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                           STATE OF MISSOURI
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                       PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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                       TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
 7
                          Arbitration Hearing
 8
                             April 13, 2006
 9
                        Jefferson City, Missouri
9
                                Volume 5
10
11
     Petition of Socket Telecom, LLC
12
     for Compulsory Arbitration of
     Interconnection Agreements with )
CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC and ) Case No. TO-2006-0299
13
14
     Spectra Communications, LLC
     Pursuant to Section 252(b)(1) of
    the Telecommunications Act of 1996 )
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                    KENNARD L. JONES, Presiding,
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                         REGULATORY LAW JUDGE.
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                    NATELLE DIETRICH,
                    LARRY HENDERSON,
20
                    MIKE SCHEPERLE,
                    ADAM McKINNIE,
21
                         ADVISORY STAFF.
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     REPORTED BY:
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     MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES
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- 1 PROCEEDINGS
- 2 JUDGE JONES: We are back on the record
- 3 with Case No. TO-2006-0299, and we'll begin today with
- 4 Socket's witnesses on our final issues. That will be Matt
- 5 Kohly and Mr. Turner. Are they here?
- 6 MR. HILL: Your Honor, will we be having
- 7 any kind of opening?
- JUDGE JONES: Oh, yeah. I'm sorry. Let's
- 9 have the opening statements.
- 10 MR. HILL: The other thing I'd just bring
- 11 to your attention, I think both parties needed to file
- 12 something in the record. I know Ms. Wilkes yesterday said
- 13 she had changes to her proprietary numbers in her
- 14 testimony, and we said that we would do it overnight and
- 15 bring it. So we can get that in the record as well.
- 16 Would you like me to do that now?
- 17 JUDGE JONES: Yes.
- 18 MR. HILL: Your Honor, we have a
- 19 proprietary addendum to Mrs. Wilkes' testimony in which
- 20 she updates some of the proprietary numbers to her
- 21 testimony, and I believe that we would mark this as
- 22 Schedule DD, and we'd move for it to be admitted into the
- 23 record.
- JUDGE JONES: Any objections? Exhibit DD
- 25 is admitted into the record.

- 1 (EXHIBIT DD WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION
- 2 BY THE REPORTER, AND RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE.)
- 3 MR. BROWN: Your Honor, we're also having
- 4 some copies made, but we thought that you would want the
- 5 first day's diagrams available to you probably.
- JUDGE JONES: Okay.
- 7 MR. BROWN: And so we have -- we're getting
- 8 copies made of Mr. Kohly's drawings now, and we'll make
- 9 those available. I don't know how many copies of the
- 10 joint recommendation we asked for official notice on
- 11 yesterday that you'd like.
- 12 JUDGE JONES: Just one.
- MR. BROWN: Okay. Thank you.
- 14 JUDGE JONES: Okay. We'll have opening
- 15 statements from CenturyTel -- I'm sorry -- Socket.
- MR. MAGNESS: Good morning, your Honor,
- 17 Staff. We are down to the last panel. This last panel
- 18 was organized as one that was a little different from the
- 19 others in that the topics aren't directly related by
- 20 subject matter but are sort of more of a catchall of other
- 21 issues that were disputed that didn't neatly fit in other
- 22 places.
- There are some relationships between the
- 24 issues you'll find as we go through them to the ones we
- 25 have done, but these are relatively stand-alone items, and

- 1 they appear in Articles 2 and 3 and 12 of the DPL, and in
- 2 those articles, I believe those are all articles in which
- 3 a large number of issues have been settled. This panel
- 4 originally included the article on DSL. Those issues
- 5 settled yesterday, so we don't need to bring them before
- 6 you.
- 7 The issues in Article 16 concerning
- 8 directories, white pages, et cetera, in addition have
- 9 settled. And I'll just tell you for the record, Socket's
- 10 last witness, Mr. DuPui, whose testimony was going to be
- 11 adopted by Mr. Kohly for purposes of the hearing, his
- 12 entire testimony was about Article 16. So we would
- 13 withdraw Mr. DuPui's testimony, as it's no longer
- 14 necessary in the record as those issues have settled.
- 15 And to get to those issues that remain in
- 16 dispute, I'd like to start in Article 2, the definitions
- 17 section, and as always, a definitions section is only
- 18 something a lawyer can love, and most of these are legal
- 19 issues, I think you'll find as you look through them, and
- 20 that's why I hope to discuss them at this point and not
- 21 ask witnesses about them.
- 22 I'd like to draw your attention first to
- 23 the definition of information access, and that's Issue
- 24 No. 14 in the Article 2 DPL. Simply stated, I think our
- 25 primary dispute with this information access, information

- 1 access traffic as Socket defines it -- in the CenturyTel
- 2 proposal it is information access traffic or ISP-bound
- 3 traffic. I'd say the primary dispute relates back to what
- 4 you heard in the first day of the hearing concerning what
- 5 the ISP Remand Order means, and the primary debate, as you
- 6 may recall, was is the FCC's assertion of jurisdiction
- 7 over ISP-bound traffic limited to ISP-bound calls that
- 8 originate and terminate in the same local exchange or is
- 9 it -- does it extend to all ISP-bound traffic, therefore
- 10 making ISP-bound traffic more generally subject to the
- 11 federal regime, or is the situation that if the call is
- 12 inside a local exchange, it's interstate, but once it goes
- 13 outside the local exchange, it's intrastate? Of course,
- 14 you heard our positions on that the other day.
- This issue, CenturyTel's definition
- 16 incorporates its view of the limit on the ISP Remand Order
- 17 definition of ISP-bound traffic, and we would expect it
- 18 would. However, the problem here is that it's a
- 19 definition also of information access traffic, and
- 20 information access traffic can be a broader set of things.
- 21 In fact, in the ISP Remand Order, the FCC said that
- 22 ISP-bound traffic was a subset of information access.
- 23 Information access is a term that goes back
- 24 to before the Act, the modification final judgment that
- 25 broke up the original AT&T, AT&T classic, and the FCC

- 1 spoke of that category of traffic and decided that
- 2 ISP-bound traffic was a subset of that.
- 3 So Socket's concern is that if we
- 4 incorporate a definition that limits information access to
- 5 calls within the local calling area, that's beyond even
- 6 the interpretation of the ISP Remand Order that their
- 7 position on ISP-bound traffic would support, because
- 8 you're reaching out and defining yet another term as being
- 9 limited to the local calling area.
- 10 That's the primary dispute there. So it is
- 11 linked in large measure to how you decide the ISP remand
- 12 and ISP definition issues, but it's got a little twist we
- 13 just want you to be aware of.
- 14 The next definition similarly is related to
- 15 the ISP Remand Order, and that is on page 10 of 21. It's
- 16 Issue No. 15. That's the Internet service provider
- 17 definition. And the concern here is, it's not necessarily
- 18 a -- well, I'll just put it this way: It is not the same
- 19 issue that we discussed a couple days ago, because the way
- 20 that CenturyTel has proposed to define ISP is as an
- 21 enhanced service provider, and as you'll notice we
- 22 define -- so far we're together -- that may -- and we say
- 23 that may also utilize LEC services to provide their
- 24 customers with access to the Internet.
- 25 So we have no dispute that it's an enhanced

- 1 service provider. That enhanced service provider may use
- 2 services of the LEC. It gets to the Internet. It's
- 3 Internet bound, simple enough.
- 4 We agree that it's an enhanced service
- 5 provider, but then the CenturyTel definition links it to
- 6 paragraph 341 of the First Report and Order in CC
- 7 Docket 97-158. As an initial matter, we're troubled by a
- 8 cross reference into a very large FCC Order. That was the
- 9 Access Reform Order.
- 10 But more pertinently, we provided -- this
- 11 is what we provided a copy of -- is that paragraph 341.
- 12 This is in the First Report and Order, 1997, on access
- 13 charge reform, and if you -- we provided paragraph 341.
- 14 As you can see, paragraph 341 itself is not a definitional
- 15 paragraph. It doesn't provide a definition, but it
- 16 references information service providers, or ISPs.
- 17 In Footnote 498, they then go through the
- 18 explanation of their definitions of enhanced services that
- 19 are defined in the federal rules. They then provide
- 20 reference to the 1996 Act definition of information
- 21 services, which is somewhat different.
- 22 At the end of that footnote, the FCC
- 23 states, for purposes of this order, providers of enhanced
- 24 services and providers of information services are
- 25 referred to as ISPs.

- 1 Our concern with this is that the
- 2 information services definition in the Federal Act has
- 3 been hotly contested and has been used in very significant
- 4 ways recently in deregulating a lot of services. And I'm
- 5 not sitting here telling you that's what they're trying to
- 6 do or that's what's going to happen. I just say that
- 7 referencing something as a definition of a term in an
- 8 interconnection agreement that doesn't reference a
- 9 definition but rather references two other definitions and
- 10 then says an information service provider is that and that
- 11 is I don't think the best way to draft it, the clearest
- 12 way to draft it.
- 13 But the more troubling thing is, if there
- 14 is a dispute about this during the course of the agreement
- 15 or if the FCC takes further actions that provide us more
- 16 information about what they mean by information services,
- 17 and in the recent order that went all the way to the
- 18 Supreme Court there was an issue about whether information
- 19 services and telecommunications services are mutually
- 20 exclusive, and it had a big impact on the regulation of
- 21 DSL and the regulation of cable modems.
- 22 These are major issues before the FCC.
- So we would rather keep the definition of
- 24 ISP simple, clean, and not try and cross reference it back
- 25 into an almost ten-year-old order that doesn't exactly

- 1 give us a clean definition.
- 2 Sorry. I thought I had the -- could I have
- 3 mixed up pages in the DPL? Impossible. Let's see. Here
- 4 we go. Sorry.
- 5 The next one I'd like to talk to you about
- 6 is Issue No. 33. Actually, I'm sorry, I believe it's 34,
- 7 the definition of dedicated transport. Appears on page 13
- 8 of the Article 2 definitions. Dedicated transport is an
- 9 unbundled network element that provides transport of
- 10 traffic between wire centers or central offices.
- 11 As has been discussed prior to today,
- 12 unbundled dedicated transport is a UNE that CenturyTel
- 13 must make available. There are not wire centers in its
- 14 service territory that have been delisted or taken off the
- 15 UNE list. So it is, I think, an obligation that there's
- 16 no dispute that CenturyTel has.
- 17 The question here concerns wire centers in
- 18 the CenturyTel territory where Spectra wire centers are
- 19 subtending CenturyTel tandem. And I think there's really
- 20 a couple of issues here. One is, what is the situation
- 21 and the consequences of it?
- 22 As is clear from the testimony, and I think
- 23 from folks' experience who live in the service territory,
- 24 CenturyTel and Spectra operate as one company as a
- 25 practical matter. When Socket orders UNEs, they don't

