

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

Socket Telecom, LLC,)	
)	
Complainant)	
)	
v.)	<u>File No. TC-2020-0409</u>
)	
Embarq Missouri, Inc., d/b/a CenturyLink,)	
)	
Respondent.)	

PROTECTIVE ORDER

Issue Date: July 17, 2020

Effective Date: July 17, 2020

On July 16, 2020, Embarq Missouri, Inc., d/b/a CenturyLink (CenturyLink) filed a motion for a protective order. CenturyLink stated that it has received Data Requests from Socket Telecom, LLC (Socket), the answer to which include customer-specific information and market-specific information that is competitively sensitive. CenturyLink states that the “Confidential” designation under 20 CSR 4240-2.135 will not provide adequate protection for this information. CenturyLink requests to have a protective order in place that would allow it to designate certain information as “Highly Confidential.” CenturyLink stated that Socket and the Staff of the Commission had no opposition to the grant of a protective order. The Commission finds the request for a protective order reasonable and will grant it.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. CenturyLink’s motion for a protective order is granted as follows:
 - a. Non-public information about customer-specific interconnection arrangements, to include payments, and market-specific information

relating to services offered in competition with others shall be designated “Highly Confidential” at the time of its disclosure.

- b. Disclosure of materials or information designated “Highly Confidential” shall be made only to counsel for Socket and to outside experts of Socket who have executed a Commission nondisclosure agreement. No “Highly Confidential” information shall be provided directly or indirectly to any employee of Socket.
- c. Persons afforded access to materials or information designated “Highly Confidential” shall neither use nor disclose such materials or information for purposes of business or competition or any other purpose other than in regard to the case referenced above, and shall keep the materials and information secure and confidential and in accordance with the purposes and intent of the protective order.
- d. All material and information designated as “Highly Confidential,” as well as any notes pertaining to such information, shall be returned to CenturyLink or destroyed upon the conclusion of the referenced case, with certification of same to CenturyLink.
- e. If any party disagrees with the “Highly Confidential” designation of any information, that party shall follow the informal discovery dispute resolution procedures set forth in Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.090(8). If these dispute resolution procedures are exhausted without resolution, the party may file a motion challenging the designation.

2. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Nancy Dippell, Senior Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 17th day of July, 2020.