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L	BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION					
2	14.16. J.S.					
3	In the Matter of					
1	Determination of the cost of) DOCKET NO. 980696-TP					
5	basic local telecom services, pursuant					
	Section 364.025, Flo Statutes.	orida)				
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3	PROCEEDINGS:	HEARING				
1	BEFORE :	CHAIRMAN JULIA L. JOHNSON				
5		COMMISSIONER J. TERRY DEASON COMMISSIONER SUSAN F. CLARK				
5		COMMISSIONER E. LEON JACOBS, JR. COMMISSIONER JOE GARCIA				
7	DATE:	Tuesday, October 13, 1998				
в	TIME:	Commenced at 9:30 a.m.				
,						
	PLACE :	Betty Easley Conference Center Room 148				
0		4075 Ecolanade Way				
1		Tallahassee, Florida	1			
2	REPORTED BY:	NANCY S. METZKE, RPR, CCR	13			
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EXHIBITS - VOLUME 10 ID. ADMTD. NUMBER #46 #47 #48 (Late-filed) MST analysis using DLC information #49 #50 Revised Exhibit PFM-1 C & N REPORTERS TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA (850) 697-8314

	1083
1	PROCEEDINGS
2	(Transcript follows in sequence from Volume 9).
3	KEVIN DUFFY-DENO
4	continues his testime w under oath from Volume.
5	COMMISSIONER DEASON: It seems to me that is a
6	serious flaw in the model if it doesn't create enough
7	cabling to at least meet the minimum requirement. That's a
8	flaw in both models. Why does that flaw exist?
9	DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: Why does it exist?
10	COMMISSIONER DEASON: Yeah.
11	DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: Well, I can explain why it
12	exists in the Hatfield Model, and then I can maybe provide
13	some reasons why it might exist in the BCPM model. The
14	best way to explain why it exists in the Hatfield Model is
15	to look at the following. I've got some overheads that
16	would explain this.
17	I need to get all the points up there so you
18	can There we go. What this shows is a placement of
19	customer locations, some address geocoded, some surrogate.
20	And this would be these would be spatially placed on a
21	map. The next step in the Hatfield pre-processing is to
22	form these locations into clusters. And the next overhead
23	shows a cluster formed out of those customer locations,
24	okay? And, again, this is all in the pre-processing stage.
25	This is not what you see on the CD you get with the model.

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and the second

This, the outer perimeter of these points is 1 referred to as a convex hull. Now that is not really 2 important. What's important is that the boundary of the 3 4 cluster is formed by these connections between those outer points. Now this is what's done by PNR. On behalf of the 5 6 Hatfield Model development team PNR geocoded the locations, address geocoded locations, developed the surrogate 7 placement, formed these clusters of customers into these 8 irregular shaped polygon clusters; and then the last step 9 was the transformation of that irregular shape into a 10 regular shape. The models modeling -- transformation to a 11 regular shape makes modeling a heck of a lot easier to do. 12 So what happens is this irregular shape is 13

14 transformed into a rectangle. Now this rectangle is what's 15 included in the model. When you open the model MDB 16 database, you get essentially these rectangular clusters; 17 and this is the modeling tool used by the Hatfield Model to 18 estimate the amount of cable needed to serve the customers 19 in the PNR underlined clusters.

20 So what the minimum spanning tree test says is, 21 given the amount of cable estimated by this modeling tool 22 isn't enough to simply connect customers in the underlying 23 PNR cluster. And the reason the Hatfield Model falls short 24 is due to two reasons: Reason Number 1 is the 25 transformation of this irregular shape polygon into this

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rectangle. What that tends to do is, it tends to compress 1 dispersion. The dispersion of customers that occurs in the 2 PNR cluster is greater than the amount of dispersion within 3 the modeled area. And the reason for that is not only the 4 transformation in the shape but also the placement of 5 uniform lots within that modeling area. In this case we 6 are assuming nine customers, and the model assumes 7 essentially uniform distribution of lots within that 8 rectangle. 9

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Now the second reason for the failure in terms of 10 the minimum spanning tree test is that when the model 11 estimates the amount of branch and backbone cable, it will 12 extend the cables to only one lot's width and depth from 13 the perimeter. What that means is that the customers, in 14 order to be served with the -- And we are talking about 15 rural areas here. This is where predominantly the problem 16 occurs. In rural areas the default drop value is only 150 17 feet, so what happens is the model needs -- these customers 18 have to be compressed even further into the interior of 19 this modeled area to be connected to the branch and 20 backbone. 21

So when you add up the amount of branch, backbone and drop for this modeled area and you compare it with the amount of connecting distance needed to connect the customers in the underlying PNR cluster in rural areas

where this, again, is predominantly the problem, the model comes up short. So the reason for the shortage in the Hatfield Model is transformation of these irregular shaped clusters of customers into the regularly shaped rectangle used by the model and the assumption that backbone and branch cable extends to only within one lot depth and width within the modeled area.

COMMISSIONER JACOBS: Excuse me. Does that 8 include the configuration -- I think it was mentioned in 9 the presentation -- where it was said that there was an 10 assumption that in those outlyer areas they would have the 11 remotes from -- that would not come directly from the CO. 12 So would it need that same kind of connecting technology, 13 or would you have something else in place of that? 14 DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: I believe you are referring 15

16 to the outlyer clusters.

17 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: Yeah, yeah.

DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: Yeah, this is the -- the MST problem in the Hatfield Model is predominantly a problem with the main clusters.

21 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: Oh, okay.

DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: Okay? The outlyer clusters, because they are so small to begin with and because of the connecting cable between the main cluster and the outlyers takes a right angle routing. The minimum spanning tree is

as straight as the crow flies. When you add up the 1 connecting cable to the outlyers plus the outlyers 2 internal, you are always going to be above the minimum 3 spanning tree for those outlyers and that connecting cable. 4 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: I see. 5 DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: So, reaily, the focus -- the 6 main area of concern is with the main clusters. 7 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: Thank you. 8 COMMISSIONER DEASON: The second half of that 9 10 question. DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: BCPM. 11 COMMISSIONER DEASON: Yes. 12 DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: Unfortunately, the analysis 13 isn't as clear-cut in terms of BCPM, and I can give you 14 some thoughts I have. I would also recommend you talk to 15 Doctor Brian Staihr to see what thoughts he has on this. 16 17 One thing that jumps out is that BCPM uses a cap, a road cap on the amount of distribution distance it 18 estimates within a quadrant. And the rationale for this --19 what this road cap says is that the amount of branch, 20 backbone, drop and connecting cable cannot exceed the 21 amount of road mileage within that quadrant. And the idea 22 was, well, that cable is going to go along the roads, so 23 how can you have more cable distance than road distance? 24 Well, maybe that assumption contributes to the shortage of 25

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1 BCPM on this account.

That's the only thing that comes to mind right now. Again, Doctor Brian Staihr might have more thoughts on this. You know, it in a problem. It is an issue in both models, but clearly BCPM -- or Hatfield comes up far worse on this test than does BCPM.

7 BY MR. LAMOUREUX (Continuing):

I just want to clarify something. What the MST 8 0 is, is if you've got a cluster and the model, Hatfield 9 Model, geocodes some locations in that customer -- in that 10 cluster and the others -- Let me backup. The others have 11 been placed surrogate, using the surrogate location 12 methodology somehow. So some of these customers have been 13 located through geocoding, some have been located through 14 the surrogate location methodology. The MST calculates a 15 distance for that to connect all those points? 16

A (WITNESS NODDED HEAD AFFIRMATIVELY).

Q That is not a comparison to if you were to take that cluster out, drop it down on top of somewhere in Florida and find where all the houses are in Florida, households, houses, whatever you want to do, and calculate that distance. It's not a comparison of that?

23 A No, it's not.

17

Q Okay. So what you've done is if you've got the MST distance out of the Hatfield Model, some number --

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we'll call it X for lack of creativity -- what you then do is you add up all the distance, ground footers that you find in the Hatfield Model itself for that cluster -- say it's Y -- and you determine if Y is either equal to -- if Y is equal or less than, if the Hatfield Model distance is equal to or less than the MST distance than that?

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A Less than.

7

Okay. Now if it's true that the surrogate 8 0 location methodology is a conservative approach in how it 9 places the surrogates, it could very well be that although 10 the route distance that comes out of the model for that 11 cluster is less than the MST distance for that cluster. the 12 route distance in that cluster is sufficient for the actual 13 amount of routage if you were to drop that cluster down on 14 top of the houses on Florida? 15

Is it possible? Sure. Is it relevant? 16 А Absolutely not. What the models are doing is -- and what 17 this test is doing is determining whether the model 18 estimates enough cable to serve customers in the locations 19 identified by the model. That would be the first cluster 20 that Mr. Lamoureux drew. It has no bearing whatsoever, or 21 it has no -- it is not in relation in any way to where 22 customers are actually located. We don't have a 23 comprehensive database on that. This is an internal model 24 consistency test. Does the model estimate enough cable to 25

serve customers in the locations identified by the model? 1 Now I don't care where they have identified those 2 3 locations. I don't care if they put them on the perimeter 4 of census blocks, I don't care if they put them on the 5 roads. I don't care if they put them all on top of each other, the test is still valid, and the test still says: 6 Does the model estimate enough cable to connect, to at 7 least connect those customers? So this whole argument 8 about how the geocoded -- I'm sorry, the surrogate location 9 placement on the census block boundary somehow yields a 10 greater dispersion and hence the Hatfield Model in 11 actuality estimates enough cable to serve actual customers 12 is mind boggling to say the least. They are mixing apples 13 and oranges in essence. The focus of the MST analysis is 14 internal to the model. Does the model build plant to where 15 the model says customers are located, period. 16 The purpose of this proceeding is to determine 17 Q what's the appropriate cost to provide service to these 18 customers in Florida, right, or to determine how to 19 calculate the cost to provide service to these customers in 20 Florida? 21

A Correct, it is. And how do we do that? We build models. Do we have some requirements that our models should pass? Yes, they should be internally consistent. Q But the ultimate check on whether the model does,

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1 what the purpose of this proceeding ir, is to determine if 2 the amount of footage for the location that actually exists 3 in Florida is enough cost to serve that actual location in 4 Florida. Would you agree with me on that?

No, I can't. We don't know where actual 5 A 6 customers are located. You can't take that model, that cluster and plop it down on top of Florida, some part of 7 Florida, and compare the distances with respect to what 8 actually it would take to serve those customers because we 9 don't know where those customers are located. That's the 10 whole reason we are going through all this, all this debate 11 about the customer location methodology. It is an 12 estimation methodology. And then to say that, well, we 13 have located customers using this state of the art 14 methodology, and, oh, by the way, our points aren't 15 accurate enough, therefore, you can't use the minimum 16 spanning tree test is ludicrous to say the least. 17

18 Q Whether or not it's possible to do it, the 19 ultimate test of whether a model does what the purpose of 20 this proceeding is for is whether it generates enough 21 cable, footage, plant to have sufficient cost to serve 22 actual locations in Florida.

MR. CARVER: Objection. Madam Chairman, he has
 asked this exact same question three times, and I think
 Doctor Duffy-Deno has answered it three times, and we are

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1 just going over the same thing now again and again and 2 again.

3 MR. LAMOUREUX: Actually I don't think he 4 answered the question. I would have to think back. I'm 5 not sure it actually had a yes or no to it. And, again, he 6 answered the question of whether or not it was possible to 7 do the test, not whether that really should be the test 8 regardless of whether it's possible or not.

9 MR. CARVER: I believe the answer was no, and I 10 think he has stated that unequivocally several times, and 11 he has explained his answer at great length; and, again, I 12 think this is just repetitive.

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: I thought his answer was no 14 too. Unless you are asking a different question, and when 15 you were just explaining what you were asking, you had 16 about three questions in there.

MR. LAMOUREUX: Let me ask the question, and if I
 get the objection again, I will.

19 BY MR. LAMOUREUX (Continuing):

Q But my question is regardless of whether or not there was a test that can be done to do it, the ultimate test of whether a model serves the purpose of what this proceeding is about is whether the model generates enough plant and cost to serve an actual location in the State of Florida?

