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August 3, 1998

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AUG - 3 PM 2:19  
RECORDS AND REPORTING

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

Re: Cost of Basic Local Service -- Docket No. 980696-TP

Dear Ms. Bayó:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of MCI Telecommunications Corporation (MCI) are:

1. The original and 15 copies of the direct testimony of James W. Wells, Jr., including exhibits. 08114-98

Enclosed for joint filing on behalf of MCI and AT&T Communications of the Southern States, Inc. are:

1. The original and 15 copies of the direct testimony of Don J. Wood. 08115-98

2. The original and 15 copies of a separate bound volume containing exhibits DJW-1 to DJW-5 to the testimony of Mr. Wood.

3. One copy of Mr. Wood's Exhibit DJW-6, which is a CD-ROM containing Version 5.0a of the HAI model. At staff's request, two copies of this CD-ROM are being provided separately to Mr. Dowds.

By copy of this letter, these documents are being provided to the parties on the attached service list. If you have any questions, please call.

ACK \_\_\_\_\_  
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WAS \_\_\_\_\_  
OTH \_\_\_\_\_

Very truly yours,  
*Richard D. Melson*  
Richard D. Melson

RDM/mee  
cc: See attached Certificate of Service  
Mr. Dowds

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing was furnished to the following parties by U.S. mail or Hand Delivery (\*) this 3rd day of August, 1998.

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Attorney

ORIGINAL

RECEIVED FPSC

90 AUG -3 PM 2:21

**BEFORE THE  
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

RECORDS AND  
REPORTING

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF**

**DON J. WOOD**

**ON BEHALF OF**

**MCI TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION and  
AT&T COMMUNICATIONS OF THE SOUTHERN STATES, INC.**

RECEIVED & FILED

**Docket No. 980696-TP**

FPSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS

**August 3, 1998**

- ACK \_\_\_\_\_
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DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

**08115 AUG-3 88**

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

1 Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.

2 A. My name is Don J. Wood, and my business address is 914 Stream Valley Trail,  
3 Alpharetta, Georgia, 30022. I provide consulting services to the ratepayers and  
4 regulators of telecommunications utilities.

5  
6 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE.

7 A. I received a BBA in Finance with distinction from Emory University and an  
8 MBA with concentrations in Finance and Microeconomics from the College of  
9 William and Mary. My telecommunications experience includes employment in  
10 a management capacity at both a Regional Bell Operating Company ("RBOC")  
11 and an Interexchange Carrier ("IXC").

12 I was employed in the local exchange industry by BellSouth Services,  
13 Inc. in its Pricing and Economics, Service Cost Division. My responsibilities  
14 included performing cost analyses of new and existing services, preparing  
15 documentation for filings with state regulatory commissions and the Federal  
16 Communications Commission ("FCC"), developing methodology and computer  
17 models for use by other analysts, and performing special assembly cost studies.  
18 I was then employed in the interexchange industry by MCI Telecommunications  
19 Corporation, as Manager of Regulatory Analysis for the Southern Division. In  
20 this capacity I was responsible for the development and implementation of  
21 regulatory policy for operations in the southern U. S. I then served as a  
22 Manager in the Economic Analysis and Regulatory Affairs Organization, where

1 I participated in the development of regulatory policy for national issues.

2

3 Q. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED TESTIMONY BEFORE STATE  
4 REGULATORY COMMISSIONS?

5 A. Yes. I have testified on telecommunications issues before the regulatory  
6 commissions of twenty-five states, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, state  
7 courts, and have presented comments to the FCC. A listing of my previous  
8 testimony is attached as Exhibit \_\_\_\_ (DJW-1). I have presented testimony to  
9 this Commission on costing issues on a number of previous occasions.

10

11 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EXPERIENCE REVIEWING COST MODELS  
12 AND METHODOLOGIES.

13 A. While employed in the BellSouth Service Cost organization, I had the  
14 opportunity to work with a number of cost models and to analyze and review  
15 the manner in which these models were used in the cost development process.  
16 Since that time, I have reviewed cost studies performed by each of the Regional  
17 Bell Operating Companies ("RBOCs") and other Tier 1 local exchange  
18 companies ("LECs"), including United, GTE, and Centel. When such materials  
19 have been provided, my review has included an evaluation of the  
20 methodologies, computer models and spread sheets, and inputs/assumptions  
21 used.

