BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Request for approval of tariff filing to allow withholding of actual uncollectibles from purchase of interexchange carrier's accounts receivables on a monthly basis rather than estimating it on a quarterly basis by BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. d/b/a SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY. (T-94-212 filed 4/15/94)

) DOCKET NO. 940411-TL) ORDER NO. PSC-94-0845-FOF-TL) ISSUED: July 12, 1994

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

J. TERRY DEASON, Chairman SUSAN F. CLARK JULIA L. JOHNSON DIANE K. KIESLING

ORDER APPROVING TARIFF FILING

BY THE COMMISSION:

BellSouth Telecommunications Inc. d/b/a Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company (SBT or Company) filed proposed revisions to its Access Service Tariff on April 15, 1994. The Company contends that the purpose of these revisions is to improve the Purchase of Accounts Receivable (PAR) process for the Interexchange Carriers (IXCs). The proposed tariff offering will allow SBT to subtract the amount of realized uncollectibles each month rather than using a quarterly estimate of uncollectibles with a true-up at the end of each quarter. The realized uncollectible amount is the unpaid portion of the IXC charges that are written off due to non-payment.

Currently, the tariff specifies that SBT will withhold an estimated amount from the total IXC amount billed each day. If the realized uncollectibles differ from the estimated uncollectibles for a quarter, a true-up amount is calculated and either billed or remitted to the IXC. SBT has utilized this process for handling uncollectibles since October 1, 1984.

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The Company asserts that benefits to the IXCs and SBT prompted the proposed modifications and that the IXCs will receive more timely and accurate financial information. The proposed changes will benefit SBT by eliminating the true-up process currently performed following the end of each quarter. The Company has also allowed for the establishment of a Bad Debt Allowance Reserve to guarantee payment for an IXC's bad debt. The proposed tariff changes will have no effect on the current rates nor the Company's revenue.

Upon consideration, we approve SBT's tariff filing to allow withholding of actual uncollectibles from purchase of IXCs' accounts receivables on a monthly basis, rather than estimating it on a quarterly basis.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the tariff to allow withholding of actual uncollectibles from the purchase of interexchange companies' accounts receivables on a monthly basis, filed by BellSouth Telecommunication Inc. d/b/a/Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, is approved as set forth in the body of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that if a protest is filed in accordance with the requirements set forth below, the tariff shall remain in effect with any increase in revenues held subject to refund pending resolution of the protest. It is further

ORDERED that if no protest is filed in accordance with the requirements set forth below, this docket shall be closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission, this $\underline{12th}$ day of \underline{July} , $\underline{1994}$.

BLANCA S. BAYO, Director

Division of Records and Reporting

(SEAL)

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.59(4), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

The Commission's decision on this tariff is interim in nature and will become final, unless a person whose substantial interests are affected by the action proposed files a petition for a formal proceeding, Rule 25-22.036(4), as provided by Administrative Code, in the form provided 25-22.036(7)(a)(d) and (e), Florida Administrative Code. petition must be received by the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, 101 East Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870. by the close of business on August 2, 1994.

In the absence of such a petition, this order shall become final on the day subsequent to the above date.

Any objection or protest filed in this docket before the issuance date of this Order is considered abandoned unless it satisfies the foregoing conditions and is renewed within the specified protest period.

If this Order becomes final on the date described above, any party adversely affected may request judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or by the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days of the date this Order becomes final, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.