- 1 order them separately from CenturyTel and Spectra. The
- 2 companies bill on the same systems. You're in Spectra
- 3 territory, you get a CenturyTel bill. You're in
- 4 CenturyTel territory, you get a CenturyTel bill. Same
- 5 techs come service the networks. They are an integrated
- 6 operation.
- 7 They do have separate certificates, but
- 8 they are fully integrated in their operations, so
- 9 integrated, in fact, that there are 54 Spectra offices,
- 10 central offices, that you can't get to unless you go
- 11 through the CenturyTel tandem.
- 12 So if Socket needs interoffice transport
- 13 that has a customer hanging off in the Spectra territory,
- 14 hanging off the switch in the Spectra territory, let's say
- 15 it's a T1 customer, they have a loop up through to the
- 16 Spectra central office. In order to form an enhanced
- 17 extended link, an EEL, or just in order to get to the next
- 18 point in the call transmission path, they need to get
- 19 transport up to that tandem, and that transport should be
- 20 dedicated transport straight through into that network.
- 21 If dedicated transport isn't available in
- 22 that situation, Socket's left in the situation of having
- 23 to pay special access or come up with some other
- 24 arrangement to get transport so those customers that they
- 25 have that are in Spectra territory aren't essentially

- 1 stranded without being able to get out to the rest of the
- 2 network.
- 3 That is going to make a tremendous
- 4 different to Socket as to whether they're going to try and
- 5 expand into those Spectra central offices. Socket wants
- 6 to. That's why they're bringing the issue to you.
- 7 They're interested in getting into those offices. So
- 8 there's a practical impact.
- 9 And you'll notice in the definition, we
- 10 limited the definition in the language that is bold and
- 11 underlined in our contract proposal to situations where
- 12 the Spectra and CenturyTel network that directly connect
- 13 two switches or wire centers within a LATA without making
- 14 use of a transit or switching facilities of a third-party
- 15 LEC.
- So we're not trying to unduly expand any
- 17 transport obligation. It's just the same kind of
- 18 transport that would be provided if that was a Spectra
- 19 tandem instead of having the CenturyTel label on it or a
- 20 CenturyTel end office instead of having a Spectra label on
- 21 it. In these particular circumstances, that's plain old
- 22 dedicated transport.
- I told you there were two issues here.
- 24 That's the first one. The second one is, in the federal
- 25 rules, dedicated transport has a definition, and the

- 1 dedicated transport definition provides that, and I'll
- 2 read it from the dedicated -- let's see. Flipped to the
- 3 wrong side of the book. The definition of dedicated
- 4 transport is, for purposes of this section, dedicated
- 5 transport includes incumbent LEC transmission facilities
- 6 between wire centers or switches owned by incumbent LECs
- 7 or between wire centers or switches owned by incumbent
- 8 LECs and switches owned by requesting telecommunications
- 9 carriers. And it goes on to designate specifically what
- 10 capacities.
- 11 The definition speaks of facilities owned
- 12 by incumbent LECs, plural. Thus, the dedicated transport
- 13 definition itself does not prevent the two certificated
- 14 carriers from forming a transport route.
- 15 Socket's not arguing that CenturyTel should
- 16 have to provide transport to SBC or to Sprint or to any
- 17 other carrier, but in situations where they have set up
- 18 their company such that the network prevents the provision
- 19 of UNE transport by the designation of whose name is on
- 20 which piece of equipment is a much different situation but
- 21 a situation that isn't prevented by the rules.
- 22 Now, I'll tell you, there is a dedicated --
- 23 there is a definition of route, transport route that
- 24 does -- that is -- sounds like it is more limited to, you
- 25 know, a LEC's wire center or between a LEC switches. A

- 1 route is a transmission path between one of an incumbent
- 2 LEC's wire centers or switches and another of the
- 3 incumbent LEC's wire centers or switches. When I tell you
- 4 that, it's -- that one sounds more like they're talking
- 5 about one.
- 6 The definition itself of dedicated
- 7 transport appears to permit incumbent LECs, plural. We
- 8 believe it's a permissible reading of the definition of
- 9 dedicated transport to permit in this situation where you
- 10 essentially have a combined LEC and LEC facilities have to
- 11 provide dedicated transport. So only lawyers could love
- 12 them, but occasionally they have very big impacts.
- 13 Now, on the Article 3 provisions, that is
- 14 fairly well whittled down to Issue 2, and that is related
- 15 to payment of bills by Socket. Socket is requesting a
- 16 45-day payment due date from the bill date. In the M2A,
- 17 that's what was approved by the Commission.
- 18 And this one is one that's not particularly
- 19 legal. It's pretty factual, and Mr. Kohly testifies on
- 20 it, and he can testify about it today, that there are
- 21 practical problems that Socket has experienced with the
- 22 CenturyTel bills. And CenturyTel's right, you don't get
- 23 the size of bill as you get from SBC/AT&T, but Socket's
- 24 experience is that there are still significant errors, and
- 25 those bills need to be audited and it takes time to deal

- 1 with them.
- 2 Part of the motivation for 45 days after
- 3 bill date is, sometimes bills arrive late. That can be a
- 4 problem as well. So even though you may have a 20-day or
- 5 a 30-day period, if you don't receive the bill until 10
- 6 days into that period, it's eaten up a lot of the time you
- 7 need to validate the bill.
- 8 So there is factual testimony, and if the
- 9 Panel wants to validate that factual testimony, I'd
- 10 encourage you to question the witnesses about it. But
- 11 that's one where I think it's better for them to talk than
- 12 me, but the proposal is based on both SBC language and
- 13 practical experience.
- 14 The last issue I want to talk about has to
- 15 do with Article 12, the remote call forwarding. The issue
- 16 that remains, only one in that attachment that remains is
- 17 Issue No. 2. Involves a limitation on the ability of
- 18 Socket to port a remote call forwarding number, a number
- 19 that was a call forwarding number when it was a CenturyTel
- 20 customer, Socket gets the customer, the customer doesn't
- 21 want to switch unless the customer can keep it's RCF
- 22 number so it doesn't have to change its number, and what
- 23 are going to be the limitations on Socket's ability to do
- 24 that.
- 25 Mr. Miller, Mr. Turner have testified about

- 1 this. It is an issue we have been trying to work out, and
- 2 at this point I have -- I would like to offer a change in
- 3 our language that we have offered, and it hasn't been
- 4 accepted, but we were willing to put it in as a compromise
- 5 at this point to try to get through this.
- 6 And Mr. Turner, our witness for this issue,
- 7 can explain the reasoning behind the new language a whole
- 8 lot better than I can, because this is a pretty technical
- 9 issue, and we can do that when he's up here for cross
- 10 clarifying, however the Commission would like to do that.
- 11 but I'd like to just tell you what it is.
- 12 The Socket language currently says, each
- 13 party shall permit telephone numbers associated with
- 14 remote call forwarding to be ported. And we would add --
- 15 we propose to add, provided that the local calling scope
- 16 of the ported number does not change.
- 17 And Socket believes that the addition of
- 18 this limitation should meet any legitimate concerns
- 19 CenturyTel has. They may have other concerns, but they
- 20 may be ones which we will continue to dispute with them,
- 21 but we would hope perhaps this is a reasonable compromise
- 22 for this issue. Thank you.
- JUDGE JONES: Opening statements from
- 24 CenturyTel.
- MR. HILL: Good morning, your Honor, Staff.

- 1 JUDGE JONES: Good morning.
- 2 MR. HILL: I understand that Panel 5's been
- 3 characterized as a catchall panel. However, that
- 4 shouldn't be interpreted as meaning that the issues in
- 5 this panel are less significant than the other ones that
- 6 we've talked about. There are -- I think Mr. Magness did
- 7 a good job of identifying what's been resolved, but there
- 8 still are several significant outstanding disputes.
- 9 Many of the ones that Mr. Magness talked
- 10 about had to do with definitions of different types of
- 11 traffic, the definition, for example, of what constitutes
- 12 dedicated transport, you know, required to be unbundled by
- 13 an ILEC. There's another definition in there of currently
- 14 available, and there's also this issue of remote call
- 15 forwarding.
- I would submit to you before I talk just a
- 17 little bit about each one of those that these are really
- 18 matters of construction and interpretation of either FCC
- 19 rules or pronouncements by the FCC that should be
- 20 determined as a matter of law. Therefore, we will address
- 21 them more fully in our briefing, rather than spend the
- 22 time to sit here and talk about who said what in what
- 23 order.
- I would like to say, though, with respect
- 25 to Mr. Magness' comments on definition of dedicated

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- 1 transport that he mischaracterizes very much the
- 2 relationship between Spectra and CenturyTel of Missouri.
- 3 Whereas he characterized that CenturyTel had set up the
- 4 networks this way, the way that they are set up is
- 5 actually the result of separate acquisitions. There was
- 6 no intentional -- there was no intentional motive to set
- 7 up in any way the network the way it is other than that
- 8 was just the natural flow of how the properties were
- 9 acquired. And we can -- the witnesses can talk more, in
- 10 more detail about that.
- 11 The core issue there has to do, however,
- 12 with whether or not we as the ILEC, CenturyTel, is going
- 13 to be required to unbundle dedicated transport between the
- 14 wire centers or between the offices of two separate ILECs.
- 15 That is completely inconsistent with the definition of
- 16 dedicated transport and the pronouncements the FCC has
- 17 made about it.
- 18 There is another definitional issue in
- 19 Article 2, and it has to do with the definition of
- 20 something called currently available. And this is a
- 21 definition that essentially applies where Socket is trying
- 22 to define the UNEs that CenturyTel is required to unbundle
- 23 under the Act.
- 24 And in that definition you'll note that
- 25 they attempt to require CenturyTel, they demand that

- 1 CenturyTel unbundles the UNEs of an affiliate that's not
- 2 itself an ILEC. Again, this is completely inconsistent
- 3 with CenturyTel's obligations under the Act, and we will
- 4 address that vigorously in briefing.
- 5 Remote call forwarding, that's the load
- 6 issue, the single issue that is still in dispute in
- 7 Article 12. It's Issue 2. If you're keeping track, it's
- 8 Section 6.2.3. And we know that remote call forwarding is
- 9 a method of providing number portability, and you'll
- 10 recall that number portability, the whole purpose of it is
- 11 to provide a customer with the ability when it changes
- 12 carriers to maintain its local number.
- 13 The FCC in the First Report and Order has
- 14 been very clear that the scope of number port-- that
- 15 number portability is not location portability. The
- 16 customer has to stay in the same local calling area. This
- 17 is just another way that Socket is trying to get at FX, at
- 18 an FX arrangement or VNXX.
- 19 Now, again, I just reiterate, these are
- 20 legal issues, quite frankly, and we will be addressing
- 21 them further in briefing.
- 22 What remains are two -- what also remains,
- 23 I should say, are two disputes in Article 3. In Issue 6,
- 24 the parties have resolved the language that pertains to
- 25 the prior dispute between e-mail notification versus

