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NANCY B. WHITE General Counsel - Florida

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. 150 South Monroe Street Room 400 Tallahassee, Florida 32301 (305) 347-5558

April 5, 2000

Mrs. Blanca S. Bayó Director, Division of Records and Reporting Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 000072-TP (e.spire Arbitration)

Dear Ms. Bayó:

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth"), and e.spire Communications, Inc. ("e.spire"), hereby respectfully request that the Commission grant the parties a 10-day extension of all applicable deadlines in the above-referenced docket. The parties believe that they have resolved all outstanding arbitration issues and thus that an arbitration will no longer be necessary. The parties are in the process of finalizing the documents to memorialize their agreement. As soon as such documents are executed, e.spire will dismiss the arbitration. Until such time as the arbitration is dismissed, however, the parties request an extension of deadlines to permit them time to finalize the resolution.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

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 to the parties shown on the attached Certificate of Service.

Sincerely

Mancy B. White
(2)

cc: All Parties of Record Marshall M. Criser III R. Douglas Lackey

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YECENED & FILED

FPSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS

**DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE** 

04178 APR-58

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE 000072-TP (e.spire Arbitration)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served via

U.S. Mail this 5th day of April, 2000 to the following:

Atlanta, GA 30375

Nancy B. White (22)

Marlene Stern Staff Counsel Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

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