No, it --1 A MR. CARVER: Same objection. That's the same 2 question. 3 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: I'm going to let him answer 4 5 it. 6 It's not. The purpose of the model is to A 7 estimate an accurate -- to accurately estimate the cost to serve customers; and to determine whether the model is 8 accurate in that regard, we need to look at some internal 9 validity tests, and that's what the MST test does. 10 O Following up on your last answer, it's to 11 determine the cost of serving actual customers, right? 12 I certainly hope it is, yes. 13 A I want to ask a question about how you did the 14 0 MST analysis for BCPM. The MST calculation you did for the 15 Hatfield Model was the MST distance for the Hatfield 16 cluster, right? 17 That was one of the tests. I did a test for the 18 A main cluster, and I also did a test for the main clusters 19 plus the outlyers because there has been some argument that 20 our analysis is biased because we don't include the 21 outlyers; so we put in the outlyers also and low and behold 22 came up with the same findings. 23 Q And on the BCPM side, the unit of analysis that 24 you did was the ultimate grid, the serving area? 25

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A That's correct.

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2 Q Okay. And my question is, when you were looking 3 at or calculating out the distance in the BCPM, did you 4 include in that the distribution from the DLC at the middle 5 of the serving area to each of the road-reduced 6 distribution areas?

A Absolutely.

Q When you calculated the MST for BCPM, did you
 9 include this DLC as a point or a node in calculating the
 10 minimum spanning tree distance for this ultimate area?

Mr. Lamoureux, you've been doing your homework. 11 A No, we have not, and the reason was that when this all got 12 started the minimum spanning tree program that was written 13 for the Hatfield Model clusters was just the connecting 14 distance between the points in the cluster, and we didn't 15 add a point in the centroid of the cluster -- I can't 16 honestly think of why we didn't do that, but we didn't. 17 And what Mr. Lamoureux is arguing, well, you've got to 18 connect customers not only to each other but to the 19 network, and that's the subfeeder termination point 20 within -- at the centroid of the cluster. 21

22 So what he is saying, I think, and he'll correct 23 me if I'm wrong, but what he is saying is that if you 24 compare the connecting cable distance, backbone, drop and 25 branch distance and compare that with an MST that does not

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1 include the centroid of the ultimate grid as an additional 2 node, that your analysis isn't really an apples to apples, 3 and I'd be the first to agree. But guess what, we did it. 4 And would you like to know the results?

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Q Sure.

5

A Sure. Does it increase the minimum spanning tree
distance for BCPM? Sure it does. Sure it does. You're
adding an additional node, okay? It's going to increase
it.

On average it increases the shortage in BCPM by 10 24%, and I can provide this as a late-filed exhibit. I've 11 got a table that shows this data. So it does increase the 12 amount of shortage in BCPM, and it's a good point, and I'm 13 glad we brought it up, and we need to -- if we are going to 14 go forward we need to include that additional node. 15 However, to be fair, don't we also need to do that HAI 16 model? Yes, we do; and yes, I have done it. 17

The MST distance also increases in the Hatfield 18 Model, and the shortage increases as well. However, the 19 shortage doesn't increase by as much in the Hatfield 20 Model. It increases by an average 8%. So if I can just 21 use these new MST numbers and reference back to my summary 22 statement where I said BCPM was short on average by 68% --23 was short in 68% of its serving areas and Hatfield was --24 I'm sorry, Hatfield was short in 68% of its serving areas 25

1 and BCPM was short in, I believe it was, 24% of its serving 2 areas.

What would be the new numbers if we used the 3 centroid of the clusters? The Hatfield Model would be 4 short in 88%. And this is just of its main clusters by the 5 way. I couldn't do it for the outlyers. Hatfield is short 6 7 in 88% of its main clusters in the lowest density zone. BCPM is short in 43% of its clusters in the lowest density 8 zones. And, again, we can file this as a late-filed 9 exhibit. 10

So, good point. Good point. But the relative results of the test are fairly constant. BCPM performs, still performs much better on this test than does the Hatfield Model.

15 Q Now when you said it increases the average amount 16 of shortage by 24%, was the amount of distance that is 17 short that it increases by 24%?

18 A That was the amount of -- the difference between 19 the minimum spanning tree and the estimated distribution 20 distance, yeah, for the entire state actually. That's 21 the --

Q Is that -- I'm sorry, go ahead.

A That is the only number I've got, is for theentire state.

25

22

Q That is not in the number of clusters that are

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1097 short, that increase as a result of doing this revised MST? 1 That 24% increase? 2 А Yeah. 0 3 No, that's just the shortage, the total shortage. 4 A Right. And when you rattled off the numbers 88% 5 0 6 and 40 something percent of Hatfield versus BCPM, you said those were in the lowest density zones? 7 That is the lowest density zone, yes. 8 А The less than five density zone? 9 0 The less than five, yes. 10 A So it increased the number of clusters short in 11 0 BCPM, it went from 31% to 40 something percent? 12 32% to 43 in the lowest density zone. 13 А And in that density zone it increased the number 14 0 of Hatfield clusters -- I'm sorry, the number of Hatfield 15 clusters by 86 and half roughly to about 88%? 16 Yes. Yes. So, again, the effect was smaller in 17 А the Hatfield Model than in the BCPM. 18 The last subject I want to cover, I don't need 19 0 any graphs for this. BCPM locates and builds plant to 20 house units and Hatfield locates and builds plant to 21 households; is that right? 22 No, unfortunately, I can't agree with that 23 A statement; and it's a clarification I need to make in 24 particular with respect to the Hatfield Model. The models 25 C & N REPORTERS (850)697-8314 TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

1	
1	build plant to clusters of customers. Neither model builds
2	plant to specific households or housing units. So in terms
з	of the Hatfield Model, when we are talking about address
4	geocoded points, the model does not build plant to those
5	points. Those points are used to form clusters, just like
6	I have up here on the screen. Those points are used to
7	form clusters, and the model estimates the amount of cable
8	needed to serve that cluster, that serving area, and the
9	same for BCPM.
10	Q Okay. Let me ask a more precise question then.
11	A Okay.
12	Q The Hatfield Model builds plant and, therefore,
13	cost to clusters containing households. BCPM builds plant
14	and calculates costs based on ultimate grids containing
15	housing units?
16	A Yes. Let me restate that. As the fundamental
17	unit or the fundamental definition of a residential
18	customer, BCPM default is a housing unit which, as we know,
19	is an occupied or an unoccupied structure. And the
20	Hatfield Model uses as its definition of the residential
21	customer, it uses "households," but I also thought it was
22	households with phone service, which is a smaller number
23	than the population of households.
24	Q Generally, there are more housing units than
25	households?

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A And there are more households than households
 with phones.

Q So as a general proposition, by locating and building to an area that encompasses housing units rather than households, BCPM would build more plant than if it simply built to areas based on households; would you agree with that?

A As a general proposition, I would agree with
9 that.

10 Q Okay. And the FCC criteria specifically refers 11 to households, not housing units; is that right?

A The criteria in -- criterion uses the word "households." Obviously that term -- there is a difference of opinion as to whether the FCC truly meant households or did it mean housing units, or did it mean households with current telephone service. Obviously the sponsors of BCPM interpreted that as housing units. The Commission may interpret that differently.

19 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Doctor, let me ask you a 20 question on that. Households has a specific term in the 21 sense that it's -- and that's evidently what Hatfield is 22 equating the use -- As I understand it, they are using 23 the term -- they are saying the term "household," and the 24 FCC has the same meaning as in the census and, therefore, 25 you would use that measure.

DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: Well, actually, if -- I think my understanding is correct that they are using households with phone service which would not be of a census definition of a household.

5 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Well, if they are, I didn't 6 understand that, so let's just keep with the notion of they 7 are equating households. Is it possible that they are 8 equating household to the census use of the term?

9 DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: I believe, yeah. If we 10 ignore the penetration issue, I believe that's what they 11 are doing.

12 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Well, let me ask you from 13 the standpoint of modeling for cost, which do you think is 14 correct to use, the housing units or the ones that actually 15 have people in them?

DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: I believe that the models 16 should be costing what it would take to build plant to 17 housing units because of the incumbent's obligation to 18 serve. When the census did their census, on that 19 particular day, a house could have been vacant when the 20 very next day somebody moved in. That house would be 21 considered a housing unit but an unoccupied one in the 22 census data. 23

24 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Now is it possible to simply 25 adjust the Hatfield Model? Can you just change an input so

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that you do use housing units for the Hatfield Model? 1 DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: I believe it would be a 2 3 change in the pre-processing stage. It's something the 4 user could not do COMMISSIONER CLARK: Well, if we thought that was 5 correct to do, we could have that changed in the Hatfield? 6 DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: I'm assuming that you would 7 make a request to AT&T to make that change and they would 8 have that change executed. I might point out that BCPM, 9 although the default is building to housing units, can very 10 easily, by the user -- we don't have to go back to 11 pre-processing -- the user using BCPM can change the module 12 so that it builds to households. 13 COMMISSIONER DEASON: How much difference does it 14 make in the BCPM results as to whether you use households 15 16 or housing units? DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: I don't know. I don't know. 17 Doctor Brian Staihr might be able to answer that for you. 18 I haven't seen any runs. 19 MR. LAMOUREUX: I have no further questions. 20 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: We are going to take a 21 30-minute lunch break. 22 (BRIEF RECESS) 23 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: We are going to go back on the 24 record. 25

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MR. LAMOUREUX: With the Commission's indulgence, 1 may I ask one last question? (Inaudible) 2 3 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Your mike -- I can hear you, but your mike isn't on. 4 MR. HATCH: The mike is not activated. 5 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Well, maybe that is because I 6 need to turn them on. 7 8 You want to ask one last question? MR. LAMOUREUX: One last question, and I promise 9 it will only be one question. 10 11 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay. BY MR. LAMOUREUX (Continuing): 12 13 0 In I think the next to last line of questions we talked about, I asked you if doing the MST for the BCPM you 14 had added a point in the middle of the ultimate grid for 15 that DLC, and you gave me some numbers, or analysis you did 16 for that. All I wanted to ask you is, in that analysis you 17 did, did that also include the addition of points in the 18 four quadrants where -- which would be connected to that 19 point in the middle of the ultimate grid? 20 I don't know. I'll need to find out. 21 A MR. LAMOUREUX: Thank you very much, and I 22 appreciate the indulgence. 23 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay. 24 DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: I will add that maybe Doctor 25 TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA (850)697-8314 C & N REPORTERS

Staihr knows the answer to that question. 1 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: If you could pull your mike 2 down a bit? 3 DOCTOR DUFF .- DENO: I would just add that maybe 4 Doctor Staihr knows the answer to that question. 5 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay. Mr. Melson. 6 CROSS EXAMINATION 7 BY MR. MELSON: 8 Doctor Duffy-Deno, I'm Rick Melson representing 9 0 MCI. I've just got a few questions for you this 10 afternoon. 11 I believe part of the point of your MST analysis 12 is you want to be sure that the model does not understate 13 the amount of distribution required to serve an area; is 14 15 that correct? A Generally correct, yes. 16 And would you also agree, on the other side, that 17 0 you don't want to overstate the required amount of 18 distribution? 19 A Conceptually, yes. The problem is we don't have 20 a benchmark on the other side as to what is the appropriate 21 amount of cable or distribution, cable distance to serve 22 customers. We only have this lower-bound minimum spanning 23 tree benchmark. 24 And I believe -- let's focus on the numbers you 25 0 C & N REPORTERS TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA (850) 697-8314

gave us for the BCPM model. I believe you indicated that 1 2 after your refined analysis there were some 43% of the 3 grids in the lowest density zone in which BCPM fell short; 4 is that correct? That would be the minimum spanning tree, that's 5 A correct, using the road centroid of the ultimate grid as an б additional node. 7 Q Can you tell me what that percentage is if you 8 focus not just on the lowest density zone but across all 9 density zones? 10 Across -- sc the average number of grids short 11 A across the entire BellSouth territory? 12 0 Yes. 13 4.6%. 14 A So 4.6% of the total grids BCPM does not place 0 15 enough distribution to meet the MST minimum? 1.6 Correct, over BellSouth's entire service 17 A territory. 18 Okay. So then there are roughly 95% of the grids 19 0 in which that minimum is exceeded? 20 That's correct. 21 A Have you done any analysis of the amount or 0 22 percentage by which the minimum was exceeded in that 95% of 23 the grids? 24 I have not. 25 A

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Do you know, for example -- Could you tell us 1 C whether the average was more or less than twice the MST 2 minimum? 3 I have not done that analysis. I can't tell 4 A 5 you. And so without that analysis, even recognizing 6 0 7 that the amount needed may be somewhere above the minimum, 8 we don't have any information on how far above the minimum the BCPM numbers would be? 9 That data is readily available. I don't have it 10 A here. However, again, because we don't have a benchmark 11 for what is the appropriate level of cable, we only have a 12 benchmark for the lower bound, it's not really that useful, 13 because we don't know by how much to offset the minimum 14 shortage -- the minimum spanning tree shortage. 15 MR. MELSON. 16 That's all. Thank you. 17 18 BY MR. COX (Continuing): Good afternoon, Doctor Duffy-Deno. 19 0 Good afternoon. 20 А Will Cox on behalf of the Commission staff, and I 21 0 have just a couple of quick questions. 22 This exhaustive discussion you had on the minimum 23 spanning tree analysis, the last number that you gave for 24 BCPM was 43% under building, and that was based on when you 25

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1 looked at shortage including from the customer location to 2 the DLC; is that correct?