- 1 accessible letters. I think you've probably read about
- 2 that. You've asked questions about it, Ms. Dietrich.
- 3 That part has been resolved.
- 4 There is a sub-issue still embedded in that
- 5 provision in Section 54.5, where Socket is essentially
- 6 demanding that whenever CenturyTel makes an operational
- 7 change, a change in standard practices, that it -- that
- 8 Socket be allowed to request something called project team
- 9 resources to assist Socket in implementing the change.
- 10 Now, something I'd like to point out is,
- 11 what is project team resources? I don't know. And the
- 12 contract, their language proposal doesn't define it. It's
- 13 as big a question to us as it is -- as it might be to you.
- 14 What is clear is that, whatever it is, Socket demands the
- 15 right to request it upon its discretion with absolutely no
- 16 limitation or without any objective criteria in contract
- 17 language determining when such resources would be
- 18 necessary.
- Now, I'd like to -- what CenturyTel has
- 20 proposed, that to the extent we, we CenturyTel, has a
- 21 change in standard practices, whether it's operational or
- 22 related to network management, that we are more than happy
- 23 to provide contacts that will -- they can contact to walk
- 24 through, trouble shoot, find out how the change is going
- 25 to affect them, as well as help them implement it. It is

- 1 a reasonable offer.
- 2 Unfortunately, under Socket's language,
- 3 they have the right to essentially coop our work force and
- 4 unbundle it as if it were a UNE just upon their demand.
- 5 When they want it, they get it. That's completely
- 6 unreasonable.
- 7 I'd like to -- the last issue I think that
- 8 I'd like to address is the Article 3 issue on the billing
- 9 dispute. It's ironic to me in this situation that we've
- 10 heard some testimony already, and it's in Ms. Hankins
- 11 direct and rebuttal testimony, that CenturyTel today makes
- 12 available electronic billing options that allows Socket to
- 13 both review its bills electronically as well as remit
- 14 payment electronically, effectively cutting out the three
- 15 to five days of mail time on each end, given the seven to
- 16 ten days, whatever the -- of mail time. Their entire
- 17 point is that they need more time to review their bills.
- 18 This effectively provides it to them.
- 19 It's ironic to me that we sat here
- 20 yesterday listening to Socket demand this highly
- 21 automated, expensive OSS -- fully automated OSS system in
- 22 the name of efficiency, and yet they refuse to take
- 23 advantage of the automated, efficient electronic billing
- 24 processes that are made available to them today.
- 25 It's also worth pointing out that Socket

- 1 requires its own customers to pay within 20 days of the
- 2 bill date. CenturyTel requires its customers to pay
- 3 within 20 days of the bill date. A request to pay your
- 4 bills within 45 days essentially is super-parity.
- 5 The Commission should -- or the Panel
- 6 should also be aware that, to the extent CenturyTel is
- 7 required to change its billing due dates, particularly
- 8 from 20 business days, which is roughly 30 calendar days,
- 9 to the 45 calendar days that Socket is requesting would
- 10 require extensive and costly modifications of its billing
- 11 systems, reprogramming, reallocation of capacity and space
- 12 within its systems. In fact, the witnesses testify to
- 13 this, but it is my understanding that it may not even be
- 14 possible with these current billing systems.
- Now, the justification that Socket offers
- 16 for changing its bill date is that their bill -- they need
- 17 more time to review the bills. And in setting forth their
- 18 evidence on this, they grossly exaggerate the nature of
- 19 the errors that are on their bills.
- 20 And if you review Ms. Hankins testimony,
- 21 and you can ask her questions about it here today, any
- 22 time Socket has raised a billing dispute, CenturyTel has
- 23 been responsive to those billing claim disputes. All
- 24 right. It is a commercial practice. There's going to be
- 25 errors. We're not saying they're not there, but we are

- 1 responsive when they do occur.
- 2 In the M2A-II proceeding there were some --
- 3 there were some CLECs that put into the record evidence
- 4 that they had bills that were hundreds -- that they
- 5 received hundreds of bills a month, and that those bills
- 6 total thousands of pages. Socket is trying to shoehorn
- 7 the facts of this case where they don't fit into the facts
- 8 of that case. This is not that case.
- 9 Look at the evidence about Socket's bills.
- 10 They are modest. They are single digit in page numbers.
- 11 They are single digit in number. They simply are not the
- 12 same types of bills, and they do not cause the same types
- 13 of labor-intensive review that CLECs in the M2A-II
- 14 proceeding showed.
- Now, I would suggest to you, given the
- 16 electronic billing options made available by CenturyTel
- 17 today, particularly to Socket, that is a reasonable
- 18 accommodation to get at their specific concern, which is
- 19 how do we get more time to review the bills. And given
- 20 that option, it would be completely unjustified to require
- 21 expensive and costly systems, modifications by
- 22 CenturyTel.
- 23 Your Honor, there's been another issue
- 24 that's been raised about the definition of dedicated
- 25 transport as well as some VNX arrangement, remote call

- 1 forwarding arrangement. With your permission, I'd like to
- 2 just give a few minutes to Mr. Hartley to talk about that
- 3 if that's okay.
- 4 JUDGE JONES: That will be fine.
- 5 MR. HARTLEY: Good morning, your Honor,
- 6 Panel. With respect to the Article 2 definitions
- 7 disputes, I think Mr. Magness pretty much hit the nail on
- 8 the head when he said only lawyers can love them but they
- 9 have a very big impact. Quite so.
- 10 As I'm sure you've read in Mr. Simshaw's
- 11 direct and rebuttal testimony, the definitions in
- 12 Article 2 dovetail with the Article 5 disputes we talked
- 13 about on Tuesday, about this arbitrage situation. I
- 14 think, Mr. Henderson, you asked the question of Dr. Avera
- 15 about, what do you mean arbitrage, how is this going on,
- 16 and he explained how you end up with these two
- 17 functionally equivalent products at different prices.
- 18 And this is exactly what the definitions in
- 19 Article 2, specifically Issues 14, 15 and 16, relate to,
- 20 these definitions of information access, information
- 21 access traffic, ISP traffic, intraLATA toll traffic.
- The bottom line is, this is all about
- 23 deploying a single point of interconnection out there in
- 24 the LATA and getting it to a distant location to serve an
- 25 ISP without imposing these costs or imposing those costs

- 1 on CenturyTel.
- 2 As Mr. Simshaw sat up here Tuesday and
- 3 testified and he and Mr. Magness went back and forth about
- 4 the ISP Remand Order, the First Circuit was addressing
- 5 this issue. I've handed Judge Jones a copy of that
- 6 opinion, also provided a copy to Mr. Magness.
- 7 As I thumb through this opinion, what first
- 8 strikes me is how remarkably similar it is to
- 9 Mr. Simshaw's testimony. In the underlying proceeding
- 10 involved there, the Massachusetts Department of
- 11 Telecommunications and Energy did precisely what
- 12 CenturyTel is asking here. In the VNXX arrangement, they
- 13 imposed access charges because it is not a local call. It
- 14 does not begin and end in a local calling area.
- 15 More importantly, though, in explaining the
- 16 basis of its decision, the First Circuit analyzed the ISP
- 17 Remand Order, discussed it at length. Does it include --
- 18 was it defined as ISP-bound traffic within the local
- 19 calling area or not? They said yes. In fact, the First
- 20 Circuit specifically invited the FCC to submit an amicus
- 21 brief there. FCC, explain this to us. Provide your
- 22 position. And they sided with Mr. Simshaw.
- 23 If I can find the page, in the FCC's Briefs
- 24 supplied to the First Circuit they said, in establishing
- 25 the new compensation scheme for ISP-bound calls, the

- 1 Commission was considering only calls placed to ISPs
- 2 located in the same local calling area as the caller.
- 3 Regardless of whether you have a single
- 4 sentence in the DC Circuit opinion reviewing the ISP
- 5 Remand Order, regardless of how you pars the language in
- 6 paragraph 6, 13, 14, 47, 54, none of that matters. What
- 7 matters is what really went on. You look at the Order,
- 8 and Socket is attempting in these definitions in
- 9 Issues 14, 15 and 16 to circumvent that, to creatively
- 10 redefine the traffic so they can avoid the plain
- 11 implications.
- 12 The First Circuit clearly discussed the
- 13 local versus interexchange distinction, commenting that
- 14 local traffic stays within the boundaries of a local
- 15 calling area. Interexchange, however, traffic crosses the
- 16 boundaries of the local calling area and is generally
- 17 subject to toll or long distance charges paid by the
- 18 calling party.
- 19 The court was very clear in going through
- 20 and discussing these issues. In one portion of Socket's
- 21 proposed contract language, they proposed jurisdictionally
- 22 defining calls based on the assigned NXX. Now, that's all
- 23 well and good as the First Circuit notes that the
- 24 traditional system for rating calls, whether the call is
- 25 local or interexchange, was based on the NXX associated

- 1 with the particular switch.
- 2 Going back to the historical system of NXXs
- 3 being tied geographically to a switch, Socket's proposal
- 4 is quite fine. The problem arises, the arbitrage
- 5 opportunity arises when you get to the VNXX situation,
- 6 when, as the First Circuit described, virtual NXXs -- the
- 7 customer can be given VNXX numbers that were different
- 8 than those that would normally be assigned to him based on
- 9 his physical location. This allows a party to call what
- 10 appears to be a local number, although behind the scenes
- 11 that call is actually routed to a different local calling
- 12 area.
- That's basically Mr. Simshaw's testimony.
- 14 He discusses at length in his direct what this cause is.
- 15 For Socket to propose a definition that ignores the
- 16 reality of the current marketplace creates a regulatory
- 17 opportunity where you have two functionally equivalent
- 18 products, as Dr. Avera explained, at vastly different
- 19 prices where, as the FCC warned in the ISP Remand Order,
- 20 you have costs massively shifting to one party, where as
- 21 we explained at length on Tuesday, CenturyTel takes calls
- 22 from 50, 60-plus different exchanges to a single point,
- 23 bears the burden for all that. Socket pays the charges
- 24 for a single facility that's much cheaper, and the ISP
- 25 compensates for them that -- that for them.

- 1 Mr. Simshaw explains at length how what
- 2 happens here is the only party depriving revenue from this
- 3 situation is Socket. The party incurring the costs is
- 4 CenturyTel. That's not reasonable, and that's certainly
- 5 not consistent with the First Circuit's decision saying,
- 6 you know what, this is a matter for the state commissions
- 7 to decide, and the Massachusetts Department of
- 8 Telecommunications and Energy got it right. When they
- 9 decide to impose access charges on this because there's a
- 10 fundamental distinction between local traffic and
- 11 interexchange, that was the appropriate decision.
- 12 That decision should be the same in this
- 13 proceeding, and Socket's definitions in Issues 14, 15 and
- 14 16 which subvert and undermine that regime and allow them
- 15 to shift their costs to CenturyTel, derive extraordinary
- 16 revenue, that's just not how the system's supposed to
- 17 operate. That's not consistent with the FCC's intent to
- 18 promote facilities-based competition. It's not consistent
- 19 with the reasonable allocation of responsibility.
- Thank you.
- MR. HARTLEY: I'm sorry, your Honor. We'd
- 22 like you to take judicial notice or administrative notice
- 23 of the opinion I handed you, the First Circuit.
- JUDGE JONES: I will.
- MR. HARTLEY: Thank you.