22

I have also been asked by regulators to develop detailed rules to be used

1 by the incumbent LECs when performing cost studies pursuant to a forward-  
2 looking, incremental cost methodology. My proposed costing rules have been  
3 adopted and implemented in both Delaware and Wyoming.

4  
5 Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

6 A. The purpose of my testimony is to present Release 5.0a of the HAI Model  
7 sponsored by AT&T of the Southern States, Inc. ("AT&T") and MCI  
8 Telecommunications Corporation ("MCI"). The documentation attached to my  
9 testimony describes the Model, including all inputs and assumptions, in detail.

10 After an exhaustive review, I have concluded that the HAI Model is the  
11 most accurate and reliable means of developing the information that the  
12 Commission needs in order to determine the "total forward-looking cost, based  
13 upon the most recent commercially available technology and equipment and  
14 generally accepted design and placement principles, of providing basic local  
15 telecommunications service" as indicated in Section 364.025 (4) (b) of the  
16 Florida Statutes.

17 More generally, the HAI Model provides an accurate and reliable means  
18 of determining the economic cost of providing basic local telecommunications  
19 service specific to discreet geographic areas within the state. For purposes of  
20 this proceeding, the HAI Model was used to generate these costs at the v ire  
21 center level; in other words, the cost of providing basic local  
22 telecommunications service calculated by the Model and attached to my

1 testimony is specific to the unique characteristics of the area served by each  
2 incumbent LEC central office.

3 My recommendation that the Commission utilize the HAI Model to  
4 calculate the total forward looking costs of basic local telecommunications  
5 service is based on my conclusion that it calculates costs based on sound  
6 economic costing principles, including the criteria established by the FCC in its  
7 Order in CC Docket 96-45, and calculates costs in a manner that is consistent  
8 with the definition of basic local telecommunications service in Section 364.02  
9 (2) of the Florida Statutes.

10

11 Q. WHAT STEPS MUST A COST MODEL PERFORM CORRECTLY IN  
12 ORDER TO ACCURATELY CALCULATE THE COST THAT AN  
13 EFFICIENT PROVIDER WOULD INCUR IN ORDER TO PROVIDE  
14 BASIC LOCAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE?

15 A. There are two fundamental steps that a cost model must perform in order to  
16 accurately calculate costs. First, because the costs of a local network are a  
17 direct function of where customers are located in relation to the serving wire  
18 center, the cost model must accurately determine customer locations. A means  
19 of accurately locating customers is essential if the two primary cost drivers of  
20 local loop costs -- loop length and customer density -- are to be correctly  
21 incorporated. Second, the cost model must connect those customers with the  
22 serving central office using network facilities that are efficient and which reflect



1 the most recent commercially available technology.

2 By correctly performing these two fundamental steps, a cost model can  
3 determine the network investment necessary for an efficient provider to serve a  
4 specific geographic area.

5

6 Q. HAVE OTHER STATE COMMISSIONS IN THE REGION CHOSEN TO  
7 RELY ON THE HAI MODEL TO CALCULATE THE COST OF BASIC  
8 LOCAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE IN ORDER TO  
9 DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUNDING  
10 REQUIRED?

11 A. Yes. Both the Kentucky and Louisiana Commissions have recently chosen to  
12 rely on the HAI Model.

13 At p. 10 of its May 22, 1998 Order in Administrative Case No. 360, the  
14 Kentucky Public Service Commission stated that it "adopts the HAI Model to  
15 establish the Kentucky USF and determines that the HAI Model complies with  
16 the FCC's criteria." The Kentucky Commission went on to describe that its  
17 decision was based on the ability of the HAI Model to perform the fundamental  
18 tasks described above. Specifically, the Kentucky Commission found that "the  
19 HAI Model more accurately locates customers" (p. 10), and that "the HAI  
20 Model produces a reasonable and accurate estimate of the average loop length  
21 for all loops in the study area. The customer location and loop methodology  
22 used to determine the loop lengths are explained in detail in the HAI Model

1 documentation" (p.11).

