FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION 445 TWELFTH STREET, S.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

DA 09-791

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# APPLICATIONS FILED FOR THE TRANSFER OF CONTROL OF CENTURYTEL, INC. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

WC Docket No. 08-238

#### PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

Comments/Petitions to Deny Due: May 7, 2009 Responses/Oppositions Due: May 22, 2009

CenturyTel, Inc. (CenturyTel) and its subsidiaries (together, Applicants) filed a series of applications pursuant to sections 214 and 310(d) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. In these applications, the Applicants seek Commission approval of the transfer of control of wireless licenses and international section 214 authorizations held by CenturyTel's subsidiaries to CenturyTel. CenturyTel also seeks transfer of receive-only earth station registrations. These Applications are part of a proposed transaction whereby Embarq Corporation (Embarq) will become a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of CenturyTel. The applications seeking consent to transfer control of Embarq to CenturyTel were placed on public notice on December 9, 2008, in WT Docket No. 08-238. Any comments or petitions to deny should relate to the transfer of control of CenturyTel's subsidiaries and should not repeat arguments that were made, or could have been made, with respect to the transfer of control of Embarq or the combination of the two companies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 47 U.S.C. §§ 214, 310(d)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In addition, Applicants' application for approval to transfer control of Embarq's domestic Section 214 authorization noted that, if the Commission chose, it could treat the application as one for the transfer of control of all Section 214 authorizations held by both CenturyTel and Embarq. Embarq Corporation, Transferor, and CenturyTel, Inc., Transferee, Application for Transfer of Control of Domestic Authorizations Under Section 214 of the Communications Act, as Amended, WC Docket No. 08-238, at 4 n.6 (filed Nov. 26, 2008). We hereby do so. Applicants state that the stockholders of pre-transaction Embarq are expected to own approximately 66% of post-transaction CenturyTel, and the shareholders of pre-transaction CenturyTel are expected to own approximately 34% of post-transaction CenturyTel. The post-transaction CenturyTel board will be composed of eight CenturyTel-appointed directors and seven Embarq-appointed directors. *Applications Filed for the Transfer of Control of Embarq Corporation to CenturyTel, Inc.*, WC Docket No. 08-238, Public Notice, DA 08-2681, at 2 n.6 (rel. Dec. 9, 2008) (CenturyTel-Embarq Public Notice).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See generally id. at 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See id. at 1. For additional information regarding the transfer of control of CenturyTel and its subsidiaries and the transfer of control of Embarq to CenturyTel, please see the CenturyTel-Embarq Public Notice and the applications listed therein.

# **SECTION 310(d) APPLICATIONS**

## WIRELESS LICENSES

The following applications for consent to the transfer of wireless licenses have been assigned the file numbers listed below.

File No.	Licensee	Lead Call Sign
0003788276	Actel, LLC	WPLM449
0003786855	Cascade Autovon Company	KNKH863
0003786963	CenturyTel Broadband Services, LLC	WQGC937
0003788286	CenturyTel Broadband Wireless, LLC	WQGB236
0003786968	CenturyTel Fiber Company II, LLC	WPSR450
0003788287	CenturyTel Investment of Texas, Inc.	KNLG238
0003787027	CenturyTel of Adamsville, Inc.	KNAJ618
0003787075	CenturyTel of Alabama, LLC	WFY653
0003787078	CenturyTel of Arkansas, Inc.	KNKG844
0003787079	CenturyTel of Central Arkansas, LLC	KA53549
0003787082	CenturyTel of Central Indiana, Inc.	WPCK831
0003787083	CenturyTel of Central Louisiana, LLC	KRA982
0003787084	CenturyTel of Claiborne, Inc.	WRM205
0003787085	CenturyTel of Colorado, Inc.	WMQ709
0003787086	CenturyTel of Cowiche, Inc.	WHA647
0003787088	CenturyTel of Eagle, Inc.	KBC96
0003787089	CenturyTel of Eastern Oregon, Inc.	KDJ674
0003787090	CenturyTel of Evangeline, LLC	KZX579
0003787091	CenturyTel of Idaho, Inc.	KNHP406
0003787092	CenturyTel of Inter Island, Inc.	KNKI716
0003787099	CenturyTel of Lake Dallas, Inc.	KB6738
0003787100	CenturyTel of Larsen Readfield, LLC	WNKW579
0003787102	CenturyTel of Michigan, Inc.	KNKS204
0003787104	CenturyTel of Midwest-Michigan, Inc.	KNKS208
0003787669	CenturyTel of Missouri, LLC	KJE503
0003787670	CenturyTel of Montana, Inc.	KPG94
0003787671	CenturyTel of Mountain Home, Inc.	KDK315
0003787673	CenturyTel of Northern Wisconsin, LLC	WNSU421
0003787674	CenturyTel of Northwest Arkansas, LLC	WNSD631
0003787675	CenturyTel of Northwest Wisconsin, LLC	WNDD228
0003787676	CenturyTel of Odon, Inc.	WPCK886
0003787678	CenturyTel of Ohio, Inc.	KKK916
0003787680	CenturyTel of San Marcos, Inc.	KFD427
0003787683	CenturyTel of Southeast Louisiana, LLC	KZX578

