

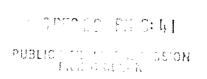
Control Number: 28691



Item Number: 64

Addendum StartPage: 0

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





December 18, 2003

Ms. Anne Bowen
Filing Clerk
Public Utility Commission of Texas
1700 N. Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas 78701

Re: Project No. 28691 – Annual Progress Report on Five-Year Plan to Enhance

Supplier and Workforce Diversity for:

CenturyTel of Port Aransas, Inc. CenturyTel of Lake Dallas, Inc. CenturyTel of San Marcos, Inc.

Dear Filing Clerk:

Pursuant to §26.85(e), enclosed for filing are four (4) copies of the Annual Progress Report on the implementation of the Five-Year Plan to Enhance Supplier and Workforce Diversity. This filing is being made in Project 28691 as advised by PUC's Central Records Clerk.

Consistent with the requirements of the approved rule, copies of this report are also being provided to: (1) the Governor; (2) Lieutenant Governor; (3) Speaker of the House; (4) Chair-Texas Senate Hispanic Caucus; (5) Chair-House Mexican-American Caucus; and, (6) Chair-House Black Caucus.

Pursuant to subsection 26.85(i), CenturyTel of Port Aransas, Inc. and CenturyTel of Lake Dallas, Inc. have completed subsection 26.85(f)(1) in order to satisfy the requirements of section 26.85, as each of these Companies have fewer than sixteen employees in the State of Texas. CenturyTel of San Marcos, Inc. is the only company filing diversity numbers for Texas.

We have included an extra copy of the transmittal letter and request that you please filedate stamp this copy and return to us for our files. Filing Clerk December 18, 2003 Page 2.

Should you have any questions concerning this information, please call me at (318) 340-5179.

Respectfully Submitted,

Corey Pearce

Regulatory Analyst

Enclosure

Cc w/attachment:

The Honorable Rick Perry The Honorable Bill Ratliff

The Honorable James E. "Pete" Laney The Honorable Leticia Van de Putte

The Honorable Joe Deshotel The Honorable Pete Gallego

Ken Buchan John Navarrette

Report of Workforce Diversity and Other Business Practices.

Subsection 26.85(i): Waiver. A telecommunications utility that has less than sixteen employees in the State of Texas satisfies the requirements of this rule by completing subsection (f)(1) of this section.

CenturyTel of Port Aransas, Inc. has fewer than sixteen employees in the State of Texas.

Report of Workforce Diversity and Other Business Practices.

Subsection 26.85(i): Waiver. A telecommunications utility that has less than sixteen employees in the State of Texas satisfies the requirements of this rule by completing subsection (f)(1) of this section.

CenturyTel of Lake Dallas, Inc. has fewer than sixteen employees in the State of Texas.

Annual Progress Report on Five-Year Plan to Enhance Supplier and Workforce Diversity

Subsection 26.85(f)(1): An illustration of the diversity of the telecommunications utility's workforce in the State of Texas at the time of the report. If the telecommunications utility is required to file an Equal Opportunity Report pursuant to 26.79 of this title (relating to Equal Opportunity Reports), a copy of that document may be attached to this report to satisfy the requirements of this paragraph.

Please see the attached FCC 395 - Common Carrier Annual Employment Report filed with the Federal Communication Commission.

Annual Progress Report on Five-Year Plan to Enhance Supplier and Workforce Diversity

Subsection 26.85(f)(2): A description of the specific progress made under the workforce diversity plan filed pursuant to PURA 52.256(b), including:

- (A) the specific initiatives, programs, and activities undertaken during the preceding year; and
- (B) an assessment of the success of each of those initiatives, programs, and activities.

CenturyTel of San Marcos, Inc. continues to identify local organizations with minority memberships emphasis and communicate through these organizations employment opportunities with the Company.

In the year 2003, we were active members in the San Marcos Chamber of Commerce, the San Marcos Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Southwest Texas State University Career Services Job Shadowing Program.

Annual Progress Report on Five-Year Plan to Enhance Supplier and Workforce Diversity

Subsection 26.85(f)(3): An explanation of the telecommunications utility's level of contracting with small and historically underutilized businesses in the State of Texas.

CenturyTel of San Marcos, Inc. will continue to raise awareness for the need to utilize more small and historically underutilized businesses in the State of Texas as contracts come due and/or renewed.