2 The Kentucky Commission went on to state its conclusion that, after  
3 more accurately locating customers, the HAI Model develops an estimate of the  
4 "costs incurred by an efficient carrier building a network using actual  
5 technology and costs," and that "the model correctly applies a long run  
6 assumption by treating the ILECs' embedded cost structure, except for the  
7 location of wire centers, as variable and avoidable" (p.12).

8 The Louisiana Public Service Commission has also elected to rely on the  
9 HAI Model. In its April 20, 1998 Order No. U-20883 Subdocket-A, the  
10 Louisiana Commission voted to unanimously adopt the Staff's Final  
11 Recommendation. The Staff's Final Recommendation urges the use of the HAI  
12 Model rather than the BCPM for reasons consistent with those articulated by  
13 the Kentucky Commission. Specifically, the Louisiana Staff found at p. 8 that  
14 the HAI Model more accurately locates customers in nonrural areas: "Based  
15 upon the evidence presented in this proceeding, Staff believes that the Hatfield  
16 approach to locating nonrural customers is superior to BCPM's method that  
17 makes basic, but reasonable, assumptions regarding customer location.  
18 Nevertheless, the BCPM does not locate customers...Clearly, a model that  
19 actually locates customers is more accurate than one that estimates customer  
20 locations." After an extensive analysis of the performance of each model in  
21 locating rural customers, the Louisiana Staff concluded that in rural areas "the  
22 Hatfield Model is more accurate than the BCPM" (p. 11). In summary, the

1 Louisiana Staff found that the HAI Model "more accurately locates customers  
2 in the more urban areas and that it is as accurate or more accurate at locating  
3 customers in the more rural areas than the BCPM" (p. 27).

4 The Louisiana Staff also concluded that, once customers are located, the  
5 HAI Model does a better job at designing a forward looking local network to  
6 serve those customers: "Staff believes that the Hatfield Model more accurately  
7 reflects the least cost, most efficient, and reasonable technology for providing  
8 the supported services," and that "the engineering design standards used in the  
9 Hatfield Model are superior to the ones used in the BCPM" (pp. 22-23, 27).  
10 The Louisiana Staff concluded that "in this regard, the Hatfield Model better  
11 meets the FCC's criteria" (p.27). Again, each of these Staff conclusions was  
12 unanimously adopted by the Louisiana Commission.

13  
14 Q. WHAT IS YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE HAI MODEL?

15 A. After a thorough review of both the HAI Model and its supporting  
16 documentation, I have concluded that the results of the HAI Model represent  
17 the most accurate and verifiable costs for universal service cost calculations.  
18 These results are calculated in compliance with sound economic costing  
19 principles generally and specifically comply with the FCC's stated cost  
20 standards. The results are based on inputs that are specific to the operating  
21 territory of BellSouth, GTE, United, and Centel in Florida, but are  
22 appropriately independent of each incumbent LEC's embedded network and

1 operations. In addition, the degree of precision in Release 5.0a of the HAI  
2 Model far exceeds that available through competing models -- including the  
3 most recent release of the BCPM -- or earlier releases of the HAI Model. The  
4 HAI Model is able to more accurately locate customers (in contrast, BCPM  
5 does not actually locate a single customer), and then uses this customer location  
6 information to better design a local network that is based on the most recent  
7 commercially available technology and equipment and generally accepted design  
8 and placement principles.

9  
10 Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE HAI MODEL  
11 THAT YOU ARE PROVIDING WITH YOUR TESTIMONY.

12 A. I have attached a number of documents to my testimony which provide an  
13 extensive and detailed description of the HAI Model, including its calculation  
14 algorithms, inputs and assumptions, and operation. It is simply not feasible to  
15 include the level of detail included in these documents within the body of my  
16 testimony. Such detailed information is essential, however, to a complete  
17 understanding of any cost model, including the HAI Model, the BCPM, or any  
18 other model considered by the Commission. For any model that will be  
19 considered in this proceeding, the Commission and Staff should require this  
20 level of detailed information regarding calculations, inputs, and model  
21 operation.

22 First, the *HAI Model Description* document, attached as

1 Exhibit \_\_\_(DJW-2), provides details regarding the Model's purpose, usefulness,  
2 and operational mechanics. This documentation of the HAI Model also  
3 includes four Appendices, A through D, which describe in further detail the  
4 development and use of the Florida-specific database underlying the Model and  
5 the user-definable inputs to the Model.