- JUDGE JONES: Are you-all ready to present
- 2 Socket's witnesses?
- MR. BROWN: Yes, your Honor. We've got one
- 4 housekeeping matter, the drawings. We're going to produce
- 5 them for you.
- 6 (EXHIBIT EE WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION
- 7 BY THE REPORTER.)
- 8 MR. MAGNESS: For the record, Mr. Brown and
- 9 I have put together the diagrams that were drawn and used
- 10 in the first day of hearing during cross-examination with
- 11 staff clarifying. Those have been marked as Exhibit EE,
- 12 and we would jointly move their admission.
- 13 JUDGE JONES: Exhibit EE is admitted into
- 14 the record.
- 15 (EXHIBIT EE WAS RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE.)
- MR. BROWN: Thank you, your Honor.
- 17 MR. MAGNESS: Your Honor, I believe the
- 18 full testimony of both Mr. Kohly and Mr. Turner has been
- 19 admitted, so we'll tender them for cross-examination.
- JUDGE JONES: Cross-examination.
- 21 R. MATTHEW KOHLY AND STEVE TURNER testified as follows:
- 22 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. HILL:
- Q. Good morning, Mr. Kohly. Excuse me.
- 24 Before we get started, do you have a copy of the
- 25 article DPL?

- 1 (Answers by Matt Kohly.)
- 2 A. Yes, I do.
- 3 Q. I'd like to talk to you about Section 54.5.
- 4 I think that's Issue 6. I would give you a page number.
- 5 I'm afraid it might be different because I'm still working
- 6 off the one before we modified it last night. Check
- 7 around page 14.
- 8 A. Okay.
- 9 Q. Now, you would agree that this is
- 10 essentially the provision that talks about how
- 11 CenturyTel's going to communicate standard changes and
- 12 practices, correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And the parties have essentially resolved
- 15 it, with the exception of the one sentence there that
- 16 reads, either party may request the assignment of project
- 17 team resources for implementation of the change, correct?
- 18 A. Correct.
- 19 Q. Now, you -- on page 46 of your rebuttal
- 20 testimony, you state that, in response to some of
- 21 CenturyTel's witnesses' concerns about your language
- 22 proposal, that you think it's doubtful that most changes
- 23 would require a project team; is that correct?
- 24 A. I think that we only request a project team
- 25 in the event of a major change. Certainly we don't have

- 1 the resources to request it every time there's a change.
- 2 Q. That limitation is not contained in the
- 3 proposed language you set forth, right?
- 4 A. It is not. I don't know how you would
- 5 define major versus minor change. That's going to be -- I
- 6 will have a different opinion than you probably would.
- 7 Q. So essentially the way the contract
- 8 language is right now, it's left open to Socket's
- 9 discretion as to when it wants to request project team
- 10 resources, correct?
- 11 A. Correct.
- 12 Q. Now, you also state in your rebuttal
- 13 testimony, page 46, I think it's that same page, just look
- 14 at lines 2 and 3, that this is a -- in your rebuttal
- 15 testimony you say, this is a mutual provision. And so
- 16 either party has the ability to request project team
- 17 resources, correct?
- 18 A. Yes, I do.
- 19 Q. Isn't it true that the changes in standard
- 20 practices that we're talking about in this provision are
- 21 changes in CenturyTel's standard practices?
- 22 A. Yes, but they would be able to request
- 23 resources from Socket if they felt it was necessary. For
- 24 example, in an OSS-type change, it will affect us. If
- 25 they felt it was necessary, they can make the request as

- 1 well.
- 2 Q. So you're saying that project team --
- 3 CenturyTel could request that Socket send over a project
- 4 team to help CenturyTel implement one of its own changes
- 5 in operational practices?
- 6 A. If it will affect Socket, yes.
- 7 Q. You're aware that CenturyTel has made
- 8 electronic billing options available to Socket, correct?
- 9 A. Yes. We are currently looking at one of
- 10 those that was FTP'd to us for a CABS bill.
- 11 Q. And those options -- you've heard of My
- 12 Account, for example, correct?
- 13 A. Correct.
- 14 Q. And that essentially would allow you the
- 15 opportunity to look at your ensemble bills online,
- 16 correct?
- 17 A. It would allow us to look at them on time,
- 18 on -- or online, not real time. They would still go
- 19 through an audit process, be available five to seven days
- 20 after the bill date, if I understand the testimony
- 21 correctly.
- 22 Q. It allows you to look at the bill online,
- 23 correct?
- 24 A. Correct.
- 25 Q. And it would allow you also to remit

- 1 payment online, correct?
- 2 A. I've not looked at that option. That was
- 3 the testimony. I don't know if you would have to have
- 4 a -- I mean, use a credit card for intercarrier bills or
- 5 what.
- 6 Q. There's also an option to allow you to
- 7 review electronically and remit payments for CABS bills,
- 8 correct?
- 9 A. We have received the -- the FTP file was a
- 10 CABS bill. We have received that. We've also requested a
- 11 record layout for that.
- 12 Q. So that's a yes, you're aware that --
- 13 A. I don't know about the payment option.
- 14 We're still looking at the bill and the format.
- 15 Q. Fair enough. You're not taking advantage
- of either of these electronic options at this point?
- 17 A. If they are feasible, we certainly will.
- 18 Q. But you're not currently taking advantage
- 19 of them?
- 20 A. No, we are not. We're still analyzing
- 21 them.
- 22 MR. HILL: That's all I have. I'm going to
- 23 leave some time for Mr. Brown.
- JUDGE JONES: Questions from Ms. Dietrich.
- 25 Oh, I'm sorry.

- 1 MR. BROWN: Just very briefly, your Honor.
- JUDGE JONES: You're tag teaming.
- 3 MR. BROWN: Yes. Very brief.
- 4 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. BROWN:
- 5 Q. Good morning, Mr. Kohly.
- A. Good morning.
- 7 Q. On Tuesday there was a great deal of
- 8 discussion of what kinds of services you might offer if
- 9 you were able to obtain facilities from Branson to areas
- 10 outside of Branson, right?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And in that testimony, I believe you said
- 13 that Socket's switch is in St. Louis, right?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And you would be providing your own
- 16 transport between Branson and St. Louis?
- 17 A. Assuming the POI is in Branson, yes.
- 18 Q. Okay. Fair enough. How would you provide
- 19 that transport?
- 20 A. Through third-party leased facilities.
- 21 Q. Either by a contract or a tariff?
- 22 A. Contract generally.
- Q. But you're not going to build your own
- 24 facilities there?
- 25 A. Not at this time.

- 1 Q. And that's because that's a more
- 2 economically sensible thing for you to do?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. When are you planning on putting in that
- 5 transport facility?
- 6 A. We would do it as we brought up the
- 7 collocation facility there.
- 8 Q. So that would be the trigger? Is there
- 9 anything that would be a trigger for you to put it in?
- 10 A. The facility between --
- 11 Q. Branson and St. Louis.
- 12 A. I mean, once we turn up service in that
- 13 area, we would do that as part of that turnup.
- MR. BROWN: Thank you. That's all I have,
- 15 your Honor.
- JUDGE JONES: Ms. Dietrich.
- 17 QUESTIONS BY MS. DIETRICH:
- 18 Q. Mr. Kohly, in your testimony you talk about
- 19 whether CenturyTel affiliates have facilities available
- 20 and you -- Socket requests that information. Why does
- 21 Socket need information from CenturyTel on facilities that
- 22 its affiliates have?
- 23 A. The context we're talking about is
- 24 CenturyTel with its affiliate transport provider, doing
- 25 business as LightCore. LightCore has an extensive network

- 1 based on the testimony in my direct testimony where I
- 2 identify their POPs within CenturyTel territory. It's our
- 3 understanding from working with CenturyTel that they lease
- 4 a portion of their interoffice transport from this
- 5 facility -- from this provider. So in trying to secure
- 6 interconnection facilities, we believe it's reasonable
- 7 that, if it's not held in the name of the ILEC, that they
- 8 look to their affiliate, within region. We're not trying
- 9 to seek access to that -- those facilities outside of the
- 10 region, but within their ILEC territory, that they look to
- 11 that affiliate.
- 12 Q. Is Socket not able to lease facilities from
- 13 LightCore?
- 14 A. In some instance, we can. We actually do.
- 15 I do have some concerns about some of the EEL
- 16 restrictions. So if we are seeking an EEL and there is
- 17 not dedicated transport available on a route, we cannot
- 18 nec-- we cannot combine the transport facilities provided
- 19 by LightCore with an unbundled loop provided by CenturyTel
- 20 without incurring some sort of special access charge even
- 21 if we are permitted to link the two.
- 22 Q. Okay. And that kind of goes to my next
- 23 question. With the dedicated transport issue and the
- 24 linking up that you were just describing, is it a matter
- 25 of getting access to those facilities or is it a matter of

- 1 the cost that you will be paying for those facilities?
- 2 A. In the dedicated transport issue, it is a
- 3 little bit different, but I guess again it would be the
- 4 cost. If we were not able to obtain those at UNE rates,
- 5 we would be required to pay special access rates from the
- 6 CenturyTel tandem to the Spectra end office. Those rates
- 7 are significantly higher than the transport rates.
- 8 Q. Okay. And then on the electronic bills
- 9 issue that you were just discussing, if I understood you
- 10 correctly, even if Socket decides to go with the
- 11 electronic bill option, you still have concerns because of
- 12 CenturyTel's internal audit process before the bills are
- 13 available for you to review?
- 14 A. Our concern is that the bills are extremely
- 15 inaccurate, often error-prone, and it's not a consistent
- 16 type of error that's easily you when audit it you say, oh,
- 17 everything's priced 10 percent over.
- 18 Q. Just a second. I mean, wouldn't the
- 19 electronic version of the bill be the same as the paper
- 20 version?
- 21 A. It would.
- 22 Q. So the errors would be the same?
- 23 A. The errors would be the same.
- Q. So then what's the concern with the
- 25 electronic version of the bill?

