

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

February 4, 2009

*Re : Joint Application of Embarq Corporation
and Century Tel, Inc. Regarding Transfers of
Control of United Telephone Southeast LLC
d/b/a Embarq, Embarq Communications, Inc.
and Embarq Payphone Services, Inc.*

) T.R.A. DOCKET ROOM
) Docket No. 08-00219
)

PETITION TO INTERVENE OF BRISTOL TENNESSEE ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Bristol Tennessee Essential Services ("BES") petitions the Authority to intervene in the above-captioned proceeding pursuant to T.C.A. § 4-5-310(a).

BES is a competitive local exchange carrier certified by the Tennessee Regulatory Authority ("TRA"). See TRA Docket 05-00251, Order issued March 21, 2006. As a CLEC, BES competes with Embarq pursuant to the terms of an interconnection agreement negotiated under Section 252 of the federal Telecommunications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 252. The ability of BES to compete against Embarq and to exercise its rights under that agreement may be directly affected by the proposed merger of CenturyTel and Embarq. Therefore, the legal rights, duties, privileges, immunities, or other legal interests of BES may be affected or determined by the outcome of this proceeding. Since there have been no substantive developments in this docket and since this petition is being filed prior to the deadline set forth in the January 30, 2009 "Notice of Filing" issued by the Hearing Officer, granting this petition will not impair the interests of justice or the orderly and prompt conduct of these proceedings.

BES, therefore, asks that this Petition to Intervene be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Henry Walker

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been forwarded via U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, to:

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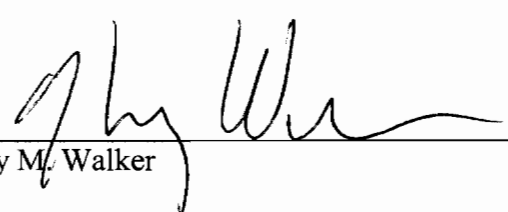
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on this the 4th day of February, 2009


Henry M. Walker