6 I have also attached as Exhibit \_\_\_(DJW-3) the *HAI Inputs Portfolio*, or  
7 "HIP." The HIP describes in more detail the source of the inputs and  
8 assumptions to the Model, and also includes four appendices: Appendix A  
9 graphically describes the configuration of the interoffice network used by the  
10 Model, Appendix B describes the basis for the Model's assumptions regarding  
11 structure sharing, and Appendix C provides additional detail regarding the  
12 development of expense-related assumptions used in the Model. Appendix D  
13 includes a description of the basis for adjustments made specifically to network  
14 operations expenses in order to ensure that they are forward-looking in nature.

15 Exhibit \_\_\_(DJW-4) is the HAI Model Automation Description and User  
16 Guide. This document provides detailed, step-by-step instructions for  
17 successfully loading and running the HM.

18 Exhibit \_\_\_(DJW-6) is complete and functioning copy of the HAI  
19 Model, including a copy of the runs of the Model used to produce the costs of  
20 basic local exchange telecommunications service sponsored by AT&T and MCI  
21 in this proceeding.

22 This extensive documentation and the Model software should permit the

1 Commission and Staff to conduct a full review of the HAI Model. In addition,  
2 the Model is based on the principles of public access and complete disclosure,  
3 which should further facilitate the Commission's evaluation.

4 This principle of public access and complete disclosure is applied in the  
5 following ways:

6 **The HAI Model software, including all inputs necessary to**  
7 **duplicate the results sponsored by AT&T and MCI in this proceeding, is**  
8 **available.** Release 5.0a of the HAI Model is attached as Exhibit \_\_ (DJW-6).  
9 The availability of the Model makes it possible for the Commission, Staff, and  
10 incumbent LECs to gain an understanding of how the HAI Model works, to  
11 review all inputs and assumptions, and to determine which inputs and  
12 assumptions have a significant effect on the Model outputs.

13 **The HAI Model is designed around a user-friendly interface and**  
14 **the documentation includes complete instructions for running the Model.**  
15 A graphical user interface permits even inexperienced users to run the Model,  
16 review input values, and conduct sensitivity analysis on a simple "point and  
17 click" basis. The *Automation Description and User Guide* (Exhibit \_\_ (DJW-  
18 4)) contains complete instructions for loading the Model onto a personal  
19 computer, conducting runs, and adjusting inputs for sensitivity analysis. The  
20 Model permits the user to run and store up to 9,999 different scenarios (up  
21 from 99 scenarios in Release 4.0), allowing complete sensitivity analysis of the  
22 Model inputs to be conducted with unprecedented ease.

1                   **A complete list and detailed description of the inputs and**  
2                   **assumptions used in the HAI Model is provided as a part of the Model**  
3                   **documentation.** Appendix B to the HAI Model Documentation, entitled  
4                   *Inputs, Assumptions, and Default Values* lists the default values for the user  
5                   definable inputs and assumptions and explains what each value is intended to  
6                   represent. Such a listing makes review and understanding of the inputs to the  
7                   Model a straight-forward process, and the accompanying explanations make  
8                   validation of the inputs possible. In addition, the *HAI Inputs Portfolio*  
9                   (Exhibit \_\_ (DJW-3)) provides a description of the basis for the default values  
10                  selected for these inputs, and in many cases describes how the publicly available  
11                  data was identified and collected.

12                  **A complete description of the process used by the HAI Model to**  
13                  **calculate the costs associated with universal service funding requirements,**  
14                  **including the calculations and algorithms used, is provided as part of the**  
15                  **Model documentation.** The process used by the Model to calculate costs is  
16                  described in detail in the *HM Model Description*, Exhibit \_\_ (DJW-2). In  
17                  addition, Appendices to the documentation provide additional detail regarding  
18                  the sources of the input data used, describes the data tables present in the  
19                  Model, and describes and explains the input fields used.

20  
21    Q.    **YOU STATED THAT THE HAI MODEL COMPLIES WITH THE FCC'S**  
22    **CRITERIA FOR STATE-CONDUCTED ECONOMIC COST STUDIES.**

1 PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW IT DOES SO.

2 A. The FCC adopted 10 requirements in paragraph 250 of its May 7, 1997 Order  
3 in CC Docket No. 96-45 in order to ensure consistency in the calculations of  
4 universal service support at the state and federal levels. Following is a listing of  
5 the FCC criteria and a description of how the HAI Model meets each of these  
6 criteria. For clarity, I have divided a number of the FCC criteria into sub parts  
7 in those cases in which one criteria contains multiple requirements.