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A Correct, when we include the road centroid of the
4 ultimate grid as an additional node.

Q Okay.

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A And that was for the lowest density zone.

Q Okay.

8 A The less than five house housing units per square
 9 mile.

Q And you also stated that when you do the minimum spanning tree analysis, it didn't factor into play things such as geographic obstacles that might cause different routing; so, in fact, the 43% is probably an understatement of the under building; is that correct, or fair to say? This is just looking at the model, I understand that. It's an internal check that you have.

17 A To the extent that -- The answer -- I guess 18 the answer is, yes, to the extent that the appropriate 19 amount of plant needed is greater than the minimum spanning 20 tree amount, yeah. But, again, we don't know what thac 21 number is.

Q Okay. Given that, staff sees that as a fairly substantial percentage of under building based on that internal check of the minimum spanning tree analysis. What adjustments to BCPM should be made to correct for this

1 understatement of distribution plant as indicated by the 2 minimum spanning tree analysis?

3 A One point -- one thing that comes to mind is that one of the reasons that the Hatfield Model also understates 4 is because the cable -- Let me -- If I can put up my 5 overhead again, I can explain it better, I feel. One of 6 the reasons for the under build in the Hatfield Model was 7 the branch and backbone cable in the modeling, modeled area 8 was limited to within one lot depth and width of the 9 boundary of that modeled area. The same thing happens in 10 BCPM. So one adjustment that comes to mind is to, in 11 BCPM's road-reduced area, when the branch and backbone 12 cable is laid out, is to extend it to maybe to the 13 perimeter of that road-reduced modeled area instead of 14 within one lot depth, width and depth of that boundary. 15 Would that be considered a pre-processing 16 0 17 adjustment?

18 A No, it would be a change to the code itself in
 19 the Excel spreadsheets.

20 Q Is that something that the staff could perform? 21 A Certainly. And I'm sure the sponsor would be 22 happy to guide the staff in determining exactly what cells 23 should be changed and in what manner to achieve that 24 effect.

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Would you be the one for us to ask how

1 specifically to do that?

A It certainly can be asked through me. I would probably send it on to our coding experts to make sure we get you the right cell references.

5 Q Okay. What other adjustments might be made to 6 correct the problem?

A That's the only one that comes to mind, and I
8 would certainly direct that question to Doctor Staihr. He
9 might have some additional thoughts on that.

Q Thank you, Doctor Duffy-Deno

A You're welcome.

12 MR. COX: That concludes staff's questions.

CHAIRMAN JCHNSON: Commissioners?

14 (NO RESPONSE)

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15 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Redirect.

MR. CARVER: Yes, thank you, I have just a few redirect questions.

REDIRECT EXAMINATION

19 BY MR. CARVER (Continuing):

Q Doctor Duffy-Deno, early in the cross examination by Mr. Lamoureux there was a discussion that had to do with the possible use of geocoding in BCPM and I think you said that it might make sense to do that if it would be -- if it would result in a substantial increase in precision. I think -- I believe the figure you said was if the geocoding

rate was 80% or higher. Do you recall that? 1 I recall that discussion, yes. 2 А Okay. Let me ask you: Where do high-cost areas 3 0 4 tend to be? 5 My understanding and looking at the data, they A 6 tend to occur in the rural, low-density areas. Have you ever seen a rural, low-density area 7 0 where the geocode success rate was 80% or higher? 8 Not to my knowledge. 9 А Thank you. 10 0 Moving to a different area. If you could just 11 flip back to the national park example. I had one question 12 for you on that. Now I believe in that example when you 13 did the Hatfield portion of the location, I believe the 14 hypothetical was that Hatfield could geocode one customer 15 and the other two were placed at surrogate locations; is 16 that correct? 17 Yes, as I recall this example, we have a census 18 А block, and we were talking about this occurring within a 19 state park or a national forest, and we had three locations 20 identified by the census, and we were assuming for talking 21 purposes that one of those was accurately address geocoded 22 and the remaining two were going to be placed on the 23 boundary of the census block, according to the Hatfield 24 surrogate methodology, and I placed them, one there 25

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1 (indicates) and one there (indicates).

2 Q Now in that example, as to the two customer 3 locations that are placed on the census block boundary, how 4 close are those 'ikely to be to the actual customer 5 locations?

A Well, in this example here, and again, assuming
we have a very large census block, they could be fairly far
removed from their actual locations. With a sparsely
populated census block with few roads in it, people tend to
be located along the roads; and by placing customers on the
boundary, they could be pretty far indeed from where they
actually reside.

13 Q Just to clarify, in that particular example, 14 there is not a road on the boundary, is there?

A As I've drawn it, no; and there not necessarily
is a road on the boundary.

Q Okay. So assuming that's the case, those customers would be placed, it looks like, about half the distance of the census block off of the road running through it?

A As I've drawn it, yeah, a fairly far distance.
Q And the last thing I wanted to ask you about is a
slightly different area. Let's assume --

24 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: I'm sorry, Mr. Carver, what 25 was the point you were trying to make there? Because I

1 missed it completely.

2

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MR. CARVER: Okay.

3 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: And I'm sure there was 4 subtlety to it, and --

MR. CARVER: Well, the point I was trying to make 5 is that the two surrogate locations are in positions where 6 it's very unlikely that customers would ever be there 7 because they are at the boundary. There are no roads on 8 the boundary. The road runs down through the middle, so 9 they've located the customers, if it's a big census block, 10 a long way from the road that runs down the middle; so it's 11 an extremely unlikely location. Whereas, with BCPM, if the 12 customers are on the road, at least in a linear sense, you 13 are a little bit closer to where they would be in real 14 life. 15

16 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: I thought there was more 17 subtlety involved. Thank you.

18 MR. CARVER: It was a fairly broad ploy.
 19 BY MR. CARVER (Continuing):

Q The last point I wanted to make --

A If I can, Mr. Carver, following up on Commissioner Garcia's point, Mr. Lamoureux pointed out that we have an ultimate grid where BCPM identifies one location in which the satellite observations indicates there are no locations. I just want to make a follow-up point that that

1 is also possible in the Hatfield methodology as we have 2 shown here. Due to the surrogate placement, you could 3 place somebody on a census block boundary where indeed 4 there is nobody actually located there; so it is an 5 artifact of the modeling process.

6 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So it's a problem with 7 either model?

DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: Yes.

9 BY MR. CARVER (Continuing):

8

Q And the final question I would ask you, or series of questions is this: Let's assume that the Hatfield Model does successfully geocode a customer; that is, it geocodes the address of the customer on the road near the actual house, some distance from the actual house. Once it's done that, does Hatfield actually build plant -- and when I say build, I mean model plant -- to that location?

No, it doesn't. And the graphic that I just had 17 А up shows that. Once again, this irregular shape polygon 18 cluster is the PNR cluster that's formed out of the 19 geocoded, address geocoded and surrogate locations; and 20 just for talking purposes, suppose that point here is 21 address geocoded. The model does not build to that 22 location. What the model does is it builds to a serving 23 area such as this -- well, which is this rectangular 24 cluster which is used to determine the amount of cable 25

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1 needed to serve the customers in the underlying polygon 2 cluster.

Q So then in effect, at least for modeling
purposes, the customers would sort of be moved from where
PNR said they actually are to a different location?

6 A Conceptually, yes. The models don't spatially 7 move customers around. Customers are located in these 8 spatial locations. For modeling purposes though, you can 9 argue, well, the amount of cable estimated by the model 10 implies that the customers are located here rather than 11 here for modeling purposes.

Q Let me see if I can ask the question a little more precisely. Basically, the Hatfield Model would model the customer location as if it were somewhere other than where the customer really is?

16 A Yes, for purposes of estimating the amount of 17 cable, the customers are, for modeling purposes,

18 assigned -- or located here. That determines the amount of 19 cable.

Q Okay. And for purposes of my last question, I'm going to call this moving customers, although we understand that the customers aren't literally moved. We are talking about a difference in actual location and modeled

24 locations.

25

A Okay.

Q But in moving the customer from the clustered
 location to the location in the rectangle, is that distance
 significant that the customer is moved?

A It can be. It can be. In rural areas, these clusters tend to be large and sparsely populated; and also depending on the shape of the cluster, if you've got an oddly shaped polygon cluster, the transformation to a rectangle can bring about, in your terms, a fairly large movement of customers for modeling purposes.

Q And in rural areas, those clusters sometimes get
as big as 10, 15, 20 square miles; is that correct?
A Oh, yes. There are some, I think, upwards of 20

13 square miles.

Q So then the movement of the customer from their location in the polygon cluster to the location in the rectangle could be a movement of perhaps several miles or more?

18 A Possibly.

19 Q Thank you.

20 MR. CARVER: That's all I have.

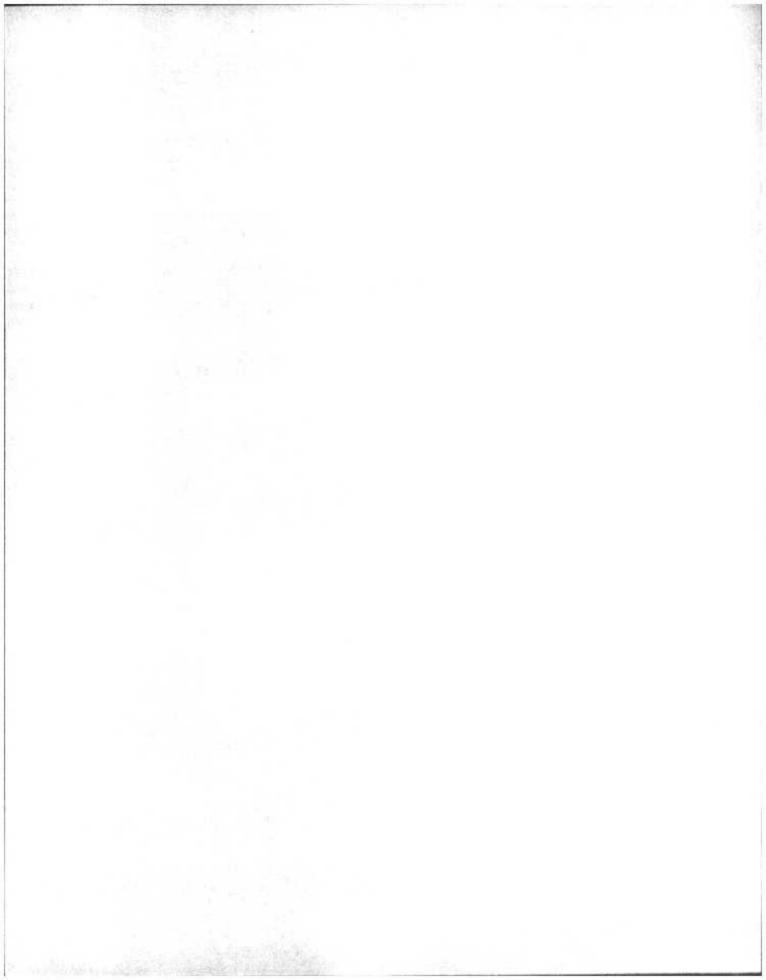
21 MR. COX: Chairman Johnson, there was one item 22 that the witness mentioned that he could provide us an 23 exhibit, and I had forgotten to mention it in my 24 questions. It was the MST analysis using the DLC 25 information, and we would ask if we could make that an

exhibit, if he could provide that as he suggested that he 1 could. 2 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay. We'll identify it as 3 49. It will be a late-filed. And what was a short title? 4 5 MR. COX: MST analysis using DLC information. DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: Good enough. Would you also 6 like the Hatfield results? 7 MR. COX: Yes, please. 8 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay. Exhibits. 9 MR. LAMOUREUX: Could I ask if we could include 10 within that just an answer to the question if that DLC 11 information includes the four points in the quadrant that 12 connect to the DLC. 13 DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: Certainly. And, again, 14 15 Doctor Staihr might be able to answer that for you. MR. LAMOUREUX: I'll ask him. 16 DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: Okay. 17 MR. CARVER: BellSouth moves 46 and 47. 18 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Shows those admitted without 19 objection. 20 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Staff. 21 MR. COX: Doctor Duffy-Deno, would that require a 22 late-filed for that exhibit, or do you have that 23 24 information with you? DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: I've got the -- I would like 25 C & N REPORTERS TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA (850) 697-8314

to do a check to make sure we've got accurate numbers. 1 MR. COX: Okay. So you would like to provide it 2 as a late-filed? 3 DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: Late-filed if I could. 4 MR. COX: Okay. So staff will just move item --5 6 Exhibit 48. DOCTOR DUFFY-DENO: And I don't have the Hatfield 7 numbers; it's only written down. I would like to get it in 8 a nice typed form for you. 9 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Show 48 admitted without 10 objection. Thank you. 11 Are we ready for --12 You may be excused. 13 Are we ready for Mr. Martin? 14 MS. KEYER: Yes. BellSouth calls its next 15 16 witness, Peter Martin. 17 18 19 20 21 Whereupon, PETER F. MARTIN 22 was called as a witness on behalf of BellSouth and, after 23 being duly sworn, testified as follows: 24 25 C & N REPORTERS TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA (850)697-8314