- 1 A. The concern is not with the electronic
- 2 version. It is with the amount of time we are allowed to
- 3 audit the bill.
- 4 Q. The amount of time you're allowed to audit?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Available to audit.
- 7 MS. DIETRICH: Okay. Thank you.
- JUDGE JONES: Mr. McKinnie?
- 9 QUESTIONS BY MR. McKINNIE:
- 10 Q. I just have one quick question. I think
- 11 this is for Mr. Turner. Are you the person I would ask
- 12 about the remote call forwarding language change?
- 13 (Answers by Mr. Turner.)
- 14 A. Yes, you would.
- 15 Q. Okay. I just wanted to ask what was meant
- 16 by the term local calling scope if the ported number does
- 17 not change. Is that both an outbound and inbound local
- 18 calling scope, or is that one or the other?
- 19 A. Well, generally when you are thinking of
- 20 the -- with remote call forwarding, it's always inbound to
- 21 that number, but the -- the way these get implemented,
- 22 it's going to honor the local calling scope in both
- 23 directions. But the main -- the main concern when I was
- 24 at the local number portability subcommittee that I
- 25 referenced in my testimony, the main concern that was

- 1 being raised there was whether or not there would be any
- 2 call jurisdiction problems created for the originating
- 3 caller. In other words, the party that calls the number
- 4 that has previously been remote call forwarded, they
- 5 didn't want any calling scope parties -- or problems
- 6 created for that number, and so what they effectively did
- 7 is, you know, if you can confirm that that is not the
- 8 case, and that's the reason I added this language here,
- 9 that was the main concern.
- 10 And I saw some of those same concerns
- 11 raised in CenturyTel's testimony. So I thought it might
- 12 be helpful if we offered that language.
- MR. McKINNIE: Thank you.
- JUDGE JONES: Mr. Scheperle?
- MR. SCHEPERLE: Thank you.
- 16 QUESTIONS BY MR. SCHEPERLE:
- 17 Q. Mr. Kohly, I had some questions on Issue 2.
- 18 Could you turn to your direct testimony on page 38.
- 19 (Answers by Matt Kohly)
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And I'm referring here to lines 9
- 22 through 12. It says that Socket receives 13 separate
- 23 bills from CenturyTel each month in two separate formats.
- 24 Ms. Hankins was saying that you receive four bills, and I
- 25 think later she revised it that she missed some 911

- 1 numbers. But there's quite a difference between 13 and 4.
- 2 Can you explain that?
- 3 A. Well, in adding to it, I revised it in my
- 4 rebuttal as well. I had included some retail bills that
- 5 Socket Telecom gets. The ones that would be considered
- 6 for this case would be eight separate bills in two
- 7 different formats. So we receive eight separate wholesale
- 8 bills.
- 9 Q. Eight bills. Okay. But then some of those
- 10 bills are in a retail format that does not pertain to this
- 11 interconnection agreement?
- 12 A. No. The original number of 13 contained 5
- 13 retail bills. The 8 are wholesale bills. They appear in
- 14 two formats. One has similar paper and headings as the
- 15 retail bill and comes on their Ensemble system. The other
- is a CABS bill that comes out. It's the access billing.
- 17 Q. Okay. Thank you.
- 18 On your direct testimony on page 37 and 38,
- 19 I believe it starts on page 37 at the bottom starting on
- 20 line 22, and you analyzed bills over a seven-month period.
- 21 Could you tell me what seven-month period you're talking
- 22 about there? It's on lines 22 and 23.
- 23 A. That would have been February back, so
- 24 seven minus six months.
- 25 Q. So it would be February 2006 going back

- 1 seven months?
- 2 A. Yes, including February.
- 3 Q. Okay. And then you went on, I guess, in --
- 4 on line 23 and onto the next page, that you were talking
- 5 about when Socket receives these bills, that there is an
- 6 average of 13 days. Is that for those seven bills?
- 7 A. Yes. That was calculated across all of
- 8 them.
- 9 Q. Okay.
- 10 A. And that is from the bill date, which is
- 11 the date printed on the bill, to the date we receive it in
- 12 our post office box.
- 13 Q. Okay.
- 14 A. And at that time, on that same day we
- 15 receive it, we time stamp it.
- 16 Q. Mr. Kohly, I believe when Mr. Magness was
- 17 up here he was referring to, in his opening statements,
- 18 referring to the Order in the AT&T arbitration case. Do
- 19 you know what the order was in that case on how long CLECs
- 20 had to pay their bill?
- 21 A. On page 41 of my direct, actually page 40
- 22 and 41 I describe that decision. The arbitrator actually
- 23 ruled in that case that payment due date should be 30 days
- 24 from the day on which SBC's invoice or bill is actually
- 25 received, as in the current M2A. So it would go from the

- 1 date received by the CLEC. During the proceeding, SBC
- 2 advocated that 30 days from then would be an average of 45
- 3 days.
- 4 Rather than have -- I was afraid of
- 5 disputes about when did you actually receive it, when was
- 6 it time stamped. I chose 45 days. Either method would be
- 7 suitable to Socket.
- 8 Q. Okay. So you're saying basically with the
- 9 average of the 13 days that we discussed earlier, and
- 10 you'd have 30 days to analyze the bill after you'd
- 11 received it, you went with the 45-day period?
- 12 A. Right. That was just to eliminate some
- 13 confusion. Either outcome would be acceptable.
- 14 Q. So you're willing to live with the 30 days
- 15 from when you actually receive the bill also?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Okay. Mr. Turner, I believe I have a
- 18 question for you. On page 59 and 60 of your direct
- 19 testimony, and I'm referring to lines 22 through 24.
- 20 (Answers by Mr. Turner.)
- 21 A. Could you just maybe read a few words so I
- 22 can make sure I'm in the same place, because my page, I'm
- 23 pretty sure I'm looking at something different than you
- 24 are.
- 25 Q. Okay.

- 1 A. If you'd just maybe read the first
- 2 sentence.
- 3 Q. Okay. I believe I'm going to start with --
- 4 I believe -- I don't remember what I said, but page 59 is
- 5 where I wanted to start it, with line 22 through 24 and
- 6 continuing over to line 1, but it starts, in essence, all
- 7 that Socket Telecom is attempting...
- 8 MR. HILL: Sir, page 59 is the last page of
- 9 Mr. Turner's testimony that we filed. I think that's our
- 10 problem, the same issue.
- MR. SCHEPERLE: Oh, it was a supplement?
- 12 It was revised or left off.
- 13 MR. TURNER: Just give me one second. I
- 14 apologize. I found that now.
- 15 BY MR. SCHEPERLE:
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 A. So in essence, all that Socket Telecom is
- 18 attempting to do, those four or five lines there?
- 19 Q. Yes.
- 20 A. Okay.
- 21 Q. And basically, and I'd like to read that,
- 22 in essence, all that Socket Telecom is attempting to do is
- 23 ensure that customers that already have remote call
- 24 forwarding service with CenturyTel are able to maintain
- 25 their same phone number when they move to Socket Telecom.

- I believe that Mr. Magness this morning
- 2 mentioned that you had a counter proposal that you had
- 3 given to CenturyTel, and you were adding language that
- 4 provided local porting number does not change. I mean --
- 5 A. Provided that the local calling scope of
- 6 the ported number, the number being ported, does not
- 7 change.
- Q. I guess my question is, if CenturyTel had
- 9 this customer to begin with and Socket won it and they
- 10 never had a remote calling number, would Socket still want
- 11 to have a remote calling number for that customer?
- 12 A. If the customer didn't previously have it?
- 13 Q. Yes.
- 14 A. No. Can I show you a picture that might
- 15 help to explain this a little better?
- 16 Q. Yes.
- 17 A. I know this can sometimes be a little
- 18 confusing, so what I've tried to do is kind of create a
- 19 before and after picture. The -- you asked the question
- 20 of, if the customer previously didn't have a remote call
- 21 forwarding number, would they -- would Socket, like,
- 22 create this, and the answer, when I go through this you'll
- 23 see it really wouldn't come into play.
- 24 Can you see this a little bit? Okay. The
- 25 situation that you have is you have a customer here which

- 1 I've labeled as CTEL A, and this is a CenturyTel account
- 2 customer that's calling a number, and I made up a number
- 3 here, 573-682-1111. Typically what happens is the, at
- 4 least when I've run into this situation, is this is a
- 5 number that the customer may have physically had at one
- 6 time when they may have been located here, and so the
- 7 customers in this area know that company associated with
- 8 that number, they may have marketed it that way, or it's a
- 9 customer that just wants to have customers in that area be
- 10 able to call the local phone number and get that.
- 11 So they'll go to a company like CenturyTel
- 12 and say, we would like to have this phone number or keep
- 13 this phone number, and what options do we have? One
- 14 option that they have, particularly if all you're wanting
- 15 is to receive calls from customers that know about that
- 16 number, is to use remote call forwarding. And so I put in
- 17 parentheses down here the number that the customer might
- 18 actually have it ported to, 573-875-7777. And again, I
- 19 just made that number up. That number would be in a
- 20 different rate center.
- 21 So what CenturyTel would do is when
- 22 Customer Al over here calls this number inside their
- 23 initial switch, which I labeled as CTEL A, the switch will
- 24 simply recognize that they've called 573-682-1111,
- 25 recognize that remote call forwarding has been implemented

- 1 on that switch, and will forward it to 573-875-7777, which
- 2 CTEL A, the switch will recognize it's a different switch,
- 3 will route it to CTEL B, and the call will then complete
- 4 to the customer.
- 5 Then what I've noted here just so it will
- 6 be real clear about it, CTEL A, we're -- they made a local
- 7 phone call before. They're still going to make a local
- 8 phone call when I get down to the second picture. CTEL B1
- 9 or B1 is the customer, they pay CTEL to receive that call
- 10 at their address, and I made up an address, 111 Real
- 11 Place, Columbia, Missouri. So the terminating caller is
- 12 paying CenturyTel for any costs associated with getting
- 13 that remote call forwarded call to them.
- 14 Now, if you could slide the chart up. What
- 15 often happens -- in fact, if you could just maybe go up
- 16 just a little higher. Thank you.
- 17 What often happens is that in the course of
- 18 a CLEC attempting to win a customer, they'll go to that
- 19 customer and find out that they had a remote call
- 20 forwarding number. And so the customer doesn't want to
- 21 move part of their service over to the CLEC, they're going
- 22 to want to move all of it. Otherwise they're going to end
- 23 up with two bills, two customer telecom company
- 24 relationships. They generally tend to avoid that.
- So what happens is, that number,

- 1 573-682-1111, what CenturyTel -- or what Socket needs to
- 2 happen and what is very customary in the industry is to
- 3 have it then ported to Socket using local number
- 4 portability. And what will happen in that case is that
- 5 Socket has numbers in the first rate center, but they will
- 6 use local number portability to route that call through
- 7 local number portability to Socket's switch.
- 8 CenturyTel's customer A1 will still dial
- 9 573-682-1111. When it hits CenturyTel's switch, instead
- 10 of doing remote call forwarding, what happens is
- 11 CenturyTel's switch does a local number portability
- 12 database dip to find out what the LRN, the local routing
- 13 number is for that call, and it will then realize it goes
- 14 to Socket Telecom. The call will be exchanged at the POI,
- 15 which that's Tuesday's discussion, where Socket will have
- 16 a collocation most likely, and then Socket will have built
- 17 its facilities out to that POI, and it ends up terminating
- 18 the call to the customer over the loop that it has
- 19 connecting its switch to the customer.
- The customer's still at the same place.
- 21 It's at 111 Real Place, Columbia, Missouri. This idea of
- 22 location portability, they never moved. All that you're
- 23 doing is that previously CenturyTel completed the call
- 24 between two of its switches, but now Socket has won that
- 25 customer, wants to port that number, and so instead of

