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September 9, 2004

VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL

CenturyTel, Inc.
Attn: Carrier Relations
100 Century Park Drive
Monroe, LA 71203

Re: KMC Telecom Request for Negotiation of an Interconnection Agreement
with CenturyTel of Missouri LLC and Spectra Communications

Dear Sirs:

In accordance with Sections 251 and 252 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, (47 U.S.C. §151, *et. seq.*) KMC Telecom III LLC, KMC Telecom V, Inc., and KMC Data LLC (collectively, KMC Telecom) hereby request negotiation of an interconnection agreement with CenturyTel of Missouri LLC and Spectra Communications for the State of Missouri.

KMC Telecom makes the request for negotiations at this time in the hope that the parties can negotiate an agreement within the timeframe set forth in the Communications Act. While the rates, terms and conditions are being negotiated and, if necessary, arbitrated, KMC Telecom requires that CenturyTel and Spectra comply with all of their obligations under current agreements and applicable law.

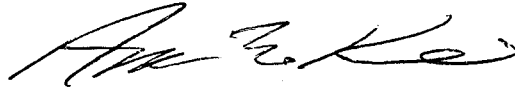
Exhibit A

KELLEY DRYE & WARREN LLP

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Kindly have your counsel contact the undersigned in order to arrange for an exchange of draft interconnection agreement terms.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew M. Klein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Andrew" and last name "Klein" clearly distinguishable.

Andrew M. Klein
Counsel to KMC Telecom

cc: David D. Cole, Senior Vice President, CenturyTel, Inc.
Marva B. Johnson, Vice President, KMC Telecom
Mark W. Comley, Esq.