

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF OREGON**

ARB 830

In the Matter of)	
)	
SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY L.P.)	CONFERENCE REPORT
)	
Petition For Arbitration of an)	
Interconnection Agreement with)	
CENTURYTEL OF OREGON, INC.)	

**DISPOSITION: DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF RESPONSES
ESTABLISHED**

On November 13, 2008, a telephone conference was held in the above-captioned docket. Judith Endejan, Kristin Jacobson, and Janette Luehring appeared on behalf of Sprint Communications Company L.P. (Sprint). Richard Finnigan appeared on behalf of CenturyTel of Oregon, Inc. (CenturyTel).

The primary purpose of the conference was to clarify some procedural matters. In its final order issued September 30, 2008, the Public Utility Commission of Oregon (Commission) adopted the Arbitrator’s Decision¹ as modified and ordered the parties to file an interconnection agreement complying with the terms of the order within 30 days.² The parties requested and were granted an extension of time in which to file a conforming interconnection agreement.

On November 6, 2008, CenturyTel filed a letter indicating that the parties had been able to agree on all but two provisions in the conforming interconnection agreement. The disputed provisions relate to the Commission’s clarification of the Arbitrator’s Decision on Issue 7. CenturyTel’s filing included an interconnection agreement that it believes best reflects the Commission’s order, and CenturyTel requested that the Commission order Sprint to sign the agreement. On November 7, 2008, Sprint filed its own proposed interconnection agreement, together with a motion for approval of the agreement. On November 13, 2008, CenturyTel filed a letter requesting guidance on the appropriate timing for filing a response to Sprint’s motion. A telephone conference was held later that day to clarify the appropriate procedure.

¹ The Arbitrator’s Decision was issued on September 2, 2008.

² Order No. 08-486.

Under the Commission's rules governing arbitration of interconnection agreements, the appropriate procedure is for Sprint, as petitioner, to file a conforming interconnection agreement.³ CenturyTel, as respondent, would then have 10 days to file an objection to the agreement. In this case, however, neither party followed the correct procedure. To permit full consideration of the issues raised, each party is permitted to file a response to the other party's filing. A third round of replies will not be allowed. The responses are due on November 21, 2008. The Commission will issue a decision by December 15, 2008.

Dated this 17th day of November, 2008, at Salem, Oregon.

Sarah K. Wallace
Arbitrator

³ OAR 860-016-0030(12).