

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

In Re: Paging Interconnection Agreement By)
and Between Joplin Beepers, Inc. d/b/a Midwest)
Paging, Inc. And CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC)
d/b/a CenturyLink Pursuant to Sections 251 and)
252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.)
Case No. _____

**APPLICATION OF CENTURYLINK FOR APPROVAL
OF A PAGING INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT**

COMES NOW, CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC d/b/a CenturyLink (“CenturyLink”) and files its Application for Approval of a Paging Interconnection Agreement between Joplin Beepers, Inc. d/b/a Midwest Paging Inc. (“Midwest Paging”) and CenturyLink pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the “Federal Act”). In support of its application, CenturyLink states the following:

I. APPLICANT

CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC d/b/a CenturyLink is a Louisiana limited liability corporation that is duly authorized to do business in the state of Missouri and authorized by the Commission to provide basic local and interexchange telecommunications services. Copies of CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC’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 4 CSR 240-2.060(1)(G).

To CenturyLink’s knowledge, there are no overdue assessments or annual reports or final unsatisfied judgments or decisions against it involving customer service or rates occurring within the last three years.

II. INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

CenturyLink presents to the Commission its application pursuant to the terms of the Federal Act. CenturyLink and Midwest Paging entered into a Paging Interconnection Agreement dated February 27, 2017 (the “Agreement”). There are no outstanding issues related to the Agreement between the parties that require the assistance of mediation or arbitration.

III. STANDARD FOR REVIEW

The statutory standard of review under Section 252(e) of the Act states:

(e) Approval by State Commission

- (1) Approval Required. Any interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation or arbitration shall be submitted for approval to the state commission. A State commission to which an agreement is submitted to shall approve or reject the agreement, with written findings as to any deficiencies.
- (2) under subsection (a) if it finds Grounds for Rejection. The State commission may only reject.
 - (A) an agreement (or any portion thereof) adopted by negotiation that:
 - (i) the agreement (or portion thereof) discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement, or
 - (ii) the implementation of such agreement or portion is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity; or...

CenturyLink further states that the Agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity in that it allows for full and fair competition and greater choice for the consumer. The Agreement does not discriminate against other carriers who are not a party to the Agreement because the terms of the Agreement are equally available to any other carrier.

IV. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL

CenturyLink seeks the Commission's approval of the Agreement, consistent with the provisions of the Federal Act. CenturyLink and Midwest Paging believe that the implementation of this Agreement complies fully with Section 252(e) of the Federal Act because the Agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity and does not discriminate against any telecommunications carrier. The Agreement promotes diversity in providers, provides interconnectivity, and increases customer choices for telecommunications services.

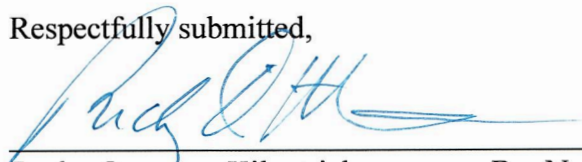
CenturyLink and Midwest Paging respectfully request that the Commission grant approval of the Agreement, without change, suspension or other delay in its implementation.

V. CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, CenturyLink requests that the Commission approve the Paging Interconnection Agreement between CenturyLink and Midwest Paging.

Filed: March 6, 2017

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that on this 6th day of March, 2017, a copy of the above and foregoing Application of CenturyLink for Approval of a Paging Interconnection Agreement was served via email and/or U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, to each of the following:

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Dianne Barthel", written over a horizontal line.