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DOMESTIC SECTION 214 AUTHORIZATION GRANTED

Application for Transfer of Control of Madison River Communications Corp. and Madison River Telephone Company, LLC to CenturyTel, Inc.

WC Docket No. 07-3

By the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau:

On January 3, 2007, Madison River Communications Corp. ("Madison River Corp.") and Madison River Telephone Company, LLC ("Madison River LLC") (together, the "Transferors") and CenturyTel, Inc. ("CenturyTel" or "Transferee" and together with the Transferors, "the Applicants"), filed an application, pursuant to section 63.04 of the Commission's rules, ¹ requesting authority to transfer control of Madison River Corp. and Madison River LLC to CenturyTel.² No comments were filed in this proceeding.

The Wireline Competition Bureau finds, upon consideration of the record, that grant of the application will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity.³ Therefore, pursuant to section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214, and section 0.291 of the Commission's rules,⁴ the Wireline Competition Bureau hereby grants the application.

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 63.04; see 47 U.S.C. § 214.

² Applicants also filed an application for transfer of control associated with authorization for international services. *See* Public Notice, Report No. TEL-01110S (Jan. 26, 2007) (Coastal Long Distance Services LLC, File No. ITC-T/C-20070103-00004; Madison River Communications Corp., File No. ITC-T/C-20070103-00005; Madison River Long Distance Solutions LLC, File No. ITC-T/C-20070103-00006; Gulf Long Distance LLC, File No. ITC-T/C-20070103-00007). Any action on this domestic 214 application is without prejudice to Commission action on other related, pending applications.

³ See Joint Applications of Telephone and Data Systems, Inc. and Chorus Communications, Ltd. For Authority to Transfer Control of Commission Licenses and Authorizations Pursuant to Sections 214 and 310(d) of the Communications Act and Parts 22, 63 and 90 of the Commission's Rules, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 16 FCC Rcd 15293, 15296-99 (CCB/WTB 2001) (authorizing transfer of control involving an incumbent LEC and in-region provider of local exchange and exchange access services where transaction overall resulted in pro-competitive benefits).

⁴ 47 C.F.R. § 0.291.

Pursuant to section 1.103 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.103, the consent granted herein is effective upon the release of the Public Notice. Petitions for reconsideration under section 1.106 or applications for review under section 1.115 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.106, 1.115, may be filed within 30 days of the date of this Public Notice.

For further information, please contact Gail Cohen at (202) 418-0939 in the Competition Policy, Wireline Competition Bureau.