

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

**PETITION OF SOCKET TELECOM, LLC
FOR COMPULSORY ARBITRATION OF
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENTS WITH
CENTURYTEL OF MISSOURI, LLC AND
SPECTRA COMMUNICATIONS, LLC
PURSUANT TO SECTION 252(b)(1) OF THE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996**

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Case No. TO-2006-0299

**CENTURYTEL'S RESPONSE TO
SOCKET TELECOM, LLC'S MOTION FOR RECUSAL**

COME NOW CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC, and Spectra Communications Group, LLC (collectively, "CenturyTel"), pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.080(15), and for their response to Socket Telecom, LLC's Motion for Recusal respectfully state as follows:

1. CenturyTel specifically responds herein to paragraph 2 of Socket's Motion for Recusal to address Socket's mischaracterization of the express terms of the July 5, 2006, Joint Motion for Extension of Time to File Interconnection Agreements (the "Joint Motion to Extend"), the July 6, 2006, Order Granting Motion to Extend Time to File Interconnection Agreement (the "Order Granting Extension"), and the procedural status of this case.

2. The Joint Motion to Extend asked for one thing: that the Commission extend the time for filing a conforming interconnection agreement pursuant to Commission Rule 4 C.S.R. §240-36.050(1) from July 7, 2006, to August 18, 2006, to accommodate the parties' need for additional time to prepare that joint filing.

3. The Order Granting Extension does one thing: it grants the request set forth in the Joint Motion to Extend, permitting the parties to file a conforming agreement on August 18, 2006, rather than on July 7, 2006, as the Commission's rules otherwise provided.

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4. The Joint Motion to Extend does not ask for an “extension of] the jurisdiction set forth under the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and previous Commission orders.” Socket Motion for Recusal at ¶2. The Order Granting Extension does not purport to grant an extension of the Commission’s time for exercising the procedures set forth in Commission Rule 4 C.S.R. §240-36.040, as Socket has implied, to permit consideration of Socket’s June 28, 2006, Motion for Reconsideration of Final Commission Decision on Points of Interconnection (“Socket Motion for Reconsideration”).

5. The phase of this case concluding with the Final Commission Decision, which included any Commission reconsideration of that decision, ended on June 30, 2006, under Commission Rule 4 C.S.R. §240-36.040(24), and the agreed order extending the deadline to that date.¹

6. At bottom, there is nothing for the Commission to consider at this time because the parties and the Commission have concluded the procedures of Commission Rule 4 C.S.R. §240-36.040 and begun to undertake the procedures of Commission Rule 4 C.S.R. §240-36.050.

WHEREFORE, CenturyTel respectfully requests that the Commission acknowledge that it may not modify the Final Commission Decision as requested by the Socket Motion for Reconsideration, and that the Commission is administering this case pursuant to Commission Rule 4 C.S.R. §240-36.050.

¹ Socket’s Motion for Recusal fails to acknowledge that CenturyTel filed its Response in Opposition to Socket’s Motion for Reconsideration on June 29, 2006, leaving the motion fully briefed before the June 30 effective date of the Final Commission Decision.

Respectfully submitted,

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/s/ Larry W. Dority

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**ATTORNEYS FOR CENTURYTEL OF
MISSOURI, LLC AND SPECTRA
COMMUNICATIONS GROUP, LLC**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the undersigned has caused a complete copy of the attached document to be electronically filed and served on the Commission's Office of General Counsel at (gencounsel@psc.mo.gov), the Office of the Public Counsel at (opcservice@ded.mo.gov), and counsel for Socket Telecom, LLC at (clumley@lawfirmemail.com; lcurtis@lawfirmemail.com; and b.magness@phonelaw.com) on this 19th day of July 2006.

/s/ Larry W. Dority

Larry W. Dority