0003787684	CenturyTel of Southern Wisconsin, LLC	KNGX448
0003787686	CenturyTel of the Gem State, Inc.	WDZ806
0003787687	CenturyTel of the Midwest-Kendall, LLC	KPRG595
0003787688	CenturyTel of the Midwest-Wisconsin, LLC	KNAZ701
0003787691	CenturyTel of the Southwest, Inc.	KNKG836
0003787692	CenturyTel of Upper Michigan, Inc.	KNKP350
0003787693	CenturyTel of Washington, Inc.	KGN894
0003787695	CenturyTel of Wisconsin, LLC	WPHN901
0003787696	CenturyTel of Wyoming, Inc.	KNKH883
0003787700	CenturyTel Security Systems, Inc.	WPCI524
0003788071	CenturyTel Service Group, LLC	WPJK533
0003788283	CenturyTel Solutions, LLC	WPLM450
0003787736	Coastal Utilities, Inc.	KNKK960
0003787737	Gallatin River Communications, LLC	KA6609
0003787740	Gulf Telephone Company	WPTC630
0003787744	Spectra Communications Group, LLC	KNCX720

### **EARTH STATION LICENSE**

The following application for consent to the transfer of earth station registrations has been assigned the file number listed below.

File No.	<b>Authorization Holder</b>	Call Signs
SES-T/C-20090330-00383	CenturyTel Televideo, Inc.	E5214, WY78

# INTERNATIONAL SECTION 214 AUTHORIZATIONS

The following applications for consent to the transfer of control of section 214 authorizations have been assigned the file numbers listed below.

File No.	Authorization Holder	<b>Authorization Number</b>
ITC-T/C-20090330-00138	CenturyTel Long Distance, LLC	ITC-214-19990224-00099
ITC-T/C-20090330-00139	Coastal Long Distance Services LLC	ITC-214-19930720-00130
ITC-T/C-20090330-00140	Gulf Long Distance LLC	ITC-214-19930622-00106
ITC-T/C-20090330-00141	Madison River Communications Corp	ITC-214-20000706-00385
ITC-T/C-20090330-00142	Madison River Long Distance Solutions LLC	ITC-214-19980820-00614

#### EX PARTE STATUS OF THIS PROCEEDING

Pursuant to section 1.1200(a) of the Commission's rules,<sup>5</sup> the Commission may adopt modified or more stringent *ex parte* procedures in particular proceedings if the public interest so requires. We announce that this proceeding will be governed by permit-but-disclose *ex parte* procedures that are applicable to non-restricted proceedings under section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules.<sup>6</sup>

