

BEFORE THE

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application for Approval of the Interconnection Agreement Between
CenturyTel and Sprint Communications Company, LP

5-TI-861

ORDER APPROVING INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

The Commission approves the Agreement between CenturyTel and Sprint Communications Company, LP (Sprint), dated August 1, 2003. The parties requested Commission approval of the Agreement by letter received August 12, 2003, from CenturyTel. This agreement is with CenturyTel's local exchange companies: Telephone USA of Wisconsin, LLC, CenturyTel of the Midwest-Kendall, LLC, and CenturyTel of Central Wisconsin, LLC. CenturyTel asserts that it is authorized by Sprint to submit this application on its behalf, and CenturyTel has certified that a copy of the Agreement was sent to Sprint. Opportunity to comment was given, but no comments were received. A list of persons interested in this proceeding may be found in Appendix A.

Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A), the Agreement, because it was adopted by negotiation, could have been rejected only if the Commission found that the Agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the Agreement, or the implementation of such Agreement or portion thereof is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

Docket 05-TI-861

Notwithstanding the approval as stated above, the Commission determined that there is no evidence that the Agreement discriminates against any specific provider or is inconsistent with the public interest. As the Agreement promotes competition, consumer choice, and the development of additional telecommunications infrastructure in Wisconsin, approval of the Agreement would be consistent with at least three public interest factors enumerated in Wis. Stat. § 196.03(6). Other statutory factors not considered are either not relevant or outweighed by the factors cited above. The Commission concludes that the Agreement satisfies the public interest under Wis. Stat. § 196.03(6), and the criteria for approval under 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A).

The Commission construes the Agreement between CenturyTel and Sprint as based solely on the needs and interests of these parties. This Commission order does not constitute a Commission adoption of any substantive term or provision of the Agreement as a policy of the Commission applicable generally to other telecommunications providers or specifically to providers seeking interconnection with CenturyTel.

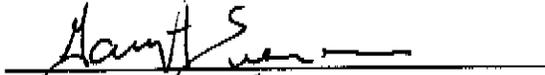
Approval of this voluntary interconnection agreement is issued under 47 USC § 252(e), and Wis. Stat. § 196.199(2) as recognized under Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 2.01 (June 2002), by Commission delegated action of September 26, 2002. Furthermore, the Commission is issuing this approval order under the Commission's "Interim Procedures for Negotiations, Mediation, Arbitration, and Approval of Agreements" in docket 05-TI-140; Wis. Stat. §§ 196.02, 196.03, 196.04, 196.199, 196.219, 196.26, 196.28, 196.39, 196.395, 196.40, 196.44, and other provisions of Wis. Stat. ch. 196, as may be pertinent hereto; and provisions of the Telecommunications Act

Docket 05-TI-861

of 1996, Pub. L. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56 (1996), that the Commission may apply within its discretion and jurisdiction under Wis. Stat. ch. 196.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin 19 August 2003

For the Commission:



Gary A. Evenson
Acting Administrator
Telecommunications Division

GAE:KGB:reb:g:\order\pending\05-TI-861

cc: Records Management/Master File

See Attached Notice of Appeal Rights

Docket 05-TI-861

Notice of Appeal Rights

Section 252(e)(6) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, provides that any party aggrieved by this determination may bring an action in an appropriate Federal District Court to determine whether the agreement meets the requirements of §§ 251 and 252 of that Act.

Notice is hereby given that a person aggrieved by the foregoing decision has the right to file a petition for judicial review as provided in Wis. Stat. § 227.53. The petition must be filed within 30 days after the date of mailing of this decision. That date is shown on the first page. If there is no date on the first page, the date of mailing is shown immediately above the signature line. The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin must be named as respondent in the petition for judicial review.

This general notice is for the purpose of ensuring compliance with Wis. Stat. § 227.48(2) and does not constitute a conclusion or admission that any particular party or person is necessarily aggrieved or that any particular decision or order is final or judicially reviewable.

rev. 11/17/98

Docket 05-TI-861

APPENDIX A

This proceeding is not a contested case under Wis. Stat. ch. 227, therefore there are no parties to be listed or certified under Wis. Stat. § 227.47. However, the persons listed below participated.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
(Not a party but must be served)
610 North Whitney Way
P.O. Box 7854
Madison, WI 53707-7854

Mr. Fran Runkel
CenturyTel
333 North Front Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Mr. Richard Morris
Sprint Communications Company, LP
6450 Sprint Parkway
Overland Park, KS 66251