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Request for Modification of Contract
No. 02-6

From: CCBSecretary
To: CC CCfilingsOS
Date: 6/19/03 7:41AM
Subject: FW: FCC Appeal: Lake City Schools

-----Original Message-----

From: Cecil Lipscomb [mailto:cecil.lipscomb@centurytel.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2003 5:03 PM
To: CCBSecretary
Subject: FCC Appeal: Lake City Schools
Importance: High

The attached letter is an appeal for a deadline extension with regards to an E-Rate issue concerning the Lake City Area School District of Lake City, MI. I represent the Service Provider, CenturyTel, Inc.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Cecil Lipscomb
Sr. Analyst / E-Rate Coordinator
CenturyTel, Inc.
(318) 340-5778

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5

CenturyTel, Inc.
100 CenturyTel Drive
Monroe, LA 71203
Tel 318 388 9000



June 2, 2003

CC: 02-6

To Whom It May Concern:

As the new E-Rate Coordinator for CenturyTel, Inc., I have been working to improve the process flow of the E-Rate system through our organization. Having accomplished this, I have turned my attention to clearing up several old, outstanding items that were left by my predecessor and his predecessor. To this end, please accept this request and consideration for a deadline exception request.

CenturyTel Contact Information: Cecil Lipscomb
CenturyTel, Inc
100 CenturyTel Drive
Monroe, LA 71203
Phone (318) 340-5778
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e-mail: cecil.lipscomb@centurytel.com

This request is in reference to a SLD letter titled "Administrator's Decision on invoice Deadline Exception Request" dated September 21, 2001. This incident deals with a year 1 funding request. The following information should assist in any research:

474 Invoice #	98T10000402
471 Appl Number	00035738 (Lake City Area School District, MI)
FRN	51429
Funding Commitment Decision Amounts:	\$37,296.00

Appeal Request:

On or about September 14, 1999, CenturyTel filed a form 474 for the reimbursement of the funds detailed above. The claim was denied in a notice dated June 22, 2000, for the reason that there was no 486 on file. In discussions with the school representative, his understanding was that he had nothing to do with the filing because he had received his discount on the front end. He was asked to submit a letter to accompany our appeal, which he did.

On July 14, 2000, Melanie Reppond, our E-Rate coordinator at the time, filed a letter of appeal with the Schools and Libraries Division of USAC requesting a deadline extension regarding this case. It is my understanding that this appeal was granted in a letter dated September 21, 2001. The letter goes on to state that the 474 form must be filed within 30 days of the date of this letter (Sept. 21, 2001). It was during this time that two of the main individuals responsible for the E-Rate program left the company. Therefore, the ball was dropped on our part concerning any follow-up to this action and the paper trail was lost. In dealing with other SLD appeals, among the reasons for consideration are circumstances beyond the service provider's control. In my opinion, the loss of two key individuals from the program administration should fit this criterion.

CenturyTel, Inc.
P. O. Box 4065
Monroe, LA 71211
Tel 318 388 9000

In summary, I respectfully request that a deadline extension be granted in order to finalize this issue once and for all. The shake up of multiple personnel involved with the E-Rate program created an unfortunate set of circumstances that lead to a disruption of the normal flow of the E-Rate program within CenturyTel and a breakdown in the furtherance of the appeal process at that time. I would like the opportunity to correct these inadequacies. I have the necessary information ready to submit a proper 474 form pending your approval of this request.

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely,

Cecil Lipscomb
E-Rate Coordinator
CenturyTel, Inc.
Monroe, LA 71203
(318) 340-5778