8

9 (1) The technology assumed in the cost study or model must be the least-cost,  
10 most-efficient, and reasonable technology for providing the supported services  
11 that is currently being deployed.

12 The HAI Model utilizes the least cost, most efficient technology that is  
13 currently being deployed by incumbent LECs, including digital loop carrier  
14 systems, digital switching, fiber rings for interoffice transport, and signalling  
15 system 7. In those parts of the network in which different technologies may be  
16 more efficient in different situations (the feeder portion of the local loop, for  
17 example), the Model examines each individual case and chooses the technology  
18 that is most efficient in each case. Release 5.0a of the HAI Model contains  
19 additional capabilities for such "dynamic modelling." For example, the HAI  
20 Model can now (if so requested by the user) adjust the mix of aerial and buried  
21 plant in response to geographic conditions in order to ensure that the most  
22 efficient structure type is used in a given area.



1           (1a) A model must include the incumbent LECs' wire centers as the center of  
2           the loop network and the outside plant should terminate at the incumbent LECs'  
3           current wire centers.

4           The HAI Model assumes the existing locations of the incumbent LECs'  
5           wire centers. The location of these switching locations is taken from the latest  
6           version of the Local Exchange Routing Guide ("LERG"), which is maintained  
7           by Bellcore. The distance between wire centers is also developed using data  
8           from the LERG. All loops developed in the Model are engineered to terminate  
9           on the existing incumbent LEC wire centers.

10  
11           (1b) The loop design incorporated into a forward-looking economic cost study  
12           should not impede the provision of advanced services.

13           Release 5.0a of the HAI Model replaces the coarse-gauge cable and  
14           load coils present in previous versions with T-1 technology. As a result, even  
15           the longest loops (those greater than 18,000 feet) can fully accommodate  
16           advanced services, including ISDN and other high speed data applications. The  
17           HAI Model conducts explicit tests of the outside plant facilities that it models in  
18           order to ensure that these parameters are not exceeded.

19  
20           (1c) Wire center line counts should equal actual incumbent LEC wire center  
21           line counts, and the study's or model's average loop length should reflect the  
22           incumbent carrier's actual average loop length.

1           Line counts at the wire center level are estimated by the HAI Model  
2 based on demographic data, and the state-wide totals for both residence and  
3 business lines are normalized to the totals reported by the incumbent LECs in  
4 ARMIS and the NECA USF Loops filing. The current release of the Model has  
5 the capability to normalize residence and business line counts at the wire center  
6 level, if this data is provided by the incumbent LEC. The Model also can be  
7 used to develop average loop lengths at the wire center level, so that this  
8 information can be validated.

9  
10       (2) Any network function or element, such as loop, switching, transport, or  
11       signalling, necessary to produce supported services must have an associated  
12       cost.

13           The Model developers have systematically identified all elements  
14 necessary to provide universal service, at a sufficiently disaggregated level of  
15 detail to allow costs to be assigned to each element.

16  
17       (3) Only long-run forward-looking economic cost may be included. The long  
18       run period used must be a period long enough that all costs may be treated as  
19       variable and avoidable. The costs must not be the embedded cost of the  
20       facilities, functions, or elements.

21           The HAI Model is designed to accurately estimate the costs that an  
22 efficient carrier would incur to provide service in the geographic area being

1 studied. In other words, the costs developed by the Model are constrained by  
2 the geographic and demographic characteristics of the area being studied, but  
3 are not constrained by the embedded characteristics of the Incumbent LEC's  
4 network or operations. In doing so, the Model correctly applies a long run  
5 assumption by treating the incumbent LEC's embedded cost structure -- except  
6 for the location of wire centers -- as variable and avoidable.

7 This treatment of costs is consistent with sound economic cost  
8 principles and the requirements of this paragraph of the FCC Order.

9  
10 (3a) The study or model must be based on the current cost of purchasing  
11 facilities and equipment (rather than list prices).