- 1 CenturyTel switching the call at both ends, CenturyTel
- 2 will switch it at one end and Socket will switch it at the
- 3 other.
- 4 So I mean, that's -- this doesn't come into
- 5 play when you have a customer that didn't previously have
- 6 a remote call forwarding number, but where it does
- 7 definitely come into play is that if that customer had
- 8 that and you can't help support that, it almost in my
- 9 experience, and this is personal experience from dealing
- 10 with customers on this, you lose the business. They're
- 11 not going to move their service to you, and so --
- 12 FURTHER QUESTIONS BY MS. DIETRICH:
- 13 Q. Mr. Turner, in your diagram there, which
- 14 number is ported?
- 15 A. The number that's ported is 573-682-1111.
- 16 Q. And what happens to 875-7777 or whatever
- 17 that says?
- 18 A. Well, this is the phone number the customer
- 19 had that was at the other location. They're going to end
- 20 up having both numbers when it's done. But previously --
- 21 can you slide the chart down -- the way that it was done
- 22 was by remote call forwarding from 573-682-1111 to
- 23 573-875-7777. But once the CLEC has the customer, the
- 24 customer will likely keep both their numbers, but they're
- 25 going to be using LRN to complete the calls to the switch,

- 1 and the customer will have a loop that connects them to
- 2 the Socket switch, and Socket will have -- use number
- 3 portability to have both of those numbers terminate on its
- 4 switch.
- 5 Q. So in your example, both numbers would
- 6 actually be ported to Socket?
- 7 A. That's typically what happens.
- 8 Q. And the 682 number will --
- 9 A. But if I can just be real specific, you no
- 10 longer have to do call forwarding between the two because
- 11 both numbers are actually terminating on Socket's switch.
- 12 Q. And where is the 682 number rated, which
- 13 rate center?
- 14 A. It would be in Rate Center 2.
- 15 Q. In the Columbia rate center?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- A. And the 875 is Rate Center 1, which is in,
- 19 in this example, in the Centralia rate center. But the
- 20 key point here is that CenturyTel's customer Al -- and
- 21 when I went to the LNPA subcommittee, what they were
- 22 concerned is don't make this customer that was previously
- 23 dialing a local call suddenly have their billing messed up
- 24 by not doing the number portability properly. So the key
- 25 point here is that Century -- or Socket Telecom has number

- 1 assignments in Rate Center 1 and they're honoring the
- 2 local calling scope of Rate Center 1.
- 3 In other words, CTEL A1, that customer made
- 4 a local phone call before. They're going to continue to
- 5 make a local phone call after the fact. This customer B1
- 6 previously paid CenturyTel for the service of being able
- 7 to remote call forward between Rate Center 1 and Rate
- 8 Center 2. Down here, the same customer in the same
- 9 physical location is going to pay Socket Telecom, down
- 10 here meaning the lower drawing, to do the same service,
- 11 but doing it in a different way.
- 12 Q. Can you go back up to the top one?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Okay. In that scenario, which rate center
- 15 is the 682 number rated to?
- 16 A. Rate Center 1.
- Q. And the 825 or whatever that says?
- 18 A. 875 is Rate Center 2.
- 19 Q. Okay. Now go down again, please. And the
- 20 682 number is rated to which rate center?
- 21 A. Rate Center 1.
- 22 Q. And the 875?
- A. Rate Center 2.
- 24 Q. Okay.
- 25 A. Both of which are served out of a single

- 1 Socket switch. I hope that helped to kind of talk through
- 2 what happens in practice, but if you have any more
- 3 questions. Do you want me to stay here at the drawing
- 4 or --
- 5 FURTHER QUESTIONS BY MR. SCHEPERLE:
- 6 Q. No, I think that helped quite a bit. So
- 7 basically the concern that I understood that CenturyTel
- 8 had is that they wanted to stay in the same local area,
- 9 and you've basically revised your interconnection
- 10 agreement to put on some wording at the end of your
- 11 section there, that same -- if the local number was -- or
- 12 if it was ported or remote call forward was existing, that
- 13 that would remain -- it would remain existing. If they
- 14 never had it before, it would not be an option?
- 15 A. I mean, effectively that's correct. I
- 16 mean, the key thing again, our additional language is
- 17 trying to protect and what the LMPA was emphasizing, and
- 18 the reason there was no rule change that came out of this
- 19 presentation is because the existing rules allow for this
- 20 as the reason, but they did not want the customer that
- 21 dialed 573-682-1111, Customer A1, and was previously rated
- 22 as a local call, they didn't want the local number
- 23 portability process to suddenly have that customer paying
- 24 toll charges or paying anything of that nature.
- 25 In other words, that customer dialed a

- 1 local call number. It should still appear to that
- 2 customer as a local number. The Customer B1 paid
- 3 CenturyTel the charges to move it between Rate Center 1
- 4 and Rate Center 2. Now Customer B1 is paying Socket
- 5 Telecom to move it between Rate Center 1 and Rate
- 6 Center 2. And so the key point is that you honor the
- 7 local calling scope of the number that's dialed, the
- 8 573-682-1111 number.
- 9 And I hope that customer's not a real
- 10 person or else they're going to start getting -- who reads
- 11 these transcripts except attorneys, though, right? But
- 12 anyway, that's what I'm trying to reflect by that
- 13 additional language.
- MR. SCHEPERLE: Thank you.
- 15 JUDGE JONES: Mr. Henderson, did you have
- 16 any questions?
- 17 MR. HENDERSON: Yes, I do.
- 18 QUESTIONS BY MR. HENDERSON:
- 19 Q. Mr. Turner, if I was a business owner at
- 20 111 Real Place in Columbia --
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. -- and I wanted to expose my business
- 23 throughout 30 exchanges, okay, then I would have the -- a
- 24 local number in those 30 exchanges that they would think
- 25 they were calling local and calling me in Columbia in

- 1 reality; is that correct?
- 2 A. You can do that, and there are services
- 3 that incumbent LECs sell that allow you to do that and
- 4 there's services that CLECs can sell that allow you to do
- 5 that.
- 6 A. Okay. That call comes in to me at Real
- 7 Place, I'm not available at that time to return to call.
- 8 Okay. When I would return that call back, would I be
- 9 pulling dial tone from where?
- 10 A. Well --
- 11 Q. What rate center am I pulling dial tone on
- 12 to return that call?
- 13 A. That's a very good question. Depending on
- 14 how the service is provisioned, you -- if -- you would
- 15 likely pull your dial tone out of Rate Center 2. Okay.
- 16 And you would call back to Rate Center 1, and toll charges
- 17 would apply, of course, if it was an intraLATA toll call.
- 18 If it was provisioned in a different way,
- 19 such that the customer had basically the ability to both
- 20 originate and terminate off of the number that is in the
- 21 Rate Center 1 location, and there are services that allow
- 22 you to do that, then it would be rated as if you were in
- 23 Rate Center 1, but the customer would basically have to
- 24 pay for a service that would allow them to do that.
- 25 Q. Similar to an FX, correct?

- 1 A. That particular type of service that allows
- 2 you to do that is FX.
- 3 MR. HENDERSON: Okay. Thank you.
- 4 JUDGE JONES: Okay. We can move on to
- 5 recross.
- 6 MR. BROWN: Thank you, your Honor. May I
- 7 approach the picture?
- JUDGE JONES: Yes, you may.
- 9 MR. BROWN: I'm going to pull it down so we
- 10 can work with it first.
- 11 RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. BROWN:
- 12 Q. Mr. Turner, a couple of questions about
- 13 your drawings. First of all, you've drawn a telephone at
- 14 the end of the -- for the end user customer; is that
- 15 right?
- 16 A. Yes, I have.
- 17 Q. So that would look like just an ordinary
- 18 telephone customer?
- 19 A. Well, I was just -- that's kind of when you
- 20 do drawings, that's the universal kind of picture you use
- 21 to represent a customer who's going to be answering or
- 22 making phone calls.
- Q. Fair enough. And as a retail proposition,
- 24 when this is an RCF arrangement, remote call forwarding
- 25 arrangement, that customer pays the cost of the service;

- 1 is that right?
- 2 A. Well, they pay the cost of the RCF service,
- 3 which is a service that's sold by incumbent LECs, and then
- 4 they would also pay any other additional cost depending on
- 5 where they were having the call RCF'd to.
- 6 Q. Right. Like toll charges, for instance?
- 7 A. It could be toll charges or it could be
- 8 long distance. I mean, there's a number of things that
- 9 could occur at that point. It could also be a local call
- 10 depending, because you can RCF within the same local
- 11 boundary.
- 12 Q. Right. So if we replace that customer who
- 13 would be picking up telephone with an Internet service
- 14 provider, that could be the situation, couldn't it?
- 15 A. If CTEL B1 was an ISP that was purchasing
- 16 the RCF arrangement, then they would be paying for the
- 17 RCF's number and they would be paying for the -- any
- 18 charges associated with the calls.
- 19 Q. But if that customer then went to Socket,
- 20 wouldn't it present exactly the same kind of intercarrier
- 21 compensation issues that are present in a VNXX or FX
- 22 environment?
- 23 A. Well, I wasn't participating in those
- 24 conversations earlier that you had on that topic, but for
- 25 the purposes of compensation, CTEL A1 would be making a

- 1 call to a number which is now assigned to Century -- or
- 2 Socket Telecom's switch, and for the purposes of that
- 3 exchange of traffic, it's a local call.
- 4 The way that Socket has a relationship with
- 5 the Customer B1 would be between and pursuant to tariffs
- 6 or contracts between Socket and B1, just as it was -- that
- 7 relationship would be pursuant to tariffs or contracts
- 8 between CenturyTel and Customer B1, but the exchange of
- 9 traffic between the Customer Al's phone number and
- 10 573-682-1111, that would be a local phone call in the
- 11 before situation and it would be a local phone call in the
- 12 after situation.
- 13 Q. That's a long way of saying yes?
- 14 A. It's a long way of saying that the -- of
- 15 saying no, that it doesn't have the same dynamics because
- 16 the call that you were dealing with is a local phone call
- 17 between CTEL Al's phone number and 573-682-1111, which is
- in the same rate center as CTEL 1.
- 19 Q. Okay. But you're not talking about
- 20 intercarrier compensation. You're talking about retail
- 21 rating to the originating caller; isn't that right?
- 22 A. I am talking about both. See, the
- 23 intercarrier compensation -- and first of all, this
- 24 rarely -- to my knowledge, I've never run into it where
- 25 it's related to an ISP. But this is -- the reason why I

- 1 said both is that the number -- Socket has the ability to
- 2 assign numbers in Rate Center 1 already. So this is just
- 3 porting a number that already exists there that the
- 4 customer already had.
- 5 So it doesn't fall under these concerns
- 6 that I believe you're raising because it's a local phone
- 7 call being exchanged within the same rate center. So
- 8 whatever terms and conditions that you have set out in
- 9 your interconnection agreement regarding the exchange of
- 10 traffic within the same rate center would apply.
- 11 And as far as rating, what -- what should
- 12 happen for CTEL A1 is, since they dialed a local phone
- 13 number before when it was an RCF arrangement, and they're
- 14 dialing a local phone number now that has been ported to
- 15 Socket, their experience from a billing standpoint and any
- 16 confusion that might be generated, it shouldn't be there.
- 17 And that's what we're assuring will happen, and you assure
- 18 that will happen by porting to a number within the same
- 19 rate center.
- 20 Q. Again, though, this is a situation where
- 21 the call isn't actually physically within the rate center,
- 22 it crosses rate center boundaries?
- 23 A. The -- actually, no, it is -- the call is
- 24 within the same rate center.
- 25 Q. Physically, the call traverses the rate

