BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the matter of the Application of)		
CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC)		
For Review and Reversal of North American)		
Number Plan Administrator's Decision To)	Case No.	
Withhold Numbering Resources for the)		
Wentzville, Missouri Rate Center.	ĺ		

APPLICATION OF CENTURYTEL OF MISSOURI, LLC

COMES NOW CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC ("CenturyTel") and files this verified application, pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.060 and 47 C.F.R 52.15(g)(3)(iv), and respectfully requests that the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") issue an order that reviews and reverses the recent decision of the North American Numbering Plan Administrator, NeuStar, Inc., ("NANPA") to withhold certain numbering resources from CenturyTel in the form of two blocks of 1,000 numbers within the existing MCA NXX code of 636-877 assigned to the Wentzville, Missouri rate center¹. Whereas MCA numbers within CenturyTel's Wentzville MCA NXX may be exhausted in the near future, CenturyTel requires at least one block of 1,000 numbers in the Wentzville rate center to service the future needs of customers requiring MCA numbers. In support of its Application, CenturyTel states as follows:

1. CenturyTel is a Louisiana limited liability corporation that is duly authorized to do business in the state of Missouri. Copies of CenturyTel's Certificate of Authority to transact business in Missouri from the Missouri Secretary of State were filed in Case No. TM-2002-232, and are incorporated herein by reference pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.060(1)(G).

¹ At the time of its October 5, 2005 submission, the Number of Thousands-Blocks Requested by CenturyTel was two (2). Since that time, and in the course of recent discussions with the Staff of the Commission regarding this issue, CenturyTel is now requesting one (1) block of 1,000 numbers. CenturyTel is aware that thousand block numbers in the MCA NXX Code of 636-877 for the Wentzville rate center remain available (having been returned to NeuStar by another carrier pursuant to *Order Granting Additional Numbering Resources*, Case No. TO-2005-0062).

CenturyTel's principle place of business in Missouri is 1151 CenturyTel Drive, Wentzville, Missouri 63885. CenturyTel is a "telecommunications company" and a "public utility" as those terms are defined in §386.020, RSMo 2000, and, thus, is subject to the jurisdiction, supervision and control of this Commission.

2. All correspondence, communications, and orders and decisions of the Commission issued in this matter should be sent to:

Larry W. Dority
FISCHER & DORITY, P.C.
101 Madison, Suite 400
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
Telephone: (573) 636-6758
Facsimile: (573) 636-0383

- 3. CenturyTel is required to use segregated and dedicated NXX codes to provide customers non-MCA service and optional MCA service in the Wentzville exchange. CenturyTel is close to exhaustion for the MCA NXX numbers in this rate center.
- 4. Accordingly, on or about October 5, 2005, CenturyTel submitted its Application to NANPA requesting additional NXX-X blocks in accordance with the Thousands-Block (NXX-X) Pooling Administration Guidelines, and filled out the necessary Months to Exhaust and Utilization Certification Worksheet. Copies of the Application and accompanying Worksheet are attached hereto, and incorporated herein by reference, as **Exhibits A and B**, respectively.
- 5. CenturyTel submitted the request for additional thousand blocks because CenturyTel is on the verge of exhausting its MCA numbers within the Wentzville central office. While CenturyTel does have numbers available within non-MCA NXXs in this rate center, CenturyTel is unable to use those numbers due to the Commission's requirement that MCA and

non-MCA service be provided over segregated NXX codes. CenturyTel cannot assign individual numbers as MCA; rather, the entire NXX must be so designated.

- 6. NANPA denied the request on the grounds that, pursuant to CenturyTel's Months to Exhaust and Utilization Worksheet, CenturyTel's utilization calculates to 65.481 percent and the FCC requires a utilization of 75.000 percent. The request was denied notwithstanding the fact that CenturyTel, in the near future, will not have the numbering resources needed to satisfy its customers' MCA demands in the switch at issue. That decision is attached as **Exhibit C**.
- 7. Under existing procedures, NANPA has asserted that it is required to accept or reject an application for resources based solely on FCC criteria. However, the FCC's March 31, 2000 Order in its Number Resource Optimization docket states that a carrier may challenge a resource denial before the appropriate state regulatory commission and the state commission may choose to affirm or overturn NANPA's decision to withhold numbering resources. (Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making, In the Matter of Numbering Resource Optimization, CC Docket No. 99-200, March 31, 2000, Appendix A; see also 47 C.F.R. 52.15(g)(3)(iv), attached hereto and marked as Exhibit D). Thus, the Missouri Commission has the authority to "affirm or overturn the NANPA's decision to withhold numbering resources from the carrier based on its determination of compliance with the reporting and numbering resource application requirements herein." Id.
- 8. CenturyTel seeks the Commission's direction to overturn NANPA's decision to withhold numbering resources. This Commission previously overturned NANPA's decision to withhold numbering resources to CenturyTel for its Wentzville, Missouri Rate Center earlier this year in its Order Granting Additional Numbering Resources, Case No. IO-2005-0179, January 27, 2005. See also, Order Granting Additional Numbering Resources, Case No. IO-2005-0178,

