



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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DA 06-822
April 7, 2006

COMMENTS INVITED ON APPLICATION OF CENTURYTEL LONG DISTANCE, LLC TO DISCONTINUE DOMESTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

WC Docket No. 06-81
Comp. Pol. File No. 755

Comments Due: April 21, 2006

Section 214 Application

Applicant: CenturyTel Long Distance, LLC

On April 4, 2006, CenturyTel Long Distance, LLC (CenturyTel or Applicant), located at **100 CenturyTel Drive, Monroe, Louisiana 71203**, filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) requesting authority, under section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214, and section 63.71 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue the provision of certain domestic telecommunications services to customers in Arizona. By an amendment filed April 4, 2006, CenturyTel corrected certain deficiencies in its initial application.

CenturyTel indicates that the Commission has already granted CenturyTel authority to transfer its local exchange assets in Arizona to Hopi Telecommunications, Inc.¹ CenturyTel states that it also provides interstate long distance services to customers located in the state of Arizona. CenturyTel represents that it now seeks to discontinue the interstate long distance services that it provides within the state. Specifically, CenturyTel states that it wishes to discontinue interstate long distance services in Arizona on May 10, 2006, pending regulatory approval. CenturyTel indicates that it provided initial notice to its customers by individual mailings on February 6, 2006, and that it provided notice in accordance with the requirements of section 63.71(a) of the Commission's rules on March 29, 2006. In addition, CenturyTel asserts that it has notified customers via radio announcements and news releases, and that it will also provide affected customers with reminder post cards. Finally, CenturyTel states that it is non-dominant with respect to the services it proposes to discontinue.

In accordance with section 63.71(c) of the Commission's rules, CenturyTel's application will be deemed to be granted automatically on the thirty-first (31st) day after the release date of this public notice, unless the Commission notifies CenturyTel that the grant will not be automatically effective. In

¹ See *Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for Acquisition of Assets of CenturyTel of the Southwest, Inc., by Hopi Telecommunications, Inc.*, Public Notice, WC Docket No. 05-334, DA 05-3156 (rel. Dec. 8, 2005).

CenturyTel's application and notice to customers, CenturyTel indicates that it anticipates discontinuing service on May 10, 2006, pending regulatory approval. Accordingly, pursuant to section 63.71(c) and the terms of CenturyTel's application and notice to its customers, absent further Commission action, CenturyTel may terminate service on **May 10, 2006**. The Commission will normally authorize proposed discontinuances of service unless it is shown that customers or other end users would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier, or that the public convenience and necessity would be otherwise adversely affected.

This proceeding is considered a "permit but disclose" proceeding for purposes of the Commission's ex parte rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200-1.1216. Comments objecting to this application must be filed with the Commission on or before **April 21, 2006**. Such comments should refer to **WC Docket No. 06-81 and Comp. Pol. File No. 755**. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance on the commenter, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies. *See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1998). Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>. Filers should follow the instructions provided on the website for submitting comments. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. In completing the transmittal screen, filers should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions for e-mail comments, 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.

Parties who choose to file by paper must send an original and four (4) copies of the comments to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-A325, Washington, D.C. 20554. 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 mail, Express, and Priority mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

Two (2) copies of the comments should also be sent to the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-C327, Washington, D.C. 20554, Attention: Carmell Weathers. In addition, comments should be served upon the Applicant. Commenters are also requested to fax their comments to the FCC at (202) 418-1413, Attention: Carmell Weathers.

The application will be available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554, (202) 418-0270. A copy of the application may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-B402, Washington,

D.C. 20554, telephone (202) 488-5300, facsimile (202) 488-5563, or via e-mail at FCC@BCPIWEB.COM. People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (TTY).

For further information, contact Carmell Weathers, (202) 418-2325 (voice), carmell.weathers@fcc.gov, or Rodney McDonald, (202) 418-7513 (voice), rodney.mcdonald@fcc.gov of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau. The TTY number is (202) 418-0484. For further information on procedures regarding section 214 please visit http://www.fcc.gov/wcb/cpd/other_adjud.

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