- 1 center boundary, correct?
- 2 A. I think what you're trying to draw a
- 3 distinction to is the address of where 111 Real Place is
- 4 at. That 111 Real Place is not within the physical
- 5 dimensions of Rate Center 1?
- 6 Q. Yes.
- 7 A. And if that was your question, I would say
- 8 yes, but it wasn't within the physical dimensions of Rate
- 9 Center 1 before or after. So no location changed. It's
- 10 just Socket Telecom provides a service one way, CenturyTel
- 11 provides it another way, but the call itself occurs within
- 12 Rate Center 1. It is a local exchanged call within Rate
- 13 Center 1, because the ported to number, the ported number
- 14 and the originating calling number are within the same
- 15 rate center.
- 16 Q. Physically, the call terminates in a second
- 17 rate center. Geographically, physically, the call
- 18 terminates in another rate center?
- 19 A. Are you -- and do you mean by terminates
- 20 like where it appears on the switchboard?
- Q. Who picks up the phone.
- 22 A. The customer that picks up the phone is
- 23 located at 111 Real Place, Columbia, Missouri.
- Q. In a different physical, different
- 25 geographical rate center for purposes of geography, not

- 1 for purposes of rating the call?
- 2 A. It has nothing to do with rating the call.
- 3 As long as -- I mean, physically they're in a different
- 4 place, but not for rate center purposes.
- 5 MR. BROWN: That's all, you Honor.
- 6 JUDGE JONES: Any redirect?
- 7 REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. MAGNESS:
- 8 Q. Mr. Turner, could you identify the document
- 9 that I've placed before you?
- 10 (Answers by Mr. Turner.)
- 11 A. These are -- these are the November 2005
- 12 meeting minutes of the LMPA, which is a subcommittee of
- 13 the North American Numbering Council, I believe. NANC is
- 14 what I've always called it, N-A-N-C.
- 15 Q. And then the slide presentation that
- 16 follows the first page?
- 17 A. This is a presentation that I put together
- 18 to illustrate the problem that my client in this case,
- 19 Paetec, P-A-E-T-E-C, was having with porting remote call
- 20 forwarding numbers with an incumbent LEC in the northeast,
- 21 which was not Verizon.
- 22 Q. Let me ask you a question to follow up on,
- 23 I think, where we left off here. The $\operatorname{--}$ and you may have
- 24 made this point already, but I wasn't certain. The
- 25 contract language that we're debating applies only when

- 1 CenturyTel already has a remote call forwarding
- 2 arrangement with a customer, right?
- 3 A. That's correct.
- 4 Q. Okay. So CenturyTel has that arrangement
- 5 in place already. Does that mean that any of the physical
- 6 movement of the traffic that Mr. Brown was getting at was
- 7 occurring when they were a CenturyTel customer?
- 8 A. You mean terminating at a different
- 9 physical location outside Rate Center 1?
- 10 O. Uh-huh.
- 11 A. Yes, it was happening before.
- 12 Q. Because the point is somebody moves, but
- 13 they want to keep their number, right?
- 14 A. Right. Well, actually the point is they
- 15 already had moved, wanted to keep their number and were
- 16 able to do that with CenturyTel.
- 17 Q. Right. So that's already happened?
- 18 A. That's already happened. And now they want
- 19 a competitor to provide their service, and CenturyTel is
- 20 trying to prevent that from happening.
- 21 Q. Now, the -- is the language that Socket has
- 22 proposed as its final offer here consistent with what you
- 23 believe is going on in the industry?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. And was this the second of your

- 1 presentation to the LMPA committee?
- 2 A. Yes.
- MR. BROWN: Your Honor, I'm going to object
- 4 to any use of this presentation. It's hearsay and we've
- 5 never seen it before, have no way of knowing whether this
- 6 is the actual document or anything else.
- 7 MR. MAGNESS: Your Honor, I'll respond a
- 8 couple ways. One, Mr. Turner referenced the presentation
- 9 in his testimony, which is already in evidence. He didn't
- 10 attach it, but referenced the testimony.
- 11 Second, he's here to authenticate it. I
- 12 mean, Mr. Turner is -- he's discussed in the document he
- 13 made the presentation, he prepared the attached documents,
- 14 so he can certainly authenticate that it is what he says
- 15 it is. He -- it's not hearsay. It's Mr. Turner. He
- 16 wrote it.
- 17 MR. BROWN: It's still hearsay whether
- 18 Mr. Turner wrote it or not, and if they wanted to attach
- 19 it to their testimony, it could have been something they
- 20 could have dealt with, but now we've been presented with
- 21 this information at hearing without that opportunity.
- JUDGE JONES: I'm going to sustain the
- 23 objection.
- 24 BY MR. MAGNESS:
- 25 Q. Okay. Mr. Turner, is it your understanding

- 1 that there is an industry consensus that the arrangement
- 2 that you're recommending in the contract language is
- 3 appropriate?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And what's that -- what's your opinion
- 6 based on?
- 7 A. It is based on having presented this exact
- 8 issue to the LMPA subcommittee of NANC.
- 9 Q. And when you agreed there's an industry
- 10 consensus, who was there for this meeting?
- 11 A. This committee's made up of incumbent LECs
- 12 and a few CLECs, but mostly incumbent LECs from all over
- 13 the country involved in local number portability issues.
- Q. Was the CLEC on whose behalf you were
- 15 presenting this one that serves Internet service
- 16 providers?
- 17 A. No, they do not.
- 18 Q. And was the arrangement that you were
- 19 discussing one that they were presenting because they
- 20 wanted to serve an Internet service provider?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. And the -- if an Internet service provider
- 23 as a customer of CTEL -- or rather of CenturyTel or Socket
- 24 was to take advantage of this language, they would already
- 25 have to have had a remote call forward arrangement with

- 1 CenturyTel before this language would go into effect,
- 2 right?
- 3 A. That's correct.
- 4 MR. BROWN: Objection, your Honor.
- 5 Mr. Magness is leading the witness along here and
- 6 testifying for him.
- 7 JUDGE JONES: I agree.
- 8 BY MR. MAGNESS:
- 9 Q. Okay. Mr. Turner, under what circumstances
- 10 could an Internet service provider actually make use of
- 11 contract language if they became a Socket customer?
- 12 A. Well, the only circumstance would be if
- 13 they had already established a remote call forwarding
- 14 arrangement and -- previously with CenturyTel, and the
- 15 area of that which seems to be of concern to CenturyTel
- 16 would have been required that the Internet service
- 17 provider was paying intraLATA toll charges between Rate
- 18 Center 1 and Rate Center 2 for all the minutes they were
- 19 call forwarding with CenturyTel before they wanted to move
- 20 to the CLEC, in this case Socket.
- 21 MR. MAGNESS: That's all the questions I
- 22 have. Thank you.
- JUDGE JONES: Okay. Let's take a
- 24 five-minute break here, or rather, let's come back at five
- 25 minutes after 11 to move on to CenturyTel's witnesses.

- MR. MAGNESS: Your Honor, before we go off
- 2 the record, Mr. Turner's diagram, I'd like to offer as
- 3 Socket Exhibit whatever the next number is. We'll talk to
- 4 the court reporter and be sure we have that right.
- 5 THE REPORTER: 17.
- 6 MR. MAGNESS: 17? Socket 17.
- 7 JUDGE JONES: Exhibit 17 is admitted into
- 8 the record.
- 9 (EXHIBIT NO. 17 WAS MARKED FOR
- 10 IDENTIFICATION BY THE REPORTER, AND RECEIVED INTO
- 11 EVIDENCE.)
- 12 (A BREAK WAS TAKEN.)
- MR. HILL: May I proceed?
- JUDGE JONES: You may.
- 15 MR. HILL: Your Honor, all of the witnesses
- 16 for CenturyTel on Panel 5 have already had their testimony
- in the record, so at this point, we'll just tender the
- 18 panel.
- 19 JUDGE JONES: There's Scott Fedder listed
- 20 on this witness list. Is he not going to be included?
- 21 MR. HILL: I'm sorry, your Honor. All
- 22 of -- Mr. Fedder testified about white pages issues. That
- 23 was resolved yesterday. Therefore, no issues on this
- 24 panel pertain to his testimony.
- JUDGE JONES: All right. We'll move on to

- 1 cross-examination.
- MR. MAGNESS: You'll have to excuse me.
- 3 I'm not sure which witness is the one for unbundled
- 4 dedicated transport issue.
- 5 MR. BUSBEE: Actually, there were a couple
- 6 of us, but I addressed one issue regarding dedicated
- 7 transport.
- 8 GUY MILLER, CALVIN SIMSHAW, BILL AVERA, WAYNE DAVIS, PAM
- 9 HANKINS, SUE SMITH, ALFRED BUSBEE AND MAXINE MOREAU
- 10 testified as follows:
- 11 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. MAGNESS:
- 12 Q. Dedicated transport. Okay. The question I
- 13 had was, in the -- there are Spectra exchanges that are
- 14 wire centers that are only connected to -- the tandem they
- 15 connect is a CenturyTel tandem; is that correct?
- 16 (Answers by Mr. Busbee.)
- 17 A. That is correct.
- 18 Q. And is there any other means for the
- 19 traffic to go out of those wire centers besides heading
- 20 for the CenturyTel tandem?
- 21 A. There may be.
- 22 Q. Do you know what that would be?
- 23 A. Not being familiar with the specific
- 24 arrangement that you're talking about, I couldn't tell
- 25 you.

- 1 Q. Okay. Are the Spectra wire centers
- 2 subtending anyone else's tandems?
- 3 A. They may be.
- Q. Okay. Do you know in those situations
- 5 whether they are or not?
- A. I do not know for sure.
- 7 Q. Okay. If unbundled dedicated transport
- 8 isn't available between the points of that wire center and
- 9 that CenturyTel tandem, would Socket be in a position to
- 10 or would they need to pay special access if they wanted to
- 11 ride that route?
- 12 A. Either that or secure the facilities from a
- 13 third-party provider.
- 14 Q. Okay. But if they were going to use the
- 15 facilities that are there, is CenturyTel's special access
- 16 tariff what they would work off of?
- 17 A. If they acquired the facilities from
- 18 Spectra and CenturyTel of Missouri.
- 19 Q. So whose special access tariff do you look
- 20 to?
- 21 A. You would buy the respective parts from
- 22 each company.
- 23 Q. So you buy one channel termination from one
- 24 and the other channel termination from the other?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Do you have any idea what those rates are?
- 2 A. I do not.
- 3 Q. The I believe, agreed consensus rates for
- 4 DS1 channel terminations that are UNEs is approximately
- 5 \$24.50. Does that sound about right?
- A. I don't know.
- 7 Q. Okay. To your knowledge, is the special
- 8 access product going to be significantly more expensive?
- 9 A. I told you, I don't know what the rates
- 10 are.
- 11 Q. Fair enough. How long have CenturyTel and
- 12 Spectra been operating together?
- 13 A. The properties were acquired -- I don't
- 14 know the specific answer to that question.
- Okay. Say roughly three, four years?
- 16 A. I don't know.
- 17 Q. Okay. And is it your understanding that --
- 18 and again, you may -- there may be another witness you
- 19 need to pass this one to, but is it your understanding
- 20 that the company's corporate organization is up to the
- 21 company, right?
- 22 A. Presumably, yes. I would defer that
- 23 question to someone else, probably Mrs. Hankins.
- Q. Is that a fair characterization?
- 25 (Answers by Ms. Hankins.)