12 The developers of the HAI Model have identified public sources of  
13 information regarding the prices (net of applicable discounts) of network  
14 facilities and equipment, although equipment vendors have been reluctant to  
15 provide the information for this purpose. For many inputs to the Model, the  
16 judgement of subject matter experts with extensive experience in the acquisition  
17 of network facilities and equipment has been used and this judgement has been  
18 validated using vendor information where available. All facility and equipment  
19 prices used as inputs to the Model are based on discounted, rather than list,  
20 prices.

21  
22 (4) The rate of return must be either the authorized federal rate of return on

1 interstate services or the state's prescribed rate of return for intrastate services.

2 The HAI Model accepts cost of debt, cost of equity, and percentage of  
3 debt as direct inputs through the graphical user interface; either federal or state  
4 values can be easily accommodated. The Model has been run using the  
5 proposed intrastate cost of capital described in the testimony of John  
6 Hirschleifer.

7  
8 (5) Economic lives and future net salvage percentages used in calculating  
9 depreciation expense must be within the FCC-authorized range.

10 The HAI Model allows the user to separately input state-specific  
11 projected lives and net salvage values. The values used in the Model in this  
12 proceeding reflect the lives and salvage values adopted in the three-way  
13 meetings between the FCC, Commission, and incumbent LEC, where those  
14 values fall within the FCC range. Any values from the three-way meetings that  
15 fall outside of the FCC range have been adjusted to the nearest end-point of the  
16 range. The recommended values for depreciation lives and net salvage values  
17 are contained in the testimony of Mike Majoros.

18  
19 (6) The cost study or model must estimate the cost of providing service for all  
20 businesses and households within a geographic region. This includes the  
21 provision of multi-line business services, special access, private lines, and  
22 multiple residence lines. Such inclusion will permit the cost study or model to

1 reflect the economies of scale associated with the provision of these services.

2 The HAI Model develops costs based on the total demand for network  
3 elements, including loops, switching, and interoffice transport. Total demand  
4 includes the demand created by residence (first and additional lines), business  
5 (single and multi-line), public (coin), and special access services. By designing  
6 a forward-looking network based on total demand, the HAI Model properly  
7 includes economies of scale.

8

9 (7) A reasonable allocation of joint and common costs must be assigned to the  
10 cost of supported services. This allocation will ensure that the forward-looking  
11 economic cost does not include an unreasonable share of the joint and common  
12 costs for non-supported services.

13 The HAI Model systematically assigns so-called "joint and common"  
14 costs to the services and/or network elements being studied. Expenses that  
15 have traditionally (and incorrectly) been treated as fixed overheads have been  
16 directly assigned as variable expenses in proportion to investments or line  
17 counts as appropriate. The treatment of these costs in the Model helps to  
18 ensure that the joint and common costs caused by the provision of non-  
19 supported services are not inappropriately included in the costs reported for  
20 supported services.

21

22 (8) The cost study or model and all underlying data, formulae, computations.

1 and software associated with the model must be available to all interested  
2 parties for review and comment. All underlying data should be verifiable,  
3 engineering assumptions reasonable, and outputs plausible.

4 The complete Model software has been provided to the Commission,  
5 Staff, and other parties on a CD-ROM (Exhibit \_\_\_ DJW-6)). The Model can be  
6 run and sensitivity analyses can be performed to determine the impact on the  
7 results if inputs or assumptions are changed. In addition, all parties are being  
8 provided with the *Model Documentation* which describes the Model  
9 calculations and inputs in detail, the *HAI Inputs Portfolio*, which describes in  
10 detail the inputs to the Model and the basis for their development, and the  
11 *Automation Description and User Guide*, which includes complete instructions  
12 for using the HAI Model.

13  
14 (9) The cost study or model must include the capability to examine and modify  
15 the critical assumptions and engineering principles. These assumptions and  
16 principles include, but are not limited to, the cost of capital, depreciation rates,  
17 fill factors, input costs, overhead adjustments, retail costs, structure sharing  
18 percentages, fiber-copper crossover points, and terrain factors.

19 Each of the types of data listed is an input to the Model that can be  
20 reviewed and changed by the user. In addition, each of the Model's cells  
21 containing formulae is unlocked, making it possible for the user to make direct  
22 changes to both calculations and inputs. The graphical user interface to the

1 Model makes it a simple task for the user to run and store up to 9,999 different  
2 "what-if" scenarios in order to determine the impact of a wide range of input  
3 values.