MS. KEYER: Q Would you please state your name and business ress? A My name is Peter F. Martin, and my business ress is 675 West Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia, 75. Q Mr. Martin, by whom are you employed and in what acity? A I'm employed by BellSouth Telecommunications as a sector in regulatory. Q Have you caused to be filed in this docket 10
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Q Have you caused to be filed in this docket lo
es of direct testimony with an exhibit titled "Revised
ibit RFM-1," and 14 pages of rebuttal testimony dated
tember 2nd, 1998?
A Yes, with the note that it should be PFM-1, not
-1.
Q Thank you.
Was this testimony prepared by you or at your
ection?
A Yes, it was.
Q Do you have any changes to either your direct or
uttal testimony?
A No, I do not.
Q Mr. Martin, if I were to ask you the same

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1	questions today as were asked in your direct and rebuttal
2	testimony, would your answers be the same?
3	A They would.
4	MS. KEYER: Madam Chairman, I move Mr. Martin's
5	direct and rebuttal testimony be inserted into the record
6	as if read and ask that Revised Exhibit PFM-1 be marked for
7	identification.
8	CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: The testimony will be inserted
9	into the record as though read, and PFM-1 will be marked as
10	Exhibit 50.
11	MS. KEYER: Thank you.
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BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. 1 REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF PETER F. MARTIN 2 BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION 3 DOCKET NO. 980696-TP 4 **SEPTEM JER 2, 1998** 5 6 I. INTRODUCTION 7 8 PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, ADDRESS AND POSITION WITH Q. 9 BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. (HEREINAFTER 10 11 REFERRED TO AS "BELLSOUTH" OR "THE COMPANY"). 12 My name is Peter F. Martin and I am employed by BellSouth as a Director in 13 Α. Regulatory. My business address is 675 West Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia 14 30375. 15 16 ARE YOU THE SAME PETER F. MARTIN WHO FILED DIRECT 17 Q. 18 TESTIMONY IN THS DOCKET? 19 Yes, I am. Α. 20 21 II. PURPOSE AND SUMMARY 22 23 WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY BEING FILED TODAY? Q. 24 25

 A. The purpose of my testimony is to rebut certain issues raised in Joseph Gillan's (Florida Competitive Carriers Association - "FCCA") and Richard Guepe's (AT/&T) direct testimonies.

Q. PLEASE COMMENT GENERALLY ON THE DIRECT TESTIMONY FILED ON AUGUST 3, 1998.

Mr. Gillan and Mr. Guepe have addressed matters outside the scope of this proceeding. BellSouth prepared its direct case in response to the issues as ordered 9 on July 24, 1998 as did most of the other parties. However, AT&T and the FCCA 10 have taken this opportunity to address issues that will necessarily be considered in 11 future proceedings by this Commission or the Legislature. The issues list for this 12 proceeding was very specific. Since the nature of the issues raised by AT&T and 13 FCCA bears directly on the establishment of a sufficient and explicit state 14 universal service fund, BellSouth must respond and I am compelled to address 15 these issues herein. Dr. William Taylor, of National Economic Research 16 Associates, Inc, also rebuts the testimony of Messrs. Guepe and Gillan. 17

The Commission need not address these parties' comments or BellSouth's replies
 on these outside matters at this time, but the Commission should hold these
 matters for the appropriate proceeding that will follow.

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Q. MR. GILLAN, AT PAGE 2 OF HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY, STATES THAT
 THE PRINCIPAL MOTIVATOR OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE IS PROFIT
 INCENTIVES. DO YOU AGREE?

Certainly not. The principal motivator of universal service is the public policy A. 1 goal of providing local telephone service to all consumers at an "affordable" rate. 2 Over the past few decades, state commissions have adopted local service rates to 3 consumers that are below the costs to provide such service and have further 4 required the local exchange companies to provide service to all consumers in their 5 service areas. This policy has resulted in a 94 percent penetration level 6 nationwide for telephone servic . Such a policy was sustainable in a monopoly 7 environment, but it will not work in a competitive environment when new entrants 8 can cherry pick the most profitable customers--those customers that have 9 traditionally provided support for basic local exchange service. 10 11 A fair and sustainable way to fund universal service in a competitive environment 12 must be established, one which does not fall only on the incumbent local 13 exchange company. Since universal service reform is revenue neutral to local 14 exchange companies upon implementation, there is no profit incentive to create a 15 universal service fund as Mr. Gillan alleges. 16 17 In addition, in a competitive environment, all telecommunications service 18 providers should pay their fair share to support the funding of universal service. 19 If implicit subsidies remain in one provider's rates but are not found in another's 20 rates, it is hardly competitively neutral. 21 22 Q. MR. GILLAN ALSO SUGGESTS IN HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY THAT THE 23 COSTS OF THE FAMILY OF RESIDENTIAL SERVICES SHOULD BE 24

COMPARED TO THE REVENUES PROVIDED BY THESE SERVICES TO DETERMINE THE NEED FOR A SUBSIDY (PAGE 3). DO YOU AGREE?

A. No. This misplaced suggestion would only continue the implicit subsidies currently in vertical services, toll, and other services in direct contravention to the intent of the 1996 Telecon..nunications Act ("Act") which directs that implicit subsidies be replaced by explicit subsidies. If implicit subsidies remain in an incumbent local exchange company's rates, competitive neutrality cannot be achieved. Support for consumers in high cost areas must be available to all eligible telecommunications companies, both large and small, from a universal service fund. This is only possible with a fund based upon explicit support from all telecommunications carriers. Neither competitive neutrality nor portability can be achieved as long as implicit subsidies remain in an incumbent local exchange carrier's (ILEC) rates.

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Also, Mr. Gillan's suggested analysis would not consider the significant number 16 of BellSouth's customers who do not purchase any discretionary services, and 17 therefore do not provide any contribution to universal service. Indeed, in its News 18 Release of August 14, 1998, AT&T indicated that it was instituting a \$3 minimum 19 monthly charge. According to AT&T, in any month, 15 percent of its new 20 customers spend less than \$3 per month. It is hypocritical to suggest that 21 incumbent local exchange companies should not be able to recover the cost of 22 providing basic service to its below cost customers when carriers like AT&T are 23 now imposing minimum charges on their customers in an effort to either recover 24 their costs or to drive their low revenue customers away. 25

1	Q.	IS MR. GILLAN'S RECOMMENDATION THAT THE COMMISSION
2		ADOPT A COST STUDY WHICH INCLUDES A "FAMILY OF SERVICES"
3		A REASONABLE INTERPRETATION OF FLORIDA STATUTE 364.025
4		(PAGE 3)?
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6	Α.	No. Florida Statutes 364.25 specifically states:
7		"Basic local telecommunications service" means voice-grade, flat-rate
8		residential, and flat-rate single-line business local exchange services
9		which provide dial tone, local usage necessary to place unlimited calls
10		within a local exchange area, dual tone multi-frequency dialing, and
11		access to the following: emergency services such as "911," all locally
12		available interexchange companies, directory assistance, operator
13		services, relay services, and an alphabetical directory listing. For a
14		local exchange telecommunications company, such term shall include
15		any extended area service routes, and extended calling service in
16		existence or ordered by the commission on or before July 1, 1995."
17		
18		The Florida Statute is specific and does not include optional calling, access
19		service and vertical services.
20		
21	Q.	DOES THE HAI MODEL INCLUDE "THE FULL COST OF THE LOOP AND
22		SWITCH TO PROVIDE ALL SERVICES THAT CAN BE FURNISHED TO
23		CONSUMERS" AS SUGGESTED BY MR. GUEPE AT PAGE 7?
24		

No. The HAI model only includes the cost for supported services. On page 1 of r the HAI Model Release 5.0a Model Description attached to Mr. Don Wood's 2 direct testimony, it states: "The HAI Model uses the definition of basic local 3 telephone service adopted by the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service 4 ("Joint Board") for universal service funding purposes." Mr. Guepe would have 5 you think that all the costs for his residential family of services is included in their 6 model when it is not. For example, the HAI model does not include variable costs 7 associated with providing access service. 8 9 MR. GILLAN FURTHER SUGGESTS IN HIS DIRECT TESTIMONY (AT Q. 10 PAGE 7) THAT IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO CONDUCT A COST STUDY 11 LIMITED TO "DIAL TONE" LOCAL SERVICE WITHOUT IMPLICATING 12 OTHER SERVICES. DO YOU AGREE? 13 14 No. The Benchmark Cost Proxy Model (BCPM), as well other cost proxy 15

models, are designed to estimate the cost of providing basic local service. Indeed,
 the criteria set out in the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Universal
 Service Order (para. 250) does not require the models to include or calculate the
 cost of other services in the model. Determination of the cost of other services is
 not necessary to calculate the cost of basic local telecommunications service. The
 local loop is not a shared cost as some would contend. Dr. Taylor addresses the
 concept of shared cost in his testimony.

23

24 25 Q. DO YOU AGREE WITH MR. GILLAN'S TESTIMONY AT PAGE 11 THAT THERE IS NO COMPETITION IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA? A cellular telephone is useless without the service provider. The cellular service provider will not give you the free phone unless you commit to a contract for some specified period of time. Thus, the cellular provider is assured of getting a certain level of revenues. In contrast, basic local telecommunications service is functional without any other services required and many of our customers do not purchase additional services. BullSouth cannot require that customers purchase basic service in combination with other services nor can it require subscribers to execute contracts which lock in customers for a period of time. Thus, unlike with the cellular packages, there is a significant likelihood that some customers will be unprofitable.

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Q. ARE THE REVENUES FROM TOLL, VERTICAL SERVICES AND ACCESS
 EVENLY DISTRIBUTED AMONG ALL CUSTOMERS, AND IF NOT, WHAT
 ARE THE IMPLICATIONS ON UNIVERSAL SERVICE?

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The revenues are not evenly distributed. We have found that 41 percent of 16 Α. BellSouth's residential customers in Florida take no vertical services. When you 17 include those residential customers who subscribe to only one vertical service the 18 percentage increases to 65 percent. Toll revenues are even more skewed. Indeed, 19 some 82% of BellSouth's residential customers make no intralata toll calls during 20 a month. Thus, a small subset of BellSouth's residential customers accounts for a 21 large share of discretionary revenues. It is these customers that competitors will 22 seek out. Competitors will not seek to serve those customers with minimal 23 discretionary service revenues. Competitors will leave these customers to the 24 incumbent LEC. Meanwhile, as the competitors win over the more lucrative 25

customers, the implicit subsidies available to support universal service will "shrink". Universal service in Florida will be jeopardized.

Q. WHAT SHOULD BE THE APPROPRIATE BENCHMARK FOR CALCULATION OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT AS OPPOSED TO THE BENCHMARK PROPOSED BY MR. GUEPE AT PAGE 14 OF HIS TESTIMONY?

9 A. The appropriate benchmark for universal service is the maximum rate for the
 services which comprise universal service including the subscriber line charge and
 mandatory EAS and zone charges. The inclusion of access, toll and vertical
 service revenue in the benchmark would only embed the implicit subsidies that
 are to be made explicit.