Annual Progress Report on Five-Year Plan to Enhance Supplier and Workforce Diversity

Subsection 26.85(f)(4): The extent to which the telecommunications utility has carried out its initiatives to facilitate opportunities for contracts or joint ventures with small and historically underutilized businesses.

CenturyTel of San Marcos. Inc. utilizes Sedona Staffing, a minority owned franchisee, to help the Company locate qualified applicants as positions become available.

CenurtyTel of San Marcos, Inc. is currently working with the Texas Workforce Commission using their database, to find qualified applicants for those hard to place positions.

Annual Progress Report on Five-Year Plan to Enhance Supplier and Workforce Diversity

Subsection 26.85(f)(5): A description of the initiatives, programs, and activities the telecommunications utility will pursue during the next year to increase the diversity of its workforce and contracting for small and historically underutilized businesses in the State of Texas.

CenturyTel of San Marcos, Inc. continues to maintain a commitment to heighten the awareness of a need to employ a diverse workforce with emphasis placed on recruiting, training and employing individuals with the education and skill-sets needed from within the local community.

CenturyTel of San Marcos, Inc. continues to strive to utilize historically underutilized businesses (HUBs) for the procurement of goods and services, especially when the HUB is affiliated or located within its local or surrounding communities. The Company strives to stay abreast of the availability of certain products, services and businesses that qualify under the HUB definition through community resource participation and involvement and through use of the state's HUB directory. The Company also strives to communicate to the HUB-community the opportunities for doing business with CenturyTel of San Marcos, Inc.

CenturyTel of San Marcos, Inc. continues its aim to utilize small businesses other than those defined as HUBs in the procurement of goods and services. With the Company's emphasis on utilizing and promoting local or surrounding area business economic growth, CenturyTel of San Marcos, Inc. plans to continue its involvement in local, county and state organizations that promote the use of small businesses.

We continue to strive to identify local organizations with minority membership emphasis and to communicate through these organizations employment opportunities with the Company.

We continue to strive to identify local organizations with female membership emphasis and communicate through these organizations employment opportunities with the Company.

We continue to strive to identify local educational institutions and communicate through the educational employment outreach programs employment opportunities available for minority and female students. We also attempt to work with educational institutions to establish a job shadow program. Job shadowing is a four or eight hour program that allows undergraduate students the ability to attend a business of their choice that closely resembles the job or company that they intend to pursue. These type programs may be established through community or surrounding area colleges.

In 2003, we are active members in the San Marcos Chamber of Commerce, the San Marcos Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Southwest Texas State University Career Services Job Shadowing Program.

Our Corporate Human Resources Department continues to explore posting available job opportunities on Company website and through jobline.

Current job opportunities are posted on major job search websites, such as monster.com.

Annual Progress Report on Five-Year Plan to Enhance Supplier and Workforce Diversity

Subsection 26.85(f)(5): Continued

We continue to offer available work-related training to employees.

We continue to offer available advancement opportunities to employees.

We continue to identify local organizations with minority business membership emphasis and to strive to participate or communicate through these local organizations business opportunities with the Company.

We continue to identify local organizations with female-owned business membership emphasis and participate or communicate through these local organizations business opportunities with the Company.

We continue to strive to identify local organizations with small business membership emphasis and remain aware of the need to participate or communicate business opportunities available with the Company.

As part of its vision, CenturyTel, Inc., the holding company of CenturyTel of San Marcos, Inc., continues to pursue the aspect of utilizing some form of resellers of our existing products and services in Texas markets. We will continue to consider the value and appropriateness of utilizing resellers or agents in markets where placement of employees cannot be justified.

Occupational Categories CenturyTel of San Marcos Tr

Number of Texas Full-Time Employees for Reporting Year

CenturyTel of San Marcos, Inc. Co	ombined Total	<u>Sompan</u> Male	Company Totals Cau Male Female Male	<u>Caucasian</u> Male Female	<u>e</u> '	n A	merican Female	<u>Hispanic</u> Male Fem	<u>panic Asian Ameri</u> Female Male Female Male	Asian Male Fer	<u>an</u> <u>/</u> emale	merica Male	American Indian Male Female
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, DC 20554

Approved by OMB 3060-0076 Expires: 02/28/06 Est. time per response; 1 hour

COMMON CARRIER ANNUAL EMPLOYMENT REPORT

(Please read instructions before completing and for Notice is gairding public buttern.)

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