BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC d/b/a CenturyLink and Spectra Communications Group, LLC d/b/a CenturyLink)))
Complainants,)
v.) File No. TC-2014-0263
Sprint Communications Company, LP 6200 Sprint Parkway Overland Park, Kansas 66251)))
CERTIFIED MAIL)
Respondent.)

NOTICE OF CONTESTED CASE AND ORDER DIRECTING FILING

Issue Date: April 1, 2014 Effective Date: April 1, 2014

The Commission is giving notice of a contested case and ordering a response.

On March 28, 2014, the complainant filed the complaint. For any formal complaint, the Commission's regulations provide:

Upon the filing of a complaint in compliance with these rules, the secretary of the commission shall serve by certified mail, postage prepaid, a copy of the complaint upon the person, corporation or public utility against whom the complaint has been filed, which shall be accompanied by a notice that the matter complained of be satisfied or that the complaint be answered by the respondent, unless otherwise ordered, within thirty (30) days of the date of the notice. [²]

² 4 CSR 240-2.070(7).

¹ A copy of the complaint is attached, omitting any highly confidential information, which is accessible to the respondent through the Commission's Electronic Filing and Information System.

The filing of a complaint also requires the Commission to set a hearing.³ The requirement of a hearing on a complaint signifies a contested case.⁴

A contested case is a formal hearing procedure, including discovery, for which the provisions are set forth at Commission Regulation 4 CSR 240-2.090. But contested case procedure allows for waiver of procedural formalities and a decision without an evidentiary hearing, including by stipulation and agreement. Also, as an alternative to the formal evidentiary hearing procedure, the Commission offers mediation. Mediation is a voluntary process in which a neutral person assists the parties in exploring opportunities for settlement. Upon a request for mediation, the Commission may suspend the schedule set forth in this order.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

- 1. The respondent shall file an answer no later than May 1, 2014.
- 2. This order is effective immediately upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION

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Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Ronald D. Pridgin, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 1st day of April, 2014.

⁴ Section 536.010(4), RSMo Supp. 2012.

³ Section 386.390.5, RSMo 2000.

⁵ Section 536.060, RSMo 2000; 4 CSR 240-2.115.