## Communications Consultants, Inc.



Telecommunications Intervention Tariff Analysis • Regulatory Affairs

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September 16, 1996

Blanca S. Bayó, Director Division of Records & Reporting Florida Public Service Commission Capitol Circle Office Center 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

> Docket No. 920260-TL RE: Southern Bell Rate Case

> > 09705 SEP 128

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

Dear Ms. Bayó:

OTH\_

Enclosed for filing please find a floppy disk in Wordperfect 5.1 and fifteen copies of the Rebuttal Testimony of Douglas S. Metcalf on behalf of the Florida Ad Hoc Telecommunications Users' Committee in the above docket.

Service has been provided to all parties of record in accordance with the attached Certificate of Service.

ACK Sincerely,  AFA  CAP  CMU No Douglas S, Metcalf			96 SEP 12 /
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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE Docket No. 920260-TL

I certify that a correct copy of the foregoing was sent by U.S. Mail to the following parties on September 12, 1996.

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## BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Comprehensive review of the revenue	)		
requirements and rate stabilization plan of	)	Docket No.	920260-TL
BellSouth Telecommunications Inc.	)	Filed:	September 16, 1996
	)		

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

of

DOUGLAS S. METCALF

## ON BEHALF OF

FLORIDA AD HOC TELECOMMUNICATIONS USERS' COMMITTEE

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

09705 SEP 128

Consultants, Inc.

Q: Please state your name, business affiliation, address, and on whose behalf you are testifying?

A: My name is Douglas S. Metcalf. I am President of Communications Consultants, Inc., 400 N. New York Avenue, Suite 213, Winter Park, Florida 32790-3159. I previously filed Direct Testimony on behalf of the Florida Ad Hoc Telecommunications Users' Committee (Ad Hoc) in this proceeding.

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- Q: What is the purpose of your rebuttal testimony?
- 9 A: The purpose of this testimony is to rebut certain PBX service assertions made by
  10 witness Thomas E. Allen, Jr. of Intermedia Communications.

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- 12 Q. Please explain your differences with Intermedia's position.
- 13 A. Ad Hoc agrees with the comments of Mr. Allen and Intermedia where their
  14 testimony urges the Commission to reject portions of BellSouth Telecommunications' (BST)
  15 proposal. Like Ad Hoc, Intermedia believes that the Commission should use the available
  16 revenues to foster and support competition. Further, Intermedia and Ad Hoc feel that BST
  17 is attempting to use past overearnings it has agreed to return to its customers, to improve
  18 its competitive posture at the dawn of competition, and to lock up future market share.

However, Ad Hoc disagrees with Intermedia on one significant point. PBX trunks
are not currently a "very competitive service." BST is the only provider of PBX trunks

Direct Testimony of Intermedia witness Thomas E. Allen, page 3, line 4 (3.4)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>Id.</u>, 3.19

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> <u>Id.</u>, 2.25, 5.13, 5.22

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>Id.</u>, 5.13, 6.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>Id.</u>, 5.3

at this time. Further, the only alternative *service* which provides most of the features of PBX service is ESSX, also provided *exclusively* by BST. As Ad Hoc testified in last year's \$25M refund proceeding, PBX service has lost significant market share because of ESSX's BST-controlled price advantage. A decision by this Commission in this case for an across-the-board decrease in BST's PBX trunk rates could make it possible for PBX vendors to again effectively compete for the large user market.

- Q. Will the across-the-board PBX trunk reductions in the Joint Proposal of Ad Hoc, MCI, AT&T, FIXCA, Sprint, McCaw Communications and the Dept. of Defense remedy some of Intermedia's PBX rate concerns with BST's proposal?
- A. Intermedia suggests as much when Mr. Allen acknowledges that "[PBX] rates may need to be reduced *in general*, ...".<sup>6</sup> Rejecting BST's "contract rate" and "nonrecurring rate decrease" proposals will give appropriate relief to the current users who have paid the most in excessive rates over the past several years,<sup>7</sup> while at the same time allowing "bona fide competitors for PBX service", and the competitive market, to develop without increasing BST's already formidable competitive advantage.<sup>8</sup>
- Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
- A. Yes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> <u>Id.</u>, 6.22

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> <u>Id.</u>, 7.21

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> <u>Id.</u>, 7.1