January 11, 2005; Order Granting Additional Numbering Resources, In the Matter of the

Application of GTE Midwest Incorporated d/b/a Verizon Midwest For Review and Reversal of

North American Number Plan Administrator's Decision To Withhold Numbering Resources,

Case No. TO-2002-481, June 20, 2002; Order Granting Additional Numbering Resources, In the

Matter of the Application of Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P. d/b/a SBC Missouri for Review

and Reversal of North American Numbering Plan Administrator's Decision to Withhold

Numbering Resources, Case No. IO-2003-0318, April 1, 2003.

9. CenturyTel does not have any pending or final unsatisfied judgments or decisions

against it from any state or federal agency or court which involve customer service or rates,

which action, judgment, or decision has occurred within three (3) years of the date of this

Application.

10. CenturyTel does not have any annual report or assessment fees that are overdue in

Missouri.

Wherefore, CenturyTel respectfully requests that the Commission overturn NANPA's

previous determination in this matter, and instruct NANPA to release the numbering resources

necessary to meet the needs of CenturyTel's customers as set forth herein.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Larry W. Dority

Larry W. Dority

Mo. Bar 25617

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Tel: (573) 636-6758

Fax: (573) 636-0383

Email: lwdority@sprintmail.com

Attorneys for CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC

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VERIFICATION

STATE OF MISSOURI)	
COUNTY OF COLE)	
I, Arthur P. Martinez, of lawful age, being that I am the Director-Government Reauthorized to execute this Application or and that the facts set forth in the foregoing knowledge, information and belief.	elations of CenturyTel and that I am behalf of CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC;
-	Arthur P. Martinez
Subscribed and sworn to me, a No November, 2005.	tary Public, on this <u>3rd</u> day of
Ī	Mary J. Siemons – Notary Public
My Commission expires <u>July 8, 2008</u> .	J. SIEMO J. SIEMO J. SIEMO J. STATE OF THE S

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was hand-delivered, emailed or mailed this 3 day of November, 2005 to:

Mr. Michael Dandino Senior Public Counsel Office of the Public Counsel P.O. Box 7800 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 Mr. Dan Joyce, General Counsel Missouri Public Service Commission P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

/s/ Larry W. Dority

Larry W. Dority

	Part 1A		
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	a.shewmaker@centuryte!.	com	
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- A copy of this worksheet is required to be submitted to the Pooling Administrator when requesting additional numbering resources in a rate center. For auditing purposes, the applicant must retain a copy of this document.
- 2. Net change in TNs no longer available for assignment in each previous month, starting with the most distant month as Month #1, and Month #6 as the current month.
- 3. Forecast of TNs needed in each following month, starting with the most recent month as Month #1.
- 4. To be assigned an additional thousands-block (NXX-X) for growth, "Months to Exhaust" must be less than or equal to 6 months. (FCC 00-104, ý 52.15 (g)(3)(iii)).
- Newly acquired numbers may be excluded from the Utilization calculation (FCC 00104, section 52.15 (g) (3)(ii))

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Pooling Administration System

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CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS
TITLE 47--TELECOMMUNICATION
CHAPTER I--FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION

SUBCHAPTER B--COMMON CARRIER SERVICES PART 52--NUMBERING

SUBPART B--ADMINISTRATION Current through March 19, 2002; 67 FR 12824

- § 52.15 Central office code administration.
- (a) Central Office Code Administration shall be performed by the NANPA, or another entity or entities, as designated by the Commission.
- (b) Duties of the entity or entities performing central office code administration may include, but are not limited to:
- (1) Processing central office code assignment applications and assigning such codes in a manner that is consistent with this part;
- (2) Accessing and maintaining central office code assignment databases:
- (3) Contributing to the CO Code Use Survey (COCUS), an annual survey that describes the present and projected use of CO codes for each NPA in the NANP;
- (4) Monitoring the use of central office codes within each area code and forecasting the date by which all central office codes within that area code will be assigned; and
- (5) Planning for and initiating area code relief, consistent with § 52.19.
- (c) Any telecommunications carrier performing central office code administration:
- (1) Shall not charge fees for the assignment or use of central office codes to other telecommunications carriers, including paging and CMRS providers, unless the telecommunications carrier assigning the central office code charges one uniform fee for all carriers, including itself and its affiliates; and
- (2) Shall, consistent with this subpart, apply identical standards and procedures for processing all central office code assignment requests, and for assigning such codes, regardless of the identity of the

telecommunications carrier making the request.

Page 1

- (d) Central Office (CO) Code Administration functional requirements. The NANPA shall manage the United States CO code numbering resource. including CO code request processing, NPA code relief and jeopardy planning, and industry notification functions. The NANPA shall perform its CO Code Administration functions in accordance with the published industry numbering resource administration guidelines and Commission orders and regulations at 47 CFR chapter I. Subject to the approval of the Commission, the NANPA shall develop a transition plan to transfer CO code assignment from the current administrators to itself and shall submit this plan to the Commission within 90 days of the effective date of a Commission order announcing the selection of the NANPA. The NANPA shall complete the transfer of CO code assignment functions from existing administrators to itself no more than 18 months after the NANPA has assumed all of said administrators' current NANPA function.
- (e) The new NANPA shall perform the numbering administration functions currently performed by Bellcore, and the CO code administration functions currently performed by the eleven CO code administrators, at the price agreed to at the time of its selection. The new NANPA may request from NANC, with subsequent approval by the Commission, an adjustment in this price if the actual number of CO Code assignments made per year, the number of NPAs requiring relief per year or the number of NPA relief meetings per NPA exceeds 120% of the NANPA's stated assumptions for the tasks at the time of its selection.
- (f) Mandatory reporting requirements -
- (1) Number use categories. Numbering resources must be classified in one of the following categories:
- (i) Administrative numbers are numbers used by telecommunications carriers to perform internal administrative or operational functions necessary to maintain reasonable quality of service standards.
- (ii) Aging numbers are disconnected numbers that are not available for assignment to another end user or customer for a specified period of time. Numbers previously assigned to residential customers may be aged for no more than 90 days. Numbers previously assigned to business customers may be aged for no more than 360 days.

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- (iii) Assigned numbers are numbers working in the Public Switched Telephone Network under an agreement such as a contract or tariff at the request of specific end users or customers for their use, or numbers not yet working but having a customer service order pending. Numbers that are not yet working and have a service order pending for more than five days shall not be classified as assigned numbers.
- (iv) Available numbers are numbers that are available for assignment to subscriber access lines, or their equivalents, within a switching entity or point of interconnection and are not classified as assigned, intermediate, administrative, aging, or reserved.
- (v) Intermediate numbers are numbers that are made available for use by another telecommunications carrier or non-carrier entity for the purpose of providing telecommunications service to an end user or customer. Numbers ported for the purpose of transferring an established customer's service to another service provider shall not be classified as intermediate numbers.
- (vi) Reserved numbers are numbers that are held by service providers at the request of specific end users or customers for their future use. Numbers held for specific end users or customers for more than 180 days shall not be classified as reserved numbers.
- (2) Reporting carrier. The term "reporting carrier" refers to a telecommunications carrier that receives numbering resources from the NANPA, a Pooling Administrator or another telecommunications carrier.
- (3) Data collection procedures.
- (i) Reporting carriers shall report utilization and forecast data to the NANPA.
- (ii) Reporting shall be by separate legal entity and must include company name, company headquarters address. Operating Company Number (OCN), parent company OCN, and the primary type of business in which the reporting carrier is engaged. The term "parent company" refers to the highest related legal entity located within the state for which the reporting carrier is reporting data.
- (iii) All data shall be filed electronically in a format approved by the Common Carrier Bureau.
- (4) Forecast data reporting.

- (i) Reporting carriers shall submit to the NANPA a five-year forecast of their yearly numbering resource requirements.
- (ii) In areas where thousands-block number pooling has been implemented:
- (A) Reporting carriers that are required to participate in thousands-block number pooling shall report forecast data at the thousands-block (NXX-X) level per rate center;
- (B) Reporting carriers that are not required to participate in thousands-block number pooling shall report forecast data at the central office code (NXX) level per rate center.
- (iii) In areas where thousands block number pooling has not been implemented, reporting carriers shall report forecast data at the central office code (NXX) level per NPA.
- (iv) Reporting carriers shall identify and report separately initial numbering resources and growth numbering resources.
- (5) Utilization data reporting.
- (i) Reporting carriers shall submit to the NANPA a utilization report of their current inventory of numbering resources. The report shall classify numbering resources in the following number use categories: assigned, intermediate, reserved, aging, and administrative.
- (ii) Rural telephone companies, as defined in the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 153(37), that provide telecommunications service in areas where local number portability has not been implemented shall report utilization data at the central office code (NXX) level per rate center in those areas.
- (iii) All other reporting carriers shall report utilization data at the thousands-block (NXX-X) level per rate center.
- (6) Reporting frequency.
- (i) Reporting carriers shall file forecast and utilization reports semi-annually on or before February I for the preceding reporting period ending on December 31, and on or before August I for the preceding reporting period ending on June 30. Mandatory reporting shall commence August I.

2000.

- (ii) State commissions may reduce the reporting frequency for NPAs in their states to annual. Reporting carriers operating in such NPAs shall file forecast and utilization reports annually on or before August 1 for the preceding reporting period ending on June 30, commencing August 1, 2000.
- (iii) A state commission seeking to reduce the reporting frequency pursuant to paragraph (f)(6)(ii) of this section shall notify the Common Carrier Bureau and the NANPA in writing prior to reducing the reporting frequency.
- (7) Access to data and confidentiality--States shall have access to data reported to the NANPA provided that they have appropriate protections in place to prevent public disclosure of disaggregated, carrier-specific data.
- (g) Applications for numbering resources-
- (1) General requirements. All applications for numbering resources must include the company name, company headquarters address. OCN, parent company's OCN(s), and the primary type of business in which the numbering resources will be used.
- (2) Initial numbering resources. Applications for initial numbering resources shall include evidence that:
- (i) The applicant is authorized to provide service in the area for which the numbering resources are being requested; and
- (ii) The applicant is or will be capable of providing service within sixty (60) days of the numbering resources activation date.
- (3) Growth numbering resources.
- (i) Applications for growth numbering resources shall include:
- (A) A Months-to-Exhaust Worksheet that provides utilization by rate center for the preceding six months and projected monthly utilization for the next (welve (12) months; and
- (B) The applicant's current numbering resource utilization level for the rate center in which it is seeking growth numbering resources.

- (ii) The numbering resource utilization level shall be calculated by dividing all assigned numbers by the total numbering resources in the applicant's inventory and multiplying the result by 100. Numbering resources activated in the Local Exchange Routing Guide (LERG) within the preceding 90 days of reporting utilization levels may be excluded from the utilization calculation.
- (iii) All service providers shall maintain no more than a six-month inventory of telephone numbers in each rate center or service area in which it provides telecommunications service.
- (iv) The NANPA shall withhold numbering resources from any U.S. carrier that fails to comply with the reporting and numbering resource application requirements established in this part. The NANPA shall not issue numbering resources to a carrier without an OCN. The NANPA must notify the carrier in writing of its decision to withhold numbering resources within ten (10) days of receiving a request for numbering resources. The carrier may challenge the NANPA's decision to the appropriate state regulatory commission. The state commission may affirm or overturn the NANPA's decision to withhold numbering resources from the carrier based on its determination of compliance with the reporting and numbering resource application requirements herein.
- (4) Non-compliance. The NANPA shall withhold numbering resources from any U.S. carrier that fails to comply with the reporting and numbering resource application requirements established in this part. The NANPA shall not issue numbering resources to a carrier without an Operating Company Number (OCN). The NANPA must notify the carrier in writing of its decision to withhold numbering resources within ten (10) days of receiving a request for numbering resources. The carrier may challenge the NANPA's decision to the appropriate state regulatory commission. The state commission may attirm, or may overturn, the NANPA's decision to withhold numbering resources from the carrier based on its determination that the carrier has complied with the reporting and numbering resource application requirements herein. The state commission also may overturn the NANPA's decision to withhold numbering resources from the carrier based on its determination that the carrier has demonstrated a verifiable need for numbering resources and has exhausted all other available remedies.

