

The government of Plattsburg, MO has offered our telco provider, CenturyTel, whatever assistance they need, be it physical, financial, or otherwise, to improve our broadband infrastructure. CenturyTel responded by threatening to sue us if we try to help them, and they are empowered in this attitude by the enormous handouts and favorable laws given to them over the years. The obviousness of the problem is so blunt and glaring that there should be no need for discussion. Until our government takes significant and enforceable action to correct the attitudes and behaviors of our infrastructure masters the United States will continue its rapid decent into technological irrelevance compared to the rest of the world. Our government either **MUST** take control of the physical broadband infrastructure in this country or they **MUST** break the backs of the infrastructure owners that are strangling us for their own profit. When our local government is threatened with lawsuits for offering to help our telco improve their infrastructure we have reached an unacceptable point to which no further progress can be made.