

August 9, 2005

Mr. Guy Miller  
Divisional Vice President – Carrier Relations  
CenturyTel Service Group  
1008 Oliver Rd  
Monroe, LA 71203

Dear Mr. Miller,

The purpose of this letter is to update our conversations and correspondence regarding amending our current Interconnection Agreement (“ICA”) with CenturyTel and CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC’s decision to negotiate a new agreement.

On March 22, 2005, I sent a letter and a proposed amendment to our current ICA with the purpose of incorporating the results of the FCC’s Triennial Review Remand Order including the combinations issue. In further correspondence sent on May 25, 2005, I informed you that, in the event the parties could not reach an agreement on the changes, Socket was planning on submitting any unresolved issues to Missouri Public Service Commission pursuant to 4 CSR 240-36 – Alternative Dispute Resolution Procedural Rules Governing Filings Made Pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Pursuant to those rules, any dispute would need to be submitted to the Commission between August 4, 2005 and August 29, 2005. On July 29, 2005, CenturyTel responded to the request to negotiate the terms of the amendment by terminating the existing ICA as to CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC and indicating its intent to negotiate a new ICA. Under the stipulation you referenced, the current agreement will remain in place until it is replaced by a new agreement. It is Socket's position that the agreement also remains in place with Spectra, as provided in the currently pending litigation, and that CenturyTel has not indicated its intent to terminate that agreement.

Pursuant to your letter, Socket is submitting a request for negotiation with CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC and with Spectra Communications Group, LLC d/b/a CenturyTel for the purpose of negotiating a new interconnection agreement containing all the rates, terms, and conditions of establishing interconnection, resale and access to unbundled network elements under Section 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (“Act”). At this time, Socket intends to start the negotiations from the content of the current agreement subject to incorporation of all changes in law since its original approval by the Commission in 1998. If the parties are unable to reach an agreement, the window for

Exhibit B

filing for arbitrations with the Public Service Commission is December 22, 2005 through January 16, 2006 with an agreement to be in place by May 6, 2006.

Also, the letter that you sent on August 4, 2005 indicates that CenturyTel serves less than two percent of the Nation's access lines. Given that statement, Socket requests that CenturyTel state whether it will be filing a petition with the Missouri Public Service Commission under Section 251(f)(2) seeking the suspension or modification of the application of any of the requirements of Section 251(b) or (c). If CenturyTel will be filing such a petition, please provide an estimated timeframe of when that petition will be filed as well as the intended scope of the request and an explanation of the basis for the request. This will be useful as the parties may take such information into account when negotiating the rates, terms, and conditions for items that will be subject to the petition.

In order make the best of use of time, Socket would like to start discussions as soon as possible. I will be in contact with you to arrange negotiation sessions.

Sincerely

Matt Kohly