of North)	
American Number Plan Administrator's Decision to)	<u>Case No. IO-2006-0428</u>
Withhold Numbering Resources for the Dardenne,)	
Missouri Rate Center)	

ORDER GRANTING ADDITIONAL NUMBERING RESOURCES

Issue Date: June 1, 2006

Effective Date: June 11, 2006

CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC, has asked the Commission to reverse the decision of the North American Number Plan Administrator (NANPA) to deny CenturyTel's request for additional numbering resources. CenturyTel seeks the additional resources to provide basic local telecommunications service in the Dardenne rate center, including optional Metropolitan Calling Area (MCA) service.

In its application, CenturyTel explains that the Commission requires it to use segregated and dedicated NXX codes to provide non-MCA and optional MCA services. CenturyTel indicates that it has sufficient available numbers to meet its non-MCA requirements, but that it will quickly exhaust its available MCA numbers. CenturyTel indicates that it needs one block of 1,000 numbers within the existing MCA NXX code of 636-695 to serve its customers in the Dardenne rate center.

On April 5, 2006, CenturyTel submitted an application to NeuStar, Inc., the Pooling Administrator for NANPA, for one additional thousand-number block. After submitting its request through the required electronic process, CenturyTel received a reply indicating that it did not meet the required guidelines and that its request for additional numbers would not be granted, absent a state waiver. On May 10, CenturyTel filed its Application asking the Commission to reverse NANPA's decision.

On May 12, the Commission issued its Order Directing Notice, Establishing Time for Filing Requests to Intervene, and Establishing Time for Filing Recommendations. The Commission set an intervention deadline of May 22. No requests to intervene have been received. The Commission required its Staff to file a recommendation no later than June 2, and permitted any other interested party to file a recommendation by the same date.

Staff filed its Recommendation and Memorandum on May 24. Staff agrees that CenturyTel has demonstrated a verifiable need for one block of 1,000 numbers. Staff recommends that the Commission grant CenturyTel's request, reverse the decision of NANPA, and direct NANPA to issue CenturyTel one block of 1,000 telephone numbers in the Dardenne rate center. Staff also asks that CenturyTel be required to sequentially assign the block of 1,000 numbers. The Office of the Public Counsel, the only other party, filed a pleading on May 25, indicating that it concurs in Staff's recommendation.

NANPA is required to accept or reject an application for resources based solely on criteria established by the FCC, and the FCC's criteria do not recognize the distinction between MCA and non-MCA numbers that is required by this Commission. However, the FCC's rule, 47 C.F.R. Section 52.15(g)(4), provides, in pertinent part:

The state commission also may overturn the NANPA's decision to withhold numbering resources from the carrier based on its

determination that the carrier has demonstrated a verifiable need for numbering resources and has exhausted all other available remedies.

Thus, the FCC has given state commissions the authority to overturn NANPA's decisions when it is appropriate to do so.

Based on CenturyTel's verified application and the verified recommendations of its Staff, which are admitted into evidence, the Commission finds that CenturyTel has demonstrated a "verifiable need" for the numbering resources in question and that it has "exhausted all other available remedies." The record shows that unless its request is granted, CenturyTel will not be able to meet the needs of its customers for MCA service. For that reason, the Commission will override the determination of NANPA.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The Application filed by CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC, requesting review and reversal of NANPA's decision denying numbering resources is granted.
2. The decision of the North American Number Plan Administrator to deny CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC's request for one block of 1,000 telephone numbers in the Dardenne rate center is overturned.
3. The North American Number Plan Administrator shall issue CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC, one block of 1,000 telephone numbers in the Dardenne rate center.
4. CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC, shall sequentially assign the block of 1,000 telephone numbers in the Dardenne rate center.
5. This order shall become effective on June 11, 2006.

6. This case may be closed on June 12, 2006.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen M. Dale', written in a cursive style.

Colleen M. Dale
Secretary

(S E A L)

Davis, Chm., Murray, Gaw, Clayton and Appling, CC., concur

Woodruff, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge