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| 600 New Century Pkwy  New Century, KS 66211  Tel: 913.353.7070  Fax: 913.791.2375  [chris.chushuk@centurylink.com](mailto:chris.chushuk@centurylink.com) |

April 28, 2016

Missouri Public Service Commission

Governor Office Building

200 Madison

P.O. Box 360

Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

Dear Secretary:

Attached for electronic filing are revisions to the Embarq Missouri, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink, Access Service Tariff, P.S.C. MO.-No. 26. These revisions are filed, in accordance with Missouri Public Service Commission Rules and Regulations and electronically submitted with a April 28, 2016 issue date and a proposed effective date of July 1, 2016.

This filing proposes to implement the process of reducing terminating switched end office rates down to the target composite rate of $0.0007, as mandated in the Federal Communications Commission' November 18, 2011 Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, etc. (FCC 11-161) The calculations supporting these rate changes are being filed as Proprietary, with Certification, since they contain market specific information relating to services offered and will be filed separately with the Commission.

This filing also proposes to remove obsolete language such as magnetic tapes. Customers are not affected by the magnetic tape language change since there is no demand for magnetic tapes.

The list of tariff sheets reflecting a change are provided in Attachment A following.

A narrative describing the methodology and supporting calculations utilized by CenturyLink to implement the Terminating Switched End Office Access Service reductions is provided in Attachment B following.

Also enclosed is the CenturyLink certification certifying that CenturyLink is not seeking duplicative recovery in the state jurisdiction for any Eligible Recovery subject to the recovery mechanism established by the Transformation Order.

Should you have questions or need additional information regarding this filing, please contact me or Richard Moore at (573) 634-1560.

Sincerely,



Christina L. Chushuk

Manager – Regulatory Operations

Attachments

Pc: Gerry Flurer

Richard Moore

Office of Public Counsel (e-mail)

16-02A

**Attachment A**

The following tariff pages are being revised:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Tariff** |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Fourth Revised Page 119 | Second Revised Page 435 | Third Revised Page 452 |
| Fourth Revised Page 121 | Second Revised Page 436 | Second Revised Page 514 |
| Ninth Revised Page 267 | Second Revised Page 437 | Second Revised Page 515 |
| Thirteenth Revised Page 268 | Second Revised Page 439 | Third Revised Page 696 |
| Second Revised Page 434 | Second Revised Page 447 |  |
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| **Attachment B** |  |  |
|  | **Embarq Missouri, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink** |  |

**Description of Methodology**

The following narrative describes the methodology and supporting calculations utilized by CenturyLink to implement the process of reducing terminating switched end office rates to not exceed $0.0007 per minute as required by 47 C.F.R. §51.907(f) which addresses changes beginning July 2016. CenturyLink’s supporting calculations utilize the “Access Reduction Spreadsheet” template released by the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) on April 13,2016, for calculating the July 1, 2016 intrastate access rate changes.

The FCC spreadsheet template also provides the methodology for calculating the rate changes and identifies in detail the interstate access rates that are required to be changed consistent with the rules. Step 5 of the USF ICC Transformation Order adjusts Interstate Terminating End Office Access rates down to the target composite rate of $0.0007. The interstate rates will then be mirrored on the intrastate side so that rates will remain in parity.

Section 51.907(f) of the FCC Rules required the Access Reduction Spreadsheet to be modified to reflect rate reductions for July 1, 2016. For Price Cap carriers that file interstate tariffs assessing a single rate applicable in different states, the interstate demand used shall be the sum of the demand for all of the states included in the tariff, rather than making separate state-by-state calculations. For companies with a single rate in multiple states, the calculations are done at the regional level and the regional rates are mirrored in each study area[[1]](#footnote-1). For individual study areas, the calculations are done at the study area level. An overview of the methodologies necessary for reducing terminating end office access rates is as follows:

* 1. Establish the 2011 Baseline Composite Terminating End Office Access Rates, which reflects interstate rates and demand.
  2. Calculate the 2016 Target Composite Terminating End Office Access Rate by reducing the 2011 Baseline Composite Terminating End Office Access Rate to not exceed $0.0007.
  3. Calculate the individual Interstate Terminating End Office Access rate levels so that the reduced rates and demand will equal to the 2016 Target Composite Terminating End Office Access Rate.
  4. Set Intrastate Terminating End Office Access rates equal to their functionally equivalent interstate rates.
  5. Prepare intrastate and interstate tariff filing documents as required by each tariff jurisdiction.

1. See footnote No. 27 in clarification order: Connect America Fund, et al., DA 14-434, WC Docket No. 10-90 et al. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)