

**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)	
Dardenne, Missouri Rate Center.)	

**CENTURYTEL OF MISSOURI, LLC'S
APPLICATION AND
MOTION FOR EXPEDITED TREATMENT**

Comes now CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC ("CenturyTel") and files this verified application, pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.060, 4 CSR 240-2.080(16), 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 a new Non-MCA NXX code containing 10,000 numbers assigned to the Dardenne, Missouri rate center. CenturyTel requires two blocks of 1,000 numbers in the Dardenne rate center to service the pending needs of customers requiring 500-consecutive and 600-consecutive non-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). CenturyTel's principle place of business 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 Dardenne exchange. CenturyTel is close to exhaustion for the non-MCA NXX numbers in this rate center. CenturyTel is receiving requests for non-MCA numbers that it cannot provide at this time, because the customers are requesting large quantities of consecutive numbers within the particular NXX. CenturyTel currently has pending orders for one block of 500 consecutive numbers and another block of 600 consecutive numbers.

4. Accordingly, on or about December 14, 2004, CenturyTel submitted a Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Request to NANPA for the assignment of NXX resources necessary to meet the pending non-MCA requests. A copy of the application is attached as Exhibit A. CenturyTel completed the application in accordance with NANPA's Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines and filled out the necessary Months to Exhaust Certification Worksheet, which is attached as Exhibit B.

5. CenturyTel submitted the request for new non-MCA central office (NXX) codes because CenturyTel does not have sufficient sequential numbers specified by its customers available within the Dardenne central office. While CenturyTel does have numbers available

within 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 non-MCA; rather, the entire NXX must be so designated.

6. On or about December 17, 2004, NANPA denied the request on the grounds that CenturyTel had not met the rate center-based months-to-exhaust criteria set forth in the Central Office Code (NXX) Guidelines, notwithstanding the fact that CenturyTel does not have the numbering resources needed to satisfy its customer's 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. Moreover, the FCC has determined that states may overturn the NANPA's decision to withhold numbering resources from the carrier where there is a verifiable need for the carrier to satisfy a specific customer request:

We also agree with WinStar that a carrier should be able to get additional numbering resources when there is a verifiable need due to the carrier's inability to satisfy a specific customer request. We therefore clarify that states may also grant relief if a carrier demonstrates that it has received a customer request for numbering resources in a given rate center that it cannot meet with its current inventory.

(Third Report and Order and Second Order on Reconsideration in CC Docket No. 96-98 and CC Docket No. 99-200, In the Matter of Numbering Resource Optimization, Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and Telephone Number Portability, CC Docket 99-200, et al., December 12, 2001, paragraph 64). The FCC explained that a: "[c]arrier may demonstrate such a need by providing the state with documentation of the customer request and current proof of utilization in the rate center." Id. The FCC further explained that states "may grant requests for customers seeking contiguous blocks of numbers." Id. Further, although the FCC declined to establish a specific time frame for states to act on these requests, the FCC indicated "in most instances, 10 business days from receipt of a request that the state determines to be sufficiently detailed and complete will be sufficient time to review and act upon safety valve requests." Id. at paragraph 66.

8. CenturyTel seeks the Commission's direction to overturn NANPA's decision to withhold numbering resources. The FCC permits such direction in order to meet specific customer demands. This Commission has previously overturned NANPA's decision to withhold numbering resources in its 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; *see also*, 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.

11. CenturyTel requests that the Commission act upon this Application within 10 business days as suggested by the FCC, or as soon thereafter as is possible, as CenturyTel is not able to provide non-MCA numbers as requested in pending customer orders. This pleading was filed as soon as it could have been, after it was determined that NANPA would require a decision from the Commission before releasing the numbering resources. There will be no negative effect on CenturyTel's customers or the general public if the commission acts in an expedited manner.

Wherefore, CenturyTel respectfully requests that the Commission overturn NANPA's previous determination in this matter within 10 business days as suggested by the FCC or as soon thereafter as is possible, 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

James M. Fischer Mo. Bar 27543

Email: jfischerpc@aol.com

Larry W. Dority Mo. Bar 25617

Email: lwdority@sprintmail.com

FISCHER & DORITY, P.C.

101 Madison, Suite 400

Jefferson City, MO 65101

Tel: (573) 636-6758

Fax: (573) 636-0383

Attorneys for CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC

VERIFICATION

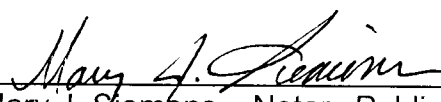
STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss
COUNTY OF COLE)

I, Arthur P. Martinez, of lawful age, being first duly sworn upon my oath, state that I am the Director-Government Relations of CenturyTel and that I am authorized to execute this Application on behalf of CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC; and that the facts set forth in the foregoing Application are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.



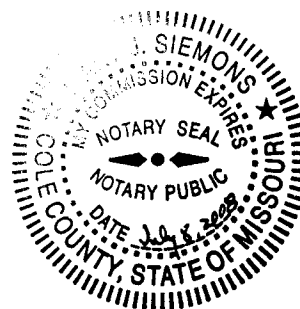
Arthur P. Martinez

Subscribed and sworn to me, a Notary Public, on this 20th day of December, 2004.



Mary J. Siemons – Notary Public

My Commission expires July 8, 2008.



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 20th day of December, 2004 to:

Mr. Mike Dandino
Assistant 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