We direct parties making oral *ex parte* presentations to the Commission's statement reemphasizing the public's responsibility in permit-but-disclose proceedings. Parties are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must contain the presentation's substance and not merely list the subjects discussed.<sup>7</sup> More than a one- or two-sentence description of the views and arguments presented is generally required.<sup>8</sup> Other rules pertaining to oral and written presentations are set forth in section 1.1206(b) as well.<sup>9</sup> We urge parties to use the Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) to file *ex parte* submissions.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The applications referenced herein have been found, upon initial review, to be acceptable for filing. The Commission reserves the right to return any application if, upon further examination, it is determined to be defective and not in conformance with the Commission's rules or policies. Final action on these applications will not be taken earlier than thirty-one days following the date of this Public Notice. <sup>10</sup>

Interested parties must file comments or petitions to deny no later than May 7, 2009. Persons and entities that timely file comments or petitions to deny may participate fully in the proceeding, including seeking access to any confidential information that may be filed under a protective order (subject to the restrictions contained in the protective order) and seeking reconsideration of decisions. Responses or oppositions to comments and petitions, if any, must be filed no later than May 22, 2009. All filings concerning matters referenced in this Public Notice should refer to DA 09-791 and WC Docket No. 08-238, as well as the specific file numbers of the individual applications or other matters to which the filings pertain.

Under the Commission's procedures for the submission of filings and other documents, <sup>11</sup> submissions in this matter may be filed electronically (*i.e.*, though ECFS) or by hand delivery to the Commission's Massachusetts Avenue location.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.1200(a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> *Id.* § 1.1206.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See Commission Emphasizes the Public's Responsibilities in Permit-But-Disclose Proceedings, Public Notice, 15 FCC Rcd 19945 (2000).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> *Id.* § 1.1206(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See 47 U.S.C. § 309(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> See Implementation of Interim Electronic Filing Procedures for Certain Commission Filings, Order, 16 FCC Rcd 21483 (2001); see also FCC Announces a New Filing Location for Paper Documents and a New Fax Number for

- Electronic Filers: 12 Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/. In completing the transmittal screen, filers should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket number. Parties also may submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions, filers should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, and include the following words in the body of the message, "get form." A sample form and directions will be sent in response.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing.

Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

The Commission's contractor will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 110, Washington, D.C. 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building.

Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.

U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

One copy of each pleading must be delivered electronically, by e-mail or facsimile, or if delivered as paper copy, by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (according to the procedures set forth above for paper filings), to the Commission's duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., at fcc@bcpiweb.com or 202 / 488-5563 (facsimile).

Additionally, filers must deliver courtesy copies by email or facsimile to the following Commission staff:

- David Krech, Policy Division, International Bureau, at David.Krech@fcc.gov or 202 / 418-2824 (facsimile);
- Dennis Johnson, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at dennis.johnson@fcc.gov or 202 / 418-1413 (facsimile);

General Correspondence, Public Notice, 16 FCC Rcd 22165 (2001); Reminder: Filing Locations for Paper Documents and Instructions for Mailing Electronic Media, Public Notice, 18 FCC Rcd 16705 (2003).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings, GC Docket No. 97-113, Report and Order, 13 FCC Rcd 11322 (1998).

- Erin McGrath, Mobility Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, at erin.mcgrath@fcc.gov or 202 / 418-7224 (facsimile); and
- Jim Bird, Office of General Counsel, at jim.bird@fcc.gov or 202 / 418-2822 (facsimile).

Copies of the Applications and any subsequently-filed documents in this matter may be obtained from Best Copy and Printing, Inc., in person at 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-B402, Washington, D.C. 20554, via telephone at 202 / 488-5300, via facsimile at 202 / 488-5563, or via e-mail at fcc@bcpiweb.com. The Applications and any associated documents are also available for public inspection and copying during normal reference room hours at the following Commission office: FCC Reference Information Center, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554. The Applications also are available electronically through the Commission's ECFS, which may be accessed on the Commission's Internet website at http://www.fcc.gov.

People with Disabilities: To request this Public Notice in accessible formats (computer diskette, large print, audio recording, and Braille) send an email to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202 / 418-0530 (voice), 202 / 418-0432 (tty).

For further information, contact Dennis Johnson, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at 202 / 418-0809; David Krech, Policy Division, International Bureau, at 202 / 418-7443; or Erin McGrath, Mobility Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, at 202 /418-2042.

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