4  
5 (10) The cost study or model must deaverage support calculations to the wire  
6 center serving area at least, and, if feasible, to even smaller areas such as a  
7 Census Block Group.

8 The HAI Model can calculate and display universal service results by  
9 wire center, line density zone, or Census Block Group (even though Release  
10 5.0a of the HAI Model calculates costs based on actual customer locations and  
11 not at the CBG level, the calculated costs can be aggregated at any one of three  
12 levels depending on the user's selection). As a result, the Commission can be  
13 provided with information regarding the total state universal service funding  
14 requirements or can consider such requirements for distinct geographic areas.  
15 The cost results prepared for this proceeding are specific to each incumbent  
16 LEC wire center.

17  
18 Q. YOU STATED PREVIOUSLY THAT RELEASE 5.0a OF THE HAI  
19 MODEL PROVIDES A NUMBER OF ENHANCEMENTS THAT  
20 INCREASE THE LEVEL OF PRECISION OF THE RESULTS. PLEASE  
21 DESCRIBE THESE ENHANCEMENTS.

22 A. While previous releases of the HAI Model represented the most accurate

1 forward-looking economic cost data available to date, the Model has undergone  
2 additional development work in order to capture differences in the cost of  
3 providing basic local telecommunications service in different geographic areas  
4 of the state with an even greater degree of precision. While a complete list of  
5 enhancements is contained at pages 4-8 of the HAI *Model Description*, two  
6 enhancements of Release 5.0a warrant special attention.

7 First, attempts to criticize the HAI Model during arbitration and  
8 subsequent generic cost proceedings have focused almost exclusively on the  
9 unit of disaggregation of study data. Previous releases of the HAI Model  
10 calculated costs at the level of the Census Block Group, or CBG. While such  
11 an approach is clearly preferable to the simple statewide averages produced by  
12 the BellSouth cost studies presented in those proceedings, there was a  
13 recognition by the HAI Model developers that even greater precision could be  
14 gained when calculating costs by identifying the actual location of individual  
15 residence and business end users. Such an approach has been incorporated into  
16 Release 5.0a of the HAI Model. By developing costs based on the actual  
17 locations of most customers, this release of the HAI Model provides a degree  
18 of precision in its results that simply cannot be duplicated by a model such as  
19 the BCPM which uses a more simplistic approach of arbitrarily distributing end  
20 users along roadways or within an artificial grid structure.

21 Second, the current release of the HAI Model permits "dynamic  
22 modelling" for a number of network facilities. Rather than developing costs



1 based on the type of facility or structure most likely to occur under certain  
2 conditions, the HAI Model can now evaluate the characteristics of the  
3 geographic area being studied to determine the most economic and efficient  
4 means of serving the area. This capability adds a degree of both accuracy and  
5 precision not found in a "static" model such as the BCPM which cannot make  
6 such adjustments.

7  
8 Q. WHAT COSTS ARE INCLUDED BY THE HAI MODEL WHEN  
9 CALCULATING UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUNDING REQUIREMENTS?

10 A. The HAI Model includes all of the costs associated with basic local  
11 telecommunications service as defined in Section 364.02 (2) of the Florida  
12 Statutes, and as defined by the Federal-State Joint board on Universal Service  
13 in the FCC's CC Docket 96-45. All costs that would be incurred by an efficient  
14 provider on a forward looking basis to provide basic local telecommunications  
15 service pursuant to these definitions are included by the HAI Model, and are  
16 developed using a process that captures the cost differences of serving different  
17 geographic areas with unprecedented precision.

18  
19 Q. WHAT COST INFORMATION ARE YOU PROVIDING TO THE  
20 COMMISSION?

21 A. The cost information that I am providing has been produced by running the  
22 HAI Model on a wire center-specific basis for the areas served by BellSouth,

1 GTE, United, and Centel. The output of the Model, attached as  
2 Exhibit \_\_\_(DJW-5), shows the cost of providing basic local  
3 telecommunications service and how this cost varies by wire center.  
4

5 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR DIRECT TESTIMONY?

6 A. Yes.  
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