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In a book entitled Letting Go: Deregulating the Process of Deregulation, Dr. 15 Alfred Kahn makes the point that facilities based competition is doomed if the 16 subsidies for below cost services are insufficient. He states as follows: 17 As the [FCC] Commission explicitly recognizes, to its credit, the 18 competition that it is our national policy to encourage makes the 19 overpricing of the subsidizing services unsustainable. Moreover, the 20 way in which the Telecommunications Act and the FCC's interpretation 21 of it has proceeded to make those cross-subsidies unsustainable ensures 22 that competitors will not enter into the local markets on a facilities basis 23 unless the subsidies are sufficient to make up the difference between the 24

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1		suppressed rates and the incremental costs (or efficient prices) of
2		providing basic service itself. (Author emphasized with Italics.)
3		(Letting Go: Deregulating the Process of Deregulation, Alfred E. Kahn,
4		MSU Public Utilities Papers, 1998, page 128.)
5	15	CONTRACTOR TO THE STATE
6		Inflating the benchmark for universal service by including additional revenues
7	1323	other than those for balle local telecommunications service will create an
8		insufficient explicit subsidy. Besides violating the Act, Dr. Kahn notes that an
9		insufficient explicit subsidy will harm facilities-based competition.
10		
11	Q.	MR. GUEPE REPORTS THAT THE COST OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE FOR
12		BELLSOUTH IS \$680.6 MILLION WHICH EQUATES TO ONLY \$15.11 PER
13		RESIDENCE LINE PER MONTH (PAGE 12). PLEASE COMMENT.
14		
15	А.	These numbers do not pass the common sense test. If it only costs \$15.11 per
16		residence line per month in Florida then why isn't AT&T building out a network
17		in Florida and providing residential service? By constructing a facilities-based
18		network, AT&T could avoid paying access charges and provide the supported
19		services. The revenues it would collect would certainly exceed \$15.11 per line
20		(especially if vertical services are included, per AT&T's recommendation).
21		Indeed, the HAI Model shows costs of \$11.00 or less per month in some of the
22		Miami wire centers. Yet, AT&T is not providing residential basic service in any
23		of these wire centers. Last year, AT&T stopped its efforts to enter the residential
24		market after losing millions of dollars. If AT&T based its initial entry decision on
25		similarly unrealistically low cost figures, it may very well explain these losses.

Q. IN DEFENSE OF HIS POSITION, MR. GILLAN SUGGESTS THAT THE
 FLORIDA STATUTES ARE INCONSISTENT AND AMBIGUOUS IN
 REGARD TO THE DEFINITION OF "BASIC LOCAL
 TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE" (PAGES 16 AND 17). DO YOU
 CONCUR?
 A. No. The statute is clear and succinct. The difficulty is Mr. Gillan's twisted
 interpretation. The Florida Legislature has (1) specifically defined basic local

telecommunications service in Section 364.025 F. S., (2) requested the
 Commission to report on the cost of basic local telecommunications service by
 February 15, 1999, and (3) will use this information to establish a permanent
 universal service mechanism for the state. It is hard to imagine the instructions
 being any more clear and unambiguous.

IS IT APPROPRATE AS MR. GILLAN (PAGE 20) AND MR. GUEPE (PAGE
 10) ASSERT, TO USE THE SAME LEVEL OF AGGREGATION FOR
 MODELS WHICH DETERMINE UNE RATES AND UNIVERSAL SERVICE
 COSTS?

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A. No. First of all, the calculation of unbundled network elements rates is
determined by costing out the equipment and services necessary to provide certain
network elements from an ILEC to an ALEC. These company specific
calculations are based on costs that have historically been averaged across the
ILEC's study area in order to smooth the rates across all areas of the state.
Therefore, until rates (especially business rates) are rebalanced at the state level, it

is not appropriate to disaggregate costs for unbundled network elements to an area smaller than the study area. Business rates cannot be rebalanced until a sufficient universal service fund is established.

Second, the cost proxy model for universal service is predicated on the 5 assumptions of an efficient provider constructing a network using "total forward-6 looking cost, based upon the most recent commercially available technology and 7 equipment and generally accepted placement principles." The proxy models are 8 designed to calculate costs based on small geographic areas. The Legislature 9 correctly instructed the Commission to calculate these costs on a wire center 10 basis. Calculations at this level will better target necessary support and promote 11 efficient competitive entry of ALECs seeking universal service support by 12 limiting the area they must serve. 13

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Q. PLEASE COMMENT FURTHER ON MR GILLAN'S DISCUSSION OF THE
 GEOGRAPHIC BASIS OF CALCULATIONS FOR UNIVERSAL SERVICE
 AND UNES.

18

Mr. Gillan's arguments for consistency are self-serving and contradictory. On
 one hand, he argues that UNEs should be deaveraged for all wire centers (at page
 21) yet on the other, he argues that universal service costs should be calculated on
 a statewide level (at page 22). It would appear that Mr. Gillan is only interested
 in a wire center basis of calculation if it concerns UNEs. Determining support for
 universal service on a statewide basis would result in an insufficient fund. An
 insufficient fund will disincent ALECs from ever competing for rural and high

		01
	EY.	
1	Α.	Absolutely not. in this regard, the FCC adopted the principle of competitive
2		neutrality to ensure that it would show no preference to any provider. Universal
3		service support is fully portable to any eligible telecommunications company. It
4		is not a protected revenue source. AT&T is attempting to shield universal service
5		support from carriers in this proceeding since AT&T advocates that no universal
6		service support should be provided. U.ider AT&T's plan, no competition will
7		ever develop in rural and high cost areas since support will not be available to
8		new entrants.
9		
10	Q.	PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR TESTIMONY.
п		
12	Α.	This Commission should report to the Legislature the cost of universal service for
13		BellSouth as calculated by the BCPM 3.1 model with BellSouth inputs by wire
14		center. In addition, the testimony of Richard Guepe of AT&T and Joseph Gillan
15		of FCCA should be disallowed as I have outlined in this rebuttal testimony.
16		Similarly, rebuttal testimony contained herein that discusses Mr. Guepe's and Mr.
17		Gillan's direct testimony as well as Dr. Taylor's rebuttal testimony should be set
18		aside for a future proceeding on universal service.
19		
20	Q.	DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?
21		
22	Α.	Yes.
23		
24		
25		

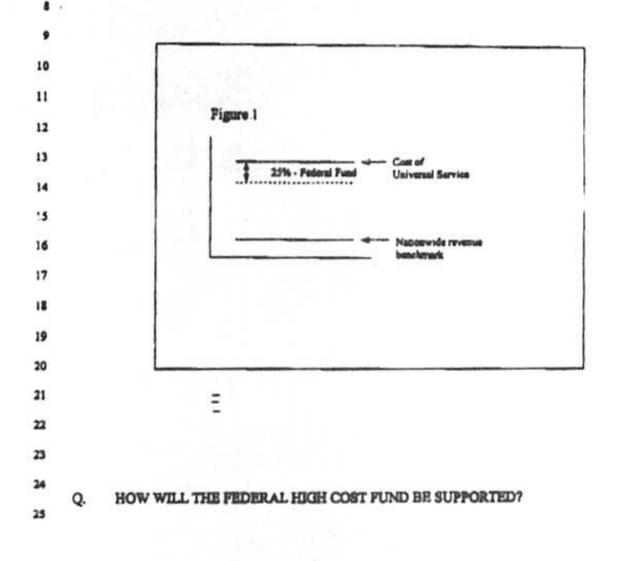
1		BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.	01133
2		DIRECT TESTIMONY OF PETER F. MARTIN	
3		BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION	
4		DOCKET NO. 980696-TP	
5			
6			
7		I. INTRODUCTION	
8	Q.	PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, ADDRESS AND POSITION WITH	
10	×.	BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. (HEREINAFTER	
11		REFERRED TO AS "BELLSOUTH" OR "THE COMPANY").	
12			
13	Α.	My name is Peter F. Martin and I am employed by BellSouth as a Director in	
14		Regulatory. My business address is 675 West Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia	
15		30375.	
16			
17	Q.	PLEASE GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF YOUR BACKGROUND AND	
18		EXPERIENCE.	
19			
20	Α.	I graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology with a P-chelor of Industria	l
21		Engineering Degree in 1981. I was awarded a Master of Business Administration	
22		Degree in 1988 from Georgia State University.	
23			
24		I began employment with Southern Bell in 1981 as an Outside Plant Engineer in	
25		Southeast Florida. I have held positions in the Revenue Requirements/Pricing and	

I.		Pricing and Economics organizations. From June of 1990 to September 1996, I
2		served in BellSouth as a Manager in Regulatory Policy and Planning. I have been
3		in my present position since September 1996.
4		
5	Q.	HAVE YOU TESTIFIED IN OTHER PLACES ON UNIVERSAL SERVICE?
6		
7	А.	Yes, I have testified in all nine BellSouth States. In addition, I was a panelist
8		before the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service during a workshop that
9		was held in January, 1997 on cost proxy models.
10		
п		II. PURPOSE AND SUMMARY
12		
13	Q.	WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY BEING FILED TODAY?
14		
15	Α.	My purpose is to address several critical issues surrounding the cost of basic local
16		telecommunications service as it relates to universal service. These issues are
17		outlined in the Commission's Order of July 24, 1998. Specifically, I address the
18		following issue numbers: 1, 2, 3, 5a, 5b, 6a and 6c.
19		
20		I also will review the federal universal service mechanism and provide this
21		Commission with the cost of universal service by wire center in BellSouth's
22		service area in Florida. This estimate is based on the cost model attached to Ms.
23		Daonne Caldwell's direct testimony.
24		
25		Ms. Caldwell will discuss the BellSouth specific inputs used in the BCPM 3.1.

			01135
1		model to calculate the forward-looking economic costs of providing universal	
2		service. Dr. Kevin Duffy-Deno and Dr. Bob Bowman will address various	
3		aspects of the BCPM 3.1 model.	
4			
5		It is important that this Commission select a cost proxy model that engineers a	
6		forward looking network that would actually transmit telephones calls in a quality	
7		manner, and that is based on realistic inputs or universal service itself could be	
8		jeopardized. While you sift through detailed arguments regarding the cost of	
9		universal service, please remember that the end result should be a sustainable and	
10		sufficient universal service fund as required by the Telecommunications Act of	
11		1996. Such an outcome will keep basic local rates in this state affordable for	
12		many more years to come.	
13			
14	Q.	WHAT SPECIFICALLY WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THIS COMMISSION	
15		DO?	
16			
17	Α.	I propose that the Commission adopt BellSouth's universal service cost	
18		calculations for submittal to the state legislature.	
19			
20	Q.	BEFORE YOU ANSWER THE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS SET OUT FOR	
21		COMMENTS, CAN YOU PROVIDE SOME BACKGROUND ON WHAT HAS	
22		OCCURRED AT THE FCC?	
23			
24	Α.	Yes.	
25			

2		III. THE FCC'S ORDER ON UNIVERSAL SERVICE
3		
4	Q.	WHAT HAS THE FCC DONE ON UNIVERSAL SERVICE?
5		
6	Α.	On May 8, 1997, the FCC issued its Report and Order in CC Docket No. 96-45.
7		In this Report and Order, the FCC adopted many of the recommendations set forth
8		by the Federal-State Joint Board on universal service. The FCC's Order put forth
9		a framework for how much high cost support will be provided from the Federal
10		High Cost Fund. It also provided details on the FCC's proposals for dealing with
11		schools, libraries, health care, and low income support.
12		
13	Q.	PLEASE DESCRIBE THE FCC'S MECHANISM FOR FUNDING HIGH COST
14		SUPPORT.
15		
16	Α.	The FCC's mechanism for funding high cost support provides explicit support for
17		a small part of the difference between the cost of providing universal service and
18		an FCC revenue benchmark. The FCC method is illustrated in Figure 1 below.
19		The FCC directed that the cost of universal service be calculated using a forward
20		looking cost proxy model, and that it be calculated for areas no larger than wire
21		centers. The cost is next compared to an FCC revenue benchmark. The federal
22		fund will then cover twenty-five percent (25%) of the difference between the cost
23		and the FCC revenue benchmark. If the cost for that area is less than the FCC
24		revenue benchmark, then the federal fund support for that area is zero.
25		

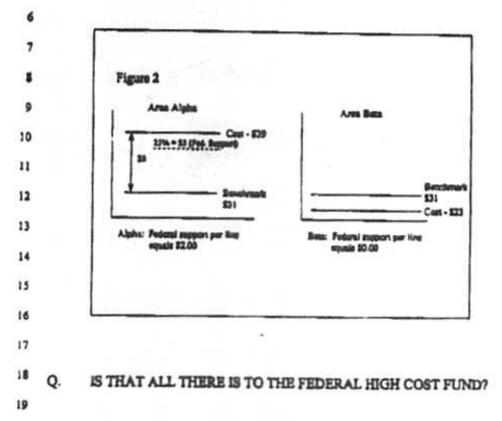
The FCC has tentatively chosen a \$31 revenue benchmark to calculate universal service support an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") would receive from the faderal fund. They could have chosen another benchmark to use in calculating federal support. However, by selecting a \$31 revenue benchmark and a 25/75% jurisdictional split between interstate and intrastate, the FCC effectively has limited federal universal support and left the states to deal with supporting the rest.