- 1 A. Would you repeat your question, please? I
- 2 want to make sure I understand the question.
- 3 Q. Sure. The decision to keep the CenturyTel
- 4 and Spectra incumbent local exchange properties separate,
- 5 is that a decision that's up to CenturyTel?
- 6 A. No. Those are separate legal entities.
- 7 They're separate study areas for federal purposes. Those
- 8 were ruling -- I mean, it's all in my testimony as far as
- 9 how that was ruled on. Those are things that are not
- 10 necessarily CenturyTel specific, I don't think, that we
- 11 can just combine study areas for the purposes of
- 12 CenturyTel wanting to do that.
- 13 Q. Okay. So combined study areas. Could
- 14 CenturyTel change the corporate structure of the company
- on its own, though?
- 16 A. I don't know. That's a legal question.
- 17 MR. MAGNESS: Okay. Fair enough. I
- 18 believe that's all I have. Thank you.
- JUDGE JONES: Ms. Dietrich?
- 20 MS. DIETRICH: Mr. Magness, could we have
- 21 the diagram back up that Mr. Turner drew?
- MR. MAGNESS: Yes.
- 23 QUESTIONS BY MS. DIETRICH:
- Q. Mr. Miller, I'd like to ask you some
- 25 questions about the remote call forwarding also. Were you

- in the room when we had the previous discussions?
- 2 (Answers by Mr. Miller.)
- 3 A. Yes, I was.
- 4 Q. Did you generally agree with the way the
- 5 diagram is drawn?
- 6 A. I generally agree that the first diagram is
- 7 a simple representation of remote call forwarding. The
- 8 second diagram is a representation more of a virtual
- 9 NXX-type scenario.
- 10 Q. In the first diagram, both numbers that are
- 11 up there would be CenturyTel numbers; is that correct?
- 12 A. They don't have to be. I don't know what
- 13 the B number is. It could be, but it could be
- 14 theoretically anybody's.
- 15 Q. Assuming that they both were CenturyTel
- 16 numbers and the customer decided to go with Socket, would
- 17 both numbers be ported to Socket?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Okay. In the top diagram we have Rate
- 20 Center 1 and Rate Center 2. Which rate center is the 682
- 21 number rated to?
- 22 A. It's rated and terminates to CTEL A.
- Q. And for RC2, the 875 number?
- A. Again, as drawn, it would be rated to
- 25 CTEL B.

- 1 Q. I'm sorry. To?
- 2 A. As this is drawn, the 875 number would be
- 3 rated to the CTEL B exchange.
- Q. CTEL B. Okay. I thought you said CTEL O,
- 5 and I didn't know what that meant. Okay. Then in the
- 6 lower diagram -- could you scoot that up just a little
- 7 bit, please -- for the 682 number, where would that be
- 8 rated?
- 9 A. Well, again, the number would be rated to
- 10 CTEL A.
- 11 Q. And the 875 number?
- 12 A. I don't know. I assume it could be at the
- 13 Socket end office, but I'm not Socket, so I don't know
- 14 what they're doing.
- MS. DIETRICH: Okay. Thank you.
- JUDGE JONES: Mr. McKinnie?
- MR. McKINNIE: No, thank you.
- JUDGE JONES: Mr. Scheperle?
- MR. SCHEPERLE: Yes.
- 20 QUESTIONS BY MR. SCHEPERLE:
- 21 Q. Ms. Hankins, I have a couple questions.
- 22 First I'd like you to turn in your direct testimony to
- 23 page 12, and I'd like for you to read maybe starting at
- 24 line 1, the first sentence there, and go through line 3,
- 25 that sentence, please.

- 1 (Answers by Ms. Hankins.)
- 2 A. That starts second, CenturyTel?
- 3 Q. Yes.
- 4 A. Second, CenturyTel's billing systems have
- 5 been configured for a 30-calendar day payment period. It
- 6 would require considerable time and expense to write the
- 7 software programs needed to change the handling of bills
- 8 just for Socket.
- 9 Q. Okay. Thank you. What is CenturyTel
- 10 proposing in this interconnection agreement?
- 11 A. As part of the payment period?
- 12 Q. Yes.
- 13 A. We're proposing a 20 business day, which
- 14 equates to essentially 30-calendar-day payment period.
- 15 Q. Okay. There's, I think, been a lot of
- 16 discussion that it would be hard to change the system if
- 17 you're going from a 30 calendar day to a 20 business day,
- 18 I mean, 20 business day to me maybe relates to a 28-day
- 19 period. Is that a change to your system, then?
- 20 A. I guess technically we would be looking at
- 21 that, but we're interpreting, I suppose, loosely that
- 22 30 days would be what we'd be willing to give them in this
- 23 situation.
- Q. Can you explain, I guess, to me when you
- 25 prepare the bill date on a bill and then it's not mailed

- 1 out for, say, two days, why that occurs?
- 2 A. There are certain processes that go
- 3 through. Actually, if you don't mind, Ms. Moreau is more
- 4 involved with the detail of those, and she's on this
- 5 panel. She could probably provide you -- if you're
- 6 wanting detailed information about what happens during
- 7 that process, she's more familiar with that than I am,
- 8 actually.
- 9 Q. Okay. Yes.
- 10 (Answers by Ms. Moreau.)
- 11 A. Could you repeat your question, please?
- 12 Q. Basically, there's been a dispute in this
- 13 case, I guess, that the bill, the bill date, and then it's
- 14 not mailed out say for two days after that, and I was
- 15 wondering why that occurs?
- 16 A. Basically we have a billing cutoff period,
- 17 which means all charges will -- for that billing will
- 18 occur up through a date, and then we go into the basically
- 19 production of the bill through our IT systems. Those
- 20 systems produce the bill. We have a quality assurance
- 21 group who audits the bill, a sampling of that bill, and
- 22 then we distribute that to a third party for bill, print
- 23 and distribution.
- 24 And that entire cycle from cutting the
- 25 charges off until the bill is going into the mail averages

- 1 somewhere around four, four and a half days company-wide
- 2 across the whole company. At that point, those bills are
- 3 available in the My Accounts system we referred to
- 4 earlier. So at that point, Socket could review that bill
- 5 online, look at their charges, make payment through credit
- 6 card, online check, or we allow automatic bill payment
- 7 through setting up their bank code in the system.
- 8 The bill date -- I don't think I have the
- 9 knowledge of what exact date appears on the bill as the
- 10 bill date. I just don't. I'd have to look at a bill to
- 11 be able to look at that.
- 12 Q. I guess my question is, the way I
- 13 understood reading the testimony is that there's a lapse
- 14 between when you actually prepare the bill and you have a
- 15 bill date on it, and then it goes through quality
- 16 assurance. Why not put the bill date after it goes
- 17 through quality assurance and then mail it out?
- 18 A. One of the reasons is we don't want that
- 19 bill date fluctuating. Customers expect to see -- for
- 20 February, if they're a February 10th cycle customer, their
- 21 bill date's February 10th, and in March it's March 10th,
- 22 and April it's April 10th. If we were to apply the bill
- 23 date to the day it releases quality assurance, that may
- 24 vary one to two days within a given month, depending on
- 25 the complexity of that cycle.

- 1 So we didn't want that variable. It
- 2 confuses customers if the bill date isn't consistent every
- 3 month. And then they expect to receive the bill a certain
- 4 time of the month and they have so many days to pay it.
- 5 So we did it for consistency.
- 6 Q. Okay. Thank you.
- 7 A. You're welcome.
- JUDGE JONES: Mr. McKinnie?
- 9 QUESTIONS BY MR. McKINNIE:
- 10 Q. Ms. Moreau, just to be certain, how does
- 11 the bill date relate to the first date that can be seen on
- 12 the electronic system?
- 13 (Answers by Ms. Moreau.)
- 14 A. I can't answer that.
- 15 Q. Okay.
- 16 A. It may be -- I can't answer that.
- Q. But just to make sure --
- A. Absolute.
- 19 Q. Okay. But just make sure the time frame is
- 20 clear in my head. It's bill date, quality assurance, hard
- 21 copy mailing?
- 22 A. I can't answer that, because I don't know
- 23 what date actually appears on the bills as the bill date
- 24 field and how that's calculated. It's approximately
- 25 within the same few days, but I can't --

- 1 Q. But it's the same date every month?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Or it's the same -- okay.
- 4 A. Yeah. The bill date does not change. It's
- 5 based on the cycle because we have various 20-some-odd
- 6 cycles so that we can distribute our billing evenly
- 7 throughout the month.
- 8 Q. Okay. Thank you.
- 9 A. You're welcome.
- 10 JUDGE JONES: Mr. Henderson?
- We'll move on to recross.
- MR. MAGNESS: None, your Honor.
- JUDGE JONES: Redirect?
- MR. HILL: One, your Honor.
- 15 REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HILL:
- 16 Q. Ms. Hankins, to follow up on a question
- 17 that Mr. McKinnie had asked, can you explain for us, for
- 18 example, how long it takes from the time that a date is --
- 19 a billing date is put on a bill to the time it can
- 20 actually be seen online?
- 21 (Answers by Ms. Hankins.)
- 22 A. Yes. I've looked at some examples of that,
- 23 and it's the process Ms. Moreau described. From the time
- 24 that the bill date occurs until the date that it's online,
- 25 which I think is what you asked, on average is about four

- 1 to five days.
- 2 Q. And so Ms. Moreau had said that there is a
- 3 point in time after the quality assurance and printing
- 4 process takes place it's dropped in the mail, correct?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. And is that the same date that it's
- 7 available online?
- 8 A. Yes. My understanding is it's the same
- 9 date.
- 10 Q. And what is that -- the time frame is
- 11 approximately what?
- 12 A. Four to five days.
- 13 Q. From the bill date?
- 14 A. From the bill date.
- MR. HILL: Thank you.
- JUDGE JONES: I believe that's all we have
- 17 in the way of witnesses. The only thing I want to remind
- 18 you-all of is apparently some of the issues have been
- 19 resolved during the course of these proceedings. I'd like
- 20 the parties to no later than Wednesday of next week file a
- 21 simple pleading that just states what issues are still
- 22 alive by article and issue. I don't want any argument or
- 23 anything or language or anything like that. Just the
- 24 article and the issue number.
- Does anyone have anything else they'd like

1 to discuss before we go off the record? (No response.) JUDGE JONES: Seeing nothing, then we are adjourned. WHEREUPON, the hearing of this case was concluded.

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