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ORIGINAL Legal Department

MARY K. KEYER General Attorney

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BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. 150 South Monroe Street Room 400 Tallahassee, Florida 32301 (404) 335-G729

RECORDS AND REPORTING

October 12, 1998

Mrs. Blanca S. Bayo
Director, Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

RE: Docket No. 980733-TL

Dear Mrs. Bayo:

Enclosed are an original and 15 copies of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s Objections to Attorney General's Third Set of Interrogatories. Please file these documents in the captioned docket.

A copy of this letter is enclosed. Please mark it to indicate that the original was filed and return the copy to me. Copies have been served on the parties shown on the attached Certificate of Service.

AFA 1	Sincerely,
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CAF	Marytage
CMU	Mary K. Keyer
CTR	osures
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LEGcc:	All Parties of Record
LIN	A. M. Lombardo
OPC	R. G. Beatty W. J. Ellenberg (w/o enclosures)
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FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

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#### BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Discovery for Study on Fair & )	Docket No.:	980733-TL
Reasonable Rates and on Relationships)		
Among Costs and Charges Associated )		
with Certain Telecommunications )		
Services Provided by LECs, as )		
Required by Chapter 98-277.		
j	Filed: Octob	per 12, 1998

# BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.'S OBJECTIONS TO ATTORNEY GENERAL'S THIRD SET OF INTERROGATORIES

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., ("BellSouth" or "Company"), hereby files, pursuant to Rule 25-22.034 and 25-22.035, Florida Administrative Code, and Rules 1.340 and 1.280(b), Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, the following Objections to the Third Set of Interrogatories to BellSouth of the Attorney General ("Attorney General").

The objections stated herein are preliminary in nature and are made at this time for the purpose of complying with the 10-day requirement set forth in the procedural order issued by the Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission") in the above-captioned docket. Should additional grounds for objection be discovered as BellSouth prepares its answers to the above-referenced interrogatories, BellSouth reserves the right to supplement, revise, or modify its objections at the time it serves its answers. Moreover, should BellSouth determine that a Protective Order is necessary with respect to any of the requested information, BellSouth reserves the right to file a motion with the Commission seeking such an order at the time that it serves its answers.

#### **GENERAL OBJECTIONS**

BellSouth makes the following General Objections to Attorney General's

Third Set of Interrogatories which will be incorporated by reference into

BellSouth's specific answers when they are served on Attorney General.

- BellSouth objects to the interrogatories to the extent they seek to
  impose an obligation on BellSouth to respond on behalf of subsidiaries, affiliates,
  or other persons that are not parties to this case on the grounds that such
  requests are overly broad, unduly burdensome, oppressive, and not permitted by
  applicable discovery rules.
- 2. BellSouth objects to Attorney General's interrogatories to the extent they are intended to apply to matters other than Florida intrastate operations subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission. BellSouth objects to such interrogatories as being irrelevant, overly broad, unduly burdensome, and oppressive.
- 3. To the extent the interrogatories ask for revenue information, BellSouth objects as this information is not relevant to the study and report on the fair and reasonable rate for residential basic local telecommunications service as required of the Public Service Commission ("Commission") in compliance with Chapter 98-277, General Laws of Florida.
- 4. To the extent the interrogatories ask for information regarding business or deregulated services, BellSouth objects because such information is irrelevant to the cost of providing residential basic local telecommunications service.

- 5. BellSouth objects to each and every interrogatory and instruction to the extent that such interrogatory or instruction calls for information which is exempt from discovery by virtue of the attorney-client privilege, work product privilege, or other applicable privilege.
- 6. BellSouth objects to each and every interrogatory insofar as the interrogatory is vague, ambiguous, overly broad, imprecise, or utilizes terms that are subject to multiple interpretations but are not properly defined or explained for purposes of these requests or interrogatories. Any answers provided by BellSouth in response to Attorney General's interrogatories will be provided subject to, and without waiver of, the foregoing objection.
- 7. BellSouth objects to each and every interrogatory insofar as the interrogatory is not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence and is not relevant to the subject matter of this action. BellSouth will attempt to note each instance where this objection applies.
- BellSouth objects to providing information to the extent that such information is already in the public record before the Florida Public Service Commission.
- 9. BellSouth objects to each and every interrogatory to the extent that the information requested constitutes "trade secrets" which are privileged pursuant to Section 90.506, Florida Statutes. To the extent that Staff requests proprietary confidential business information which is not subject to the "trade secrets" privilege, BellSouth will make such information available to Attorney

General pursuant to a Proprietary Agreement and subject to any other general or specific objections contained herein.

#### SPECIFIC OBJECTIONS TO INTERROGATORIES

BellSouth provides the following objections to Attorney General's Third Set of Interrogatories.

as being irrelevant and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence. The Attorney General is once again asking for revenue information which is not relevant to determining a fair and reasonable rate for basic local residential service and which is not for the "purpose of verifying the submitted cost data and analysis," that BellSouth filed in this case. The Attorney General's Interrogatory requesting this revenue information is not in compliance with Section 2(2)(b) of Chapter 98-277, Laws of Florida. Neither is the revenue information requested for total Complete Choice for the year 1997 relevant to the cost of providing residential basic local telecommunications services. Revenues are not "charges" and, therefore, such information is not relevant to the relationship among the costs and charges associated with providing basic local service nor to the fair and reasonable rate for providing residential basic local service.

For these reasons, BellSouth objects to providing the information requested in Interrogatory 52a.

## Respectfully submitted this 12th day of October, 1998.

BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.

ROBERT G. BEATTY
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Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(305)347-5555

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### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE Docket No. 980733-TL

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served via Hand-Delivery this 12th day of October, 1998, to the following:

Michael A. Gross Assistant Attorney General Office of the Attorney General PL-01 The Capitol Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050

Mary K. Keyer