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1	Α.	All interstate service providers will contribute to the fund based on their	
2		nationwide share of interstate revenues received from end users. Access revenue	
3		and other wholesale revenue are excluded from this calculation.	
4			
5	Q.	WHAT DO LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANIES ("LECS") DO TO REFLECT	
6		THE SUPPORT THEY RECEIVE FROM THE FEDERAL FUND?	
7			
8	Α.	The FCC will require that LECs make adjustments to their interstate access prices	
9		to reflect the net amount of support they will receive from the federal universal	
10		service fund. The net amount of support is equal to the amount that BellSouth's	
11		receipts from the fund exceed BellSouth's contribution to the fund. Thus,	
12		implementation of the Federal Universal Service Fund will be revenue neutral to	
13		the LECs on day one. LECs reduce their prices by the net amount of funding they	
14		receive from the universal service fund.	
15			
16	Q.	CAN YOU PROVIDE SOME EXAMPLES OF HOW THE FEDERAL	
17		MECHANISM WILL WORK?	
18			
19	Α.	Certainly. Assume that there is a company that serves two census block groups	
20		(CBGs) called Alpha and Beta. A cost model, which the FCC has promised to	
21		designate by the end of this year, will calculate the monthly per line cost of	
22		universal service as \$39.00 in Alpha and as \$23.00 in Beta. These costs are then	
23		compared to the FCC revenue benchmark, which is tentatively set at \$31.00 for	
24		residential lines. This is illustrated in Figure 2. In area Alpha, the difference	
25		between the monthly cost and the benchmark is \$8.00. Under the FCC's	

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mechanism, the FCC will provide twenty-five percent (25%) of this amount, or \$2.00, is monthly support to any ETC that provides universal solvice in this area. In area Bets, the cost is less than the benchmark, so the FCC's mechanism does not provide any support out of the federal fund.



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A. Yes. Conceptually, it is a simple framework, and it should be relatively easy to
 construct a state-high cost fund that will fit well with the federal fund. To do so,
 the Florida Commission should first adopt a reasonable cost proxy model, such as
 the BCPM 3.1. The Florida Commission should then have a proceeding to deal
 with the remaining universal service issues so that it can establish a Florida
 Universal Service Fund.

7

2	Q.	HASN'T THE FCC REFERRED MANY OF THE ABOVE ISSUES BACK TO
3		THE JOINT BOARD, AND WHAT WILL BE THE IMPACT OF CHANGES IN
4		THE FCC'S APPROACH?
5		
6	Α.	On July 17, 1998, the FCC referred several issues back to the Federal-State Joint
7		Board for consideration. Such issues as the 25% federal factor and the revenue
8		assessment base were sent back to the Joint Board. It is certainly possible that
9		changes to the federal mechanism will result from this referral. However, the
10		focus of this proceeding (the cost of universal service) is unaffected by the FCC's
11		referral of issues back to the Joint Board.
12		
13		
14		IV. THE NEED FOR A STATE HIGH COST FUND
15		
16	Q.	DOES THE CREATION OF A FEDERAL FUND NEGATE THE NEED FOR A
17		STATE HIGH COST FUND?
18		
19	Α.	No, it does not. The federal fund only deals with a small part of the implicit
20		support that is currently built into LEC rates. State universal service support
21		mechanisms will need to deal with the remainder of the implicit universal service
22		support. The FCC recognized this fact in its Access Reform Order, wherein it
23		strongly encouraged states to identify and address the amount of implicit support
24		built into intrastate rates. In a speech given by William Kennard on February 9,
25		1998 to the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates, the FCC

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1		Chairman said that "states have an obligation to take all reasonable steps as
2		promptly as possible to reform existing intrastate universal service support
3		mechanisms to make them compatible with competitive local markets by making
4		the subsidies explicit and portable." The United States Congress also recognized
5		the need for state funding mechanisms. Indeed, one of the principles set forth in
6		the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("the Act") is that "[t]here should be
7		specific, predictable and sufficient federal and state mechanisms to preserve and
8		advance universal service." (47 U.S.C. Section 254(b)(5)) In fact, Section 254(f)
9		of the Communications Act requires that "Every telecommunications carrier that
10		provides intrastate telecommunications services shall contribute, on an equitable
u		and nondiscriminatory basis, in a manner determined by the State to the
12		preservation and advancement of universal service in that State."
13		
14		Finally, Chapter 364 .025(4)(b), Florida Statues, requires this Commission to
15		report on the cost of universal service to the Legislature by February 15, 1999 in
16		order for the Legislature to establish a permanent universal service mechanism.
17		
18	Q.	CAN RATES THAT CURRENTLY PROVIDE IMPLICIT SUPPORT FOR
19		UNIVERSAL SERVICE BE SUSTAINED IN A COMPETITIVE
20		ENVIRONMENT?
21		=
22	A.	No. Competitors will target customers who currently provide the most implicit
23		support. They will target high revenue business customers, and those residential
24		customers that purchase considerable amounts of vertical and/or toll services.
25		Competitors will market their services only to these high margin ILEC customers

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1		and leave the remaining high cost customers to the incumbent LEC. Indeed, even
2		AT&T and MCI agree that implicit subsidies are not sustainable in a competitive
3		environment (ATT, Dr. Kaserman Direct Testimony, NC Docket No. P-100, Sub
4		133B, Page 9, "the system is unsustainable in a competitive market
5		environment. Where they are allowed to operate, market forces will inexorably
6		eliminate cross-subsidies."; MCI, Dr. Cabe Direct Testimony, KY Admin. Case
7		No. 360, page 13, " competition in local and intralata toll markets can be
8		expected to drive the prices of vertical and toll services below levels that have
9		been sustainable in the historically monopoly environment.").
10		
п	Q.	DOES BELLSOUTH HAVE A PROPOSAL FOR A STATE UNIVERSAL
12		SERVICE FUND?
13		
14	А.	Yes. However, since this proceeding is narrowly focused on the cost of universal
15		service, I will save discussion of BellSouth's proposal for a future proceeding.
16		
17	Q:	FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING THE COST OF BASIC LOCAL
18		TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE APPROPRIATE FOR ESTABLISHING
19		A PERMANENT UNIVERSAL SERVICE MECHANISM, WHAT IS THE
20		APPROPRIATE COST PROXY MODEL TO DETERMINE THE TOTAL
21		FORWARD-LOOKING COST OF PROVIDING BASIC LOCAL
22		TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 364.025
23		(4)(b), FLORIDA STATUTES? (ISSUE 2)
24		

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1	A:	The BCPM 3.1 model is the appropriate cost proxy model for determining the
2		total forward-looking cost of providing basic local telecommunications service. It
3		was designed for this purpose and meets the ten criteria set out in the FCC's
4		Universal Service Order of May 8, 1997. BellSouth has run the BCPM 3.1
5		model for Florida and the results for BellSouth's territory by wire center are
6		attached as Exhibit PFM-1. BellSouth recommends that the Commission use the
7		BCPM 3.1 model with the inputs recommended by BellSouth for calculating the
8		total forward looking cost of basic local telecommunications service for
9		BellSouth.
10		
11		
12		V. ISSUES LIST
13		
14	Q:	WOULD YOU NOW SPECIFICALLY DISCUSS THE OTHER ISSUES
15		PARTICULAR TO THIS DOCKET?
16		
17	A:	Yes.
18		
19	Q.	WHAT IS THE DEFINITION OF THE BASIC LOCAL
20		TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE REFERRED TO IN SECTION
21		364.025(4)(B)? (ISSUE 1)
22		
23	Α.	Basic local telecommunications service is defined in Florida Statute 364.02 (2)
24		which states:

i.		"Basic local telecommunications service" means voice-grade, flat-rate
2		residential, and flat-rate single-line business local exchange services
3		which provide dial tone, local usage necessary to place unlimited calls
4		within a local exchange area, dual tone multifrequency dialing, and
5		access to the following: emergency services such as "911," all locally
6		available interexchange companies, directory assistance, operator
7		services, relay services, and an alphabetical directory listing. For a
		local exchange telecommunications company, such term shall include
8		any extended area service routes, and extended calling service in
9		
10		existence or ordered by the commission on or before July 1, 1995.
11		
12		
13	Q.	FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING THE COST OF BASIC LOCAL
14		TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE APPROPRIATE FOR ESTABLISING A
15		PERMANENT UNIVERSAL SERVICE MECHANISM, SHOULD THE
16		TOTAL FORWARD-LOOKING COST OF BASIC LOCAL
17		TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PURSUANT TO SECTION
18		364.025(4)(b), FLORIDA STATUTES, BE DETERMINED BY A COST
19		PROXY MODEL ON A BASIS SMALLER THAN A WIRE CENTER? IF SO,
20		ON WHAT BASIS SHOULD IT BE DETERMINED? (ISSUE 3)
21		
22	Α.	Initially, the forward-looking cost of basic local telecommunications should be
23		calculated at the wire center level. Current telecommunications providers capture
24		data at this level of aggregation on a standardized basis. Therefore, a wire center

basis for cost calculation would be less burdensome initially than going to a more targeted area of measure like a census block group (CBG).

However, the Commission's goal should be to move the basis of support 4 calculations from a wire center to a CBG basis (a smaller geographic area) for two 5 reasons. First, small yeas more accurately target universal service support to 6 areas with high costs. Within a wire center, costs can vary greatly. By choosing a 7 smaller area (a CBG), the accuracy of calculations are greater than when numbers 8 are aggregated to the wire center level. Second, choosing small areas not only as 9 the basis for universal service support but also as the basis for designating service 10 areas for ETCs enables new competitive entrants to compete as an ETC and 11 receive universal service support, without having to serve an extended service 12 area (such as a wire center). 13

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Q. FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING THE COST OF BASIC LOCAL
 TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE APPROPRIATE FOR ESTABLISHING
 A PERMANENT UNIVERSAL SERVICE MECHANISM, FOR WHICH
 FLORIDA LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANIES MUST THE COST OF BASIC
 LOCAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE BE DETERMINED USING
 THE COST PROXY MODEL IDENTIFIED IN ISSUE 2? (ISSUE 5A)

A. The FCC stated in paragraph 232 of its Universal Service Order that a cost proxy
 model should be used when calculating the forward-looking economic cost for
 non-rural LECs. The non-rural LECS operating in Florida are BellSouth, Sprint,
 and GTE.