- (5) State access to applications. State regulatory commissions shall have access to service provider's applications for numbering resources. The state commissions should request copies of such applications from the service providers operating within their states, and service providers must comply with state commission requests for copies of numbering resource applications. Carriers that fail to comply with a state commission request for numbering resource application materials shall be denied numbering resources.
- (h) National utilization threshold. All applicants for growth numbering resources shall achieve a 60% utilization threshold, calculated in accordance with paragraph (g)(3)(ii) of this section, for the rate center in which they are requesting growth numbering resources. This 60% utilization threshold shall increase by 5% on June 30, 20%, and annually thereafter until the utilization threshold reaches 75%.
- (i) Reclamation of numbering resources.
- (1) Reclamation refers to the process by which service providers are required to return numbering resources to the NANPA or the Pooling Administrator.
- (2) State commissions may investigate and determine whether service providers have activated their numbering resources and may request proof from all service providers that numbering resources have been activated and assignment of telephone numbers has commenced.
- (3) Service providers may be required to reduce contamination levels to facilitate reclamation and/or pooling.
- (4) State commissions shall provide service providers an opportunity to explain the circumstances causing the delay in activating and commencing assignment of their numbering resources prior to initiating reclamation.
- (5) The NANPA and the Pooling Administrator shall abide by the state commission's determination to reclaim numbering resources if the state commission is satisfied that the service provider has not activated and commenced assignment to end users of their numbering resources within six months of receipt.
- (6) The NANPA and Pooling Administrator shall initiate reclamation within sixty days of expiration of the service provider's applicable activation deadline.

- (7) If a state commission declines to exercise the authority delegated to it in this paragraph, the entity or entities designated by the Commission to serve as the NANPA shall exercise this authority with respect to NXX codes and the Pooling Administrator shall exercise this authority with respect to thousands-blocks. The NANPA and the Pooling Administrator shall consult with the Common Carrier Bureau prior to exercising the authority delegated to it in this provision.
- (i) Sequential number assignment.
- (1) All service providers shall assign all available telephone numbers within an opened thousands-block before assigning telephone numbers from an uncontaminated thousands-block, unless the available numbers in the opened thousands-block are not sufficient to meet a specific customer request. This requirement shall apply to a service provider's existing numbering resources as well as any new numbering resources it obtains in the future.
- (2) A service provider that opens an uncontaminated thousands-block prior to assigning all available telephone numbers within an opened thousands-block should be prepared to demonstrate to the state commission:
- (i) A genuine request from a customer detailing the specific need for telephone numbers; and
- (ii) The service provider's inability to meet the specific customer request for telephone numbers from the available numbers within the service provider's opened thousands-blocks.
- (3) Upon a finding by a state commission that a service provider inappropriately assigned telephone numbers from an uncontaminated thousands-block, the NANPA or the Pooling Administrator shall suspend assignment or allocation of any additional numbering resources to that service provider in the applicable NPA until the service provider demonstrates that it does not have sufficient numbering resources to meet a specific customer request.
- (k) Numbering audits.
- (1) All telecommunications service providers shall be subject to "for cause" and random audits to verify carrier compliance with Commission regulations and applicable industry guidelines relating to numbering

administration.

- (2) The Enforcement Bureau will oversee the conduct and scope of all numbering audits conducted under the Commission's jurisdiction, and determine the audit procedures necessary to perform the audit. Numbering audits performed by independent auditors pursuant to this section shall be conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' standards for compliance attestation engagements, as supplemented by the guidance and direction of the Chief of the Enforcement Bureau.
- (3) Requests for "for cause" audits shall be forwarded to the Chief of the Enforcement Bureau, with a copy to the Chief of the Common Carrier Bureau. Requests must state the reason for which a "for cause" audit is being requested and include documentation of the alleged anomaly, inconsistency.

or violation of the Commission rules or orders or applicable industry guidelines. The Chief of the Enforcement Bureau will provide carriers up to 30 days to provide a written response to a request for a "for cause" audit.

[62 FR 55182, Oct. 23, 1997; 65 FR 37707, June 16, 2000; 65 FR 43251, July 13, 2000; 66 FR 9531, Feb. 8, 2001; 66 FR 11237, Feb. 23, 2001; 67 FR 6434, Feb. 12, 2002]

< General Materials (GM) - References, Annotations, or Tables >

47 C. F. R. \$ 52,15

47 CFR § 52.15

END OF DOCUMENT