=

2		The FCC has decided that rural carriers would not use forward looking economic
3		cost models until further review by the FCC and not prior to January 1, 2001.
4		Further, the FCC states that rural carriers would be gradually transitioned from the
5		current mechanism to a forward-looking economic cost model.(para. 203)
6		BellSouth believes that the bifurcated approach set out by the FCC (i.e treat
7		non-rural and rural companies separately) is reasonable for use in Florida.
18		
9	Q.	FOR EACH OF THE LECS IDENTIFIED IN (5A), WHAT COST RESULTS
10		FROM USING THE INPUT VALUES IDENTIFIED IN ISSUE 4 IN THE COST
11		PROXY MODEL IDENTIFIED IN ISSUE 2? (ISSUE 5B)
12		
13	Α.	The forward-looking costs for BellSouth from the BCPM 3.1 are attached in
14		Exhibit PFM-1. It provides the cost by wire center for BellSouth's designated
15		service area. These costs are based on the forward-looking inputs as provided in
16		Ms. Daonne Caldwell's direct testimony.
17		
18	Q.	FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING THE COST OF BASIC LOCAL
19		TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE APPROPRIATE FOR ESTABLISHING
20		A PERMANENT UNIVERSAL SERVICE MECHANISM, SHOULD THE
21		COST OF BASIC LOCAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE FOR EACH
22		OF THE LECS THAT SERVE FEWER THAN 100,000 ACCESS LINES BE
23		COMPUTED USING THE COST PROXY MODEL IDENTIFIED IN ISSUE 2
24		WITH THE INPUT VALUES IDENTIFIED IN ISSUE 4? (ISSUE 6A)
25		

			01147
1	Α.	No.	
2			
3	Q.	IF NOT, FOR EACH OF THE FLORIDA LECS THAT SERVE FEWER THAN	1
4		100,000 ACCESS LINES, WHAT APPROACH SHOULD BE EMPLOYED TO	í.
5		DETERMINE THE COST OF BASIC LOCAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS	
6		SERVICE AND WHAT IS THE RESULTING COST? (ISSUE 6C)	
7			
. 8	Α.	The Commission should refrain at this time from using a cost proxy model for	
9		LECs serving fewer than 100,000 access lines. These carriers should generally	
10		fall into the definition of "rural LECs", and as such should use embedded costs in	i.
11		determining the cost of basic local telecommunications service. This	
12		methodology is consistent with the FCC's determination in their Universal	
13		Service Order.	
14			
15		XV. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION	
16			
17	Q.	PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR TESTIMONY.	
18			
19	Α.	It is critically important that this Commission get the cost of universal service	
20		right. Consumers will be ill served if the costs are underestimated. The BCPM	
21		cost model is an excellent tool for calculating the cost of universal service. The	
22		inputs that BellSouth recommends be used in the model are both "real world" in	
23		nature and representative of what an efficient provider would incur in building a	
24		forward looking network capable of providing high quality basic local exchange	
25		service. BellSouth's cost estimations should be approved by this Commission for	

1	submittal to the Florida Legislature, and for subsequent use in the establishment
2	of a state universal service fund.
3	
4	Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?
5	
6	A. Yes, it does.
7	
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1 BY MS. KEYER (Continuing):

2 Q Mr. Martin, have you prepared a summary of your 3 testimony?

1149

A Yes.

4

5 Q Would you please provide the commissioners with 6 that summary?

7 A Yes. Good afternoon. I am here today on behalf of BellSouth Telecommunications to propose the adoption of 8 BellSouth's universal service cost calculations for 9 submittal to the state legislature. In the Commission's 10 July 24th, 1998, order, a list of issues was identified to 11 assist the Commission in its obligation to report to the 12 legislature by February 15th of next year the cost of basic 13 local telecommunication service in Florida. 14

In this docket, the Commission focuses on the cost of universal service in order to meet this obligation. Subsequent dockets will need to be established to consider the remaining issues related to the establishment of a permanent universal service fund.

This docket is a critical first step in the Commission and legislature's work in establishing a permanent universal service mechanism. If the cost of basic local service is not accurately estimated, then the state universal service fund cannot be correctly sized. The end result of this and subsequent proceedings should be

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a sustainable and sufficient universal service fund as
 required by the Telecommunications Act of '96. Such an
 outcome will keep local rates in this state affordable for
 many years to come.

Now before I get to the issues that were put out 5 for comment, I need to note that at least one party went 6 well beyond the clearly defined issues list. The 7 Commission was quite clear on the issues to be addressed in 8 this proceeding. Those issues are obviously related to the 9 task set out by the legislature, which was to determine the 10 cost of basic local exchange service. However, AT&T chose 11 to go beyond the issues list and discuss the revenue 12 benchmark they believe to be appropriate. While I believe 13 this issue would be more appropriately addressed in a 14 future proceeding, I will simply note that AT&T's position 15 is at odds with the fully competitive marketplace. 16

AT&T says that all residential revenues should be 17 included in the calculation of the revenue benchmark; 18 however, this position ignores the reality that many 19 customers don't buy vertical services or intraLATA toll 20 services. These customers will not be sought after by 21 competitors unless universal service support makes up for 22 the difference between the cost of basic local exchange 23 service and the revenues received from it. 24

25

AT&T's proposal also violates competitive

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1 neutrality for the incumbent LEC or ILEC. The ILEC will 2 still be expected to serve customers who don't cover their 3 costs. Such a position will not be tenable in a 4 competitive marketplace. It is interesting to note the 5 hypocrisy in AT&T's position since they recently announced 6 a minimum \$3 montaly charge to ensure all customers, all 7 new customers at least cover their cost.

Now I'll go back and discuss the specific issues 8 on the Commission's issue list. The first issue in this 9 docket is the definition of basic local telecommunications 10 service referred to in Section 364.025(4)(b). The 11 statutory definition is clear and succinct. The definition 12 of basic local telecommunications service can be summarized 13 as dial tone service. Most parties are using this 14 definition. 15

The only party who seems to have trouble 16 understanding this definition is Mr. Gillan on behalf of 17 the FCCA. He tries to cloud this simple matter by saying 18 that basic local telecommunications services really refers 19 to a family of services, including vertical and toll 20 services. He does this in support of his position on the 21 size of the fund. The statute is clear on the definition 22 of basic local telecommunications service, and it does not 23 include vertical, toll or access services. I recommend we 24 use the definition spelled out in the statute. 25

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The next issue is what is the appropriate cost 1 proxy model to determine the total forward-looking cost of 2 providing basic local telecommunications service. 3 BellSouth supports the adoption of the BCPM 3.1 model with 4 company-specicic inputs as provided in Ms. Daonne 5 Caldwell's testimony. The BCPM model with BellSouth 6 recommended inputs provides a total forward-looking cost of 7 basic telecommunications service provided in BellSouth's 8 9 service area.

On the other hand, the cost submitted by AT&T and 10 MCI calculated via the HAI model using their recommended 11 inputs should not be adopted. The results do not pass the 12 common-sense test. For example, the HAI sponsors say it 13 cost less than \$11 per line in several of the Miami wire 14 centers. That is less than the revenue received via basic 15 rates in the subscriber line charge. According to their 16 17 own study, AT&T could make money in these wire centers even from customers who only get basic dial tone. Yet, to the 18 best of my knowledge, AT&T is not providing residential 19 service in any of these markets. The action or lack 20 thereof by AT&T makes the point quite clearly that their 21 model and inputs understate the cost of providing basic 22 23 local service.

24The last issue is whether the forward-looking25cost of basic local telecommunications service should be

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determined on a basis smaller than a wire center.
Initially, the cost should be determined at the wire center
level due to the availability of such data; however, in the
future, the cost in the associated universal service
support should be determined on an even smaller basis to
better target universal service support since costs can
vary greatly even within a wire center.

Also, choosing small areas not only as the basis 8 9 for universal service support but also as the basis for designating service areas for eligible telecommunications 10 11 carriers or ETCs enables new competitive entrants to compete as an ETC and receive universal service support 12 without having to serve an extended service area such as a 13 wire center. AT&T proposed the support be calculated at 14 the statewide level. Such an approach is at odds with the 15 local competition envisioned by the Telecommunications Act 16 of '96. New entrants would not receive universal service 17 support under AT&T's approach since calculations would be 18 19 aggregated to the statewide level. Thus, new entrants would never have an incentive to serve and enter the rural 20 and high cost areas. Targeting universal service 21 calculations in designated service areas for ETCs on a 22 basis at least as small as a wire center minimizes barriers 23 to competitive entry and maximizes competitive 24 opportunities for viable market entry. 25

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In conclusion, BellSouth recommends that this 1 Commission select the BCPM 3.1 cost model and for 2 BellSouth's serving area use the inputs recommended by 3 BellSouth. That combination will provide a good estimate 4 of the cost of basic local exchange service as requested by 5 6 the Florida legislature. Thank you. MS. KEYER: Madam Chairman, Mr. Martin is now 7 available for cross. 8 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: Okay. 9 MR. COKER: Thank you, Madam Chairman. 10 CROSS EXAMINATION 11 BY MR. COKER: 12 Mr. Martin, my name is Gene Coker, I represent 13 0 AT&T. 14 A Good afternoon. 15 Can you tell me what revisions you made to your 0 16 exhibit? 17 Yes. I reflected new costs that were calculated А 18 by our cost group. Ms. Caldwell can go into the actual 19 20 cost changes. I understand the staff found an input that needed to be revised. I simply reflected the new costs 21 that were provided to me by our costing group. 22 Q Was the impact of that change to increase or 23 24 decrease the cost? I'd have to check. I know that it was an average 25 A C & N REPORTERS TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA (850) 697-8314

1 impact of nine cents a line. I don't remember if it went 2 up or down, but it wasn't very significant either way. The 3 original was 32.40 per line, and this new one is 32.31, so 4 it went down by nine cents a line on average.

5 Q At Fage 9 of your testimony you point out that 6 implicit subsidies cannot continue in a competitive 7 environment. Are the subsidies that you are referring to 8 there the subsidies that are necessary to support basic 9 local service?

10 A Implicit subsidies, yes, that's the extent to 11 which basic local exchange service, the cost exceeds the 12 revenue.

Q And would you agree that the size of the universal service fund, once it's determined by the Commission, that will determine -- that will define the amount of subsidy that is necessary to support universal service; is that correct?

A Could you say that again?

18

19 Q Yes. Once the Commission decides what the size 20 of the universal service fund should be, that defines the 21 amount of subsidy that's necessary to support universal 22 service?

A I think if the Commission looks at the total
difference between the rates and the costs for basic local
exchange service, I think you're right. They would define

1 the amount of the, subsidy and that would be the amount in 2 the universal service fund.

Q And once the size is determined, by definition, then there would be no other subsidies in other rates that would be necessary to support universal service; would you agree with that?

7 A If they dealt with the total amount of subsidies,
8 there would be no subsidies left to be dealt with. You
9 would have taken care of the universal service problem and
10 made it explicit.

11 Q Do you know what share of the market BellSouth 12 has for basic residential service in its service territory?

A In Florida I believe it's over 99%.

13

Q On Page 6 of your direct, your direct testimony, you have a discussion there about what's going on at the FCC -- this is at lines 8 through 14 -- with regard to what the LECs will do to reflect what they would receive from a universal service fund. And you mention in that particular part of your testimony that the LECs would reflect a net amount. Can you explain that please?

A Yes. What that means is, and this is already begun by really -- It will continue next year. All that means is that we simply reflect the net amount of support received. So if BellSouth, for example, were to receive a hundred fillion dollars from the federal fund but we had to

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1157 pay in 50 million dollars, we would net 50 million dollars; 1 and then our rates would have to be -- interstate access 2 rates would have to be reduced by 50 million dollars. 3 4 We'll propose something similar for a state funding 5 mechanism wheneve, we get to that point. Well, if BellSouth paid in a hundred million and 6 0 7 received from the fund a hundred million, the net effect would be zero; is that correct? 8 Well, you'd also have to account for the fact 9 А that we will be paying into the fund, and we have to have a 10 way to recover that. 11 Well, the net effect would be zero? 12 0 The net effect of this should be zero in total on 13 А the revenues. 14 All right. In that case you would not have any 15 0 offsetting rate adjustments; is that right? 16 17 A Only if we --18 0 If you net? No, that's not correct. The only way that would 19 A be correct is if we paid in exactly as much as we received, 20 and the chances of that happening would be astronomically 21 22 small. Well, perhaps you didn't understand my question 23 0 or I may not have made it as clear as I could. What my 24 question was, if you paid in a hundred million and received 25 C & N REPORTERS TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA (850) 697-8314

1 a hundred million, the net effect -- under those

2 circumstances, the net effect would be zero and there would 3 be no rate adjustment?

A Yeah, I agree. The chances of that happening are
 5 pretty small, but you're right.

Q Well, if that were the case and there is no rate
adjustments, we would have a hundred-million-dollar
universal service fund with no rate adjustments, and my
question is does that meet the requirement that universal
service report should be made explicit in your view?

A I believe it does. The FCC believes it meets the explicit mandate. I will say the FCC is also looking at possibly moving that out and having customers use a surcharge type approach. The joint board is considering this now, and I think that would be a positive change; but even if that change is not made, yes, I believe it would meet the explicit mandate of the Act.

Q And how would that be explicit?

18

A All carriers would know what their obligation is to provide -- to support universal service. They would have a defined amount that they would have to pay into the fund, and that's different from the old environment where only the ILEC was having to support universal service, so competitive local exchange carriers will also have to contribute to the federal fund.

Q But in that case, isn't it true that you would be recovering it through revenues you have built into your current rates?

A That's true. That doesn't violate the explicit
5 mandate of the Act in my layman's opinion.

Q You mention in your summary that you were
recommending that the cost be determined on a wire center
basis initially and then move to a census block group
later. When you go to a -- generally speaking, the census
block groups are smaller areas; is that correct?

A That's correct.

11

15

Q And when you move to the smaller areas, doesn't that result in a larger universal service fund than if you did it on a wire center basis?

A Generally, yes, it does.

I'd like to move now to your rebuttal testimony 16 0 17 at Page 6. There you mention that the HAI model doesn't include variable cost of access. Is it possible you could 18 be wrong about that as far as this proceeding is concerned? 19 From what I heard from Don Wood yesterday, it 20 A sounds like he may have made a change. I was relying on 21 MCI testimony from Kentucky where Tom Hyde said that it 22 does not include variable cost of access, so I was relying 23 on an MCI witness's testimony. I heard yesterday Don Wood 24 said he did factor in some of those costs, so maybe they've 25

updated the model. 1 Were you in the room today when he made that 2 0 3 statement again? I was. I also reviewed his test mony last night 4 A and in no place in his testimony did he say he included 5 6 those costs. In fact, I think he resubmitted those cost 7 studies, I heard today, because he originally did not 8 include them. And that was on August 18th; is that right? 9 0 I don't remember the exact date. 10 A August 19th, I think it was. 0 11 On Page 8 of your rebuttal, you mention there and 12 we heard earlier, I think yesterday, that BellSouth has 41% 13 of its residential customers that did not subscribe to 14 vertical services. What do you include in vertical 15 services? 16 Vertical services includes such services as 17 А three-way calling, speed calling, those type of class type 18 services, basically discretionary type services. It does 19 not include toll services. 20 Does it include caller ID? 21 0 I believe it does. A 22 And the 82% figure that you have there, does that 23 0 include -- how do you classify the calling in the expanded 24 calling area? 25 TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA (850)697-8314 C & N REPORTERS

A I believe expanded local calling service revenues are classified as local, so we are only looking at revenues classified as toll.

Q And over what period of time does this 82% figure apply? Is that looking at it at one month or a 12-month period or how long?

......

7

25

A I'll have to see if I have that time frame. (WITNESS REVIEWED DOCUMENTS)

A I think I have that in here. I'll have to check
that. I don't know the exact time frame.

I guess the important question is, regardless of 11 0 what numbers you have for various services, can you tell us 12 what percent of your residential customers subscribe only 13 to basic residential service? And by that I mean those 14 that, for which you have listed the rates on your exhibit. 15 I don't -- I haven't been able to mesh those two 16 A figures I gave you earlier, the 41% and the 80 some odd 17

18 percent. I don't know exactly what percentage of 19 residential customers only get basic dial tone.

20 Q Is that something that you could provide as a 21 late-filed exhibit?

A I'll have to check with my billing folks. If we can do it, we can provide it. I can't commit a hundred percent right here. We'll make an effort to do that.

Q At Page 9 of your rebuttal testimony, you talk

1 about the appropriate revenue benchmark should be the 2 maximum rate changed for basic residential service. Again, 3 those are the 1 Los that are shown on your Exhibit 1; is 4 that correct?

5 A Yes, with the caveat that you possibly should 6 also include the revenues from extended calling service 7 area plans to the extent they were in effect before, I 8 guess, what was it, July of '95. Whatever is in the 9 definition of basic local exchange service as defined by 10 the Commission, but primarily you would include the basic 11 dial tone charges.

12 Q And in addition to that, you would include the 13 subscriber line charge, wouldn't you?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And why is that appropriate?

16 A That's appropriate because that's a rate received 17 from the end user, and it's associated with his purchase of 18 basic service.

19 Q And what about the PIXC charge, do you know what 20 the PIXC charge is?

21 A Yes, I do.

22

Q Can you explain that?

A Yes, the PIXC charge is the presubscribed
interexchange carrier charge, or PIXC, and what that is,
it's a certain amount per line that generally the local

exchange carrier bills to the interexchange carrier, and
 then they pay that to the local exchange carrier.

Q And is it your understanding it's 53 cents for the first line and a dollar 50 cents for the second line? A That sounds right.

6 Q Shouldn't these be included in the revenue 7 benchmark as well?

No, they shouldn't, and the reason is that they 8 Α are not being paid by the end user. They are being paid by 9 interexchange carriers, and that's an intermediate party; 10 so, again, it's providing an incentive for the 11 interexchange carrier to find another way to get to the 12 customer. We think that you should look at all the 13 revenues received from the end user, but you shouldn't look 14 at things such access charges or PIXC charges, which is the 15 form of an access charge. 16

17 Q Isn't the PIXC charge a flat rate charge that 18 BellSouth is entitled to when a subscriber subscribes to 19 basic local service?

A We collect PIXC charge -- To the extent customer gets service from us, we are able to get this PIXC charge. I should also note, and one thing we are leaving out here, is under BellSouth's proposal -- and we are really not getting into our full proposal here, but we do recommend, of course, that you back out any support

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received from the federal universal service mechanism. And 1 I think there is a good chance that when the FCC finally 2 ends up dealing with universal service -- there are a lot 3 of unresolved issues -- but I think when they finally do 4 5 that, you'll see the PIXC charge possibly being eliminated and being replaced by a federal universal service charge; 6 7 and when that happens, I think we'll have this effect that 8 you're looking for.

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9 Q I'd like to refer to your Revised Exhibit 1
10 please. In that exhibit, roughly in the middle of the
11 page, the right side middle, you have two columns for
12 residence flat rate and business flat rate. These are the
13 maximum rates for basic residential service and single line
14 flat rate business; is that correct?

A Yes, that's my understanding.

16 Q Is this -- and then there is a third column 17 there, the SLC, the subscriber line charge; is that 18 correct?

19 A Yes, that's correct.

15

Q And what issues were you trying to address in this proceeding by placing that information in this exhibit?

A No real issue. We were just showing some
 information here. We had done exhibits in other states
 where we showed this kind of information and, you know, we

1	could have left this off. It doesn't really add anything				
2	here since we're not testifying at this point on the size				
3	of the fund.				
4	Q Okay. This is basically what you propose to be				
5	your revenue benchmark; is that right?				
6	A No, that's not correct. I was trying to stick to				
7	the issues laid out by the Commission, so we really didn't				
8	get into a lot of testimony on the revenue benchmark. In				
9	rebuttal I felt we had to because it was teed up by AT&T,				
10	but we weren't testifying originally on the appropriate				
11	state revenue benchmark.				
12	Q Mr. Martin were you in the room when Doctor				
13	Duffy-Deno testified, I think, in his summary and then				
14	again on redirect that this Commission should focus on the				
15	rural areas because those are where the high-cost areas are				
16	going to be?				
17	A I heard that.				
18	Q If we look at your column for basic residential				
19	service and add in the subscriber line charge on your				
20	Exhibit 1, isn't it a fact that every single wire center in				
21	Florida in BellSouth territory is a high-cost area?				
22	A I don't know that I would agree with that. If				
23	you're asking does the cost exceed the rate that we are				
24	allowed to charge in every wire center, I believe that's a				
25	correct statement. Does that mean that it ultimately				

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L	deserves universal service support? I don't know that that
2	
3	
4	
5	pay a little bit more, then you might not need universal
6	service support in a Miami or a Jacksonville.
7	Q Well, how would you define a high-cost area?
8	A I would define the high-cost area an area where
9	the costs are high. I mean if you're asking are these all
10	high-cost areas, it depends on what you set the threshold
11	at as high cost. If you say, are these all areas where the
12	cost exceeds the rate that can be charged for basic
13	residential service, then I would agree with you that in
14	all of these wire centers it appears the cost does exceed
15	the rate that we can charge for 1FR service plus the SLC.
16	Q Using the rates that you have in your Exhibit 1
17	and the costs, have you done any calculation as to what
18	size of the fund of a universal service fund BellSouth
19	would require using the BCPM in Florida?
20	A We did some calculations a while back. I don't
21	remember the exact number.
22	Q Do you know about what that number was?
23	A It would be probably a fairly large number. I
24	would guess for BellSouth it would be in the range of eight
25	hundred million dollars, thereabouts.
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1	Q Thank you.			
2	MR. COKER: That's all I have.			
3	CROSS EXAMINATION			
4	BY MR. HENRY:			
5	Q Good afternoon, Mr. Martin. I'm Mickey Henry,			
6	and I represent MCI, and I just have a very few questions.			
7	One thing I was curious about, when you are			
8	talking about subscribership to vertical services, my			
9	daughter often makes a call, a conference call where you			
10	push a star and do something like that, and 75 cents shows			
11	up on my bill. Would you consider that I am a subscriber			
12	to that service?			
13	A I don't know, and I don't know if those type of			
14	revenues would be included, or if that would be included in			
15	our percentage. I would have to go back and check with our			
16	billing folks.			
17	Q Okay. Your other statement on Page 8 that 82% of			
18	BellSouth's residential customers make no intraLATA toll			
19	calls during a month, correct?			
20	А Үев,			
21	Q Are you familiar with the expanded calling			
22	service or quarter plan routes that BellSouth has in			
23	Florida?			
24	A Relatively familiar with it.			
25	Q Okay. Do you would you suspect that a lot of			

calls that may have previously been classified as toll may 1 now be classified as ECS or guarter calls? 2 That's certainly a possibility, and as I 3 A mentioned earlier, we could include those revenues. To the 4 extent, again, they are for plans that were in effect prior 5 to, I guess it was July of '95, we could include those 6 revenues since the Commission deemed those were part of 7 basic local telecommunications service. 8 Well, I guess my real question was, does it 9 Q surprise you that no one is making toll calls because there 10 are no more toll routes left in effect? 11 Not really. Some people are making toll calls. 12 A I mean 82% don't, that means 18% are. 13 Do you suspect that they are in areas where ECS 0 14 isn't implemented? 15 I don't know where they are located. A 16 17 Now you indicated to Mr. Coker, I believe, that 0 you were going to supply us with the number of customers --18 Turning to your Exhibit PFM-1 for a moment, and I don't 19 have the revised one, and when I go to the example I want 20 to use, you'll have to tell me whether the numbers are 21 still the same. But going to PFM-1, that is a listing by 22 end office in Florida of the residential flat rate, the 23 business flat rate, the subscriber line charge and the BCPM 24 calculated cost for that end office, correct? 25

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1 A Okay. And you indicated to Mr. Coker that you 2 0 would supply us with the number of customers by end cifice 3 that, for example, in Archer, Florida only pay \$8.80 per 4 5 month? 6 A I don't remember agreeing to that. I said that 7 we would try to provide a percentage statewide for our serving area of what customers only get basic dial tone 8 service. I didn't agree to do that by wire center. I 9 think that would be a tremendous undertaking. 10 Okay. So you are going to be able to supply 11 0 though for the state how many of your subscribers only pay 12 the flat rate for either residence or business? 13 Yes. 14 A Okay. Now let me -- On Pages 5, 6, and 7 you 0 15 generally discuss the FCC process and how that process is 16 going to work, correct, universal service fund? 17 18 A Yes. Okay. And you discuss in here the fact that 19 0 there is going to be a 25/75 jurisdictional split between 20 interstate and intrastate; is that correct? 21 That was the tentative way they were going to do 22 A it. As I note, that issue has been referred to the joint 23 24 board, and so by November the 23rd, I believe it is, we should know if this is going to change. 25

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Yes.

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Okay. My recollection was that that issue -- the 1 0 joint board actually asked the FCC to refer to it, the 2 question of the appropriate jurisdictional split; isn't 3 that correct? 4 A Yes, and it's actually gone beyond that. The FCC 5 has gone ahead and done that. 6 7 Right. And you also -- At the FCC level, they 0 have selected a revenue benchmark of \$31, correct? 8 I believe that was tentative, and they're 9 A collecting data and going to recalculate that. 10 And your company is supplying that data to the 11 0 FCC, correct? 12 A That's correct. 13 And that \$31 at the time it was calculated is 14 0 made up of, on average, the local -- basic local revenues, 15 16 the subscriber line charge, the average vertical service 17 revenues, the average toll revenues, the average access revenues, correct? 18 I believe that's correct. 19 A Okay. Now let me take you to just an example 20 0 So at the federal level, what they are going to do of --21 is make a determination as to the cost in a particular wire 22 center, and then they are going to compare that to revenues 23 and make a determination as to how many lines are in need 24 of a subsidy, correct? 25

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That was the way they were going to do it. 1 Again, they've thrown the whole process open, and United 2 States Telephone Association has made a proposal, a new 3 proposal on how to do the federal support, and I think that 4 5 is being seriously considered. So, again, I need to note that this is the way they were going to do it. They 6 7 referred a lot of issues back to the joint board, and I 8 think the FCC could change direction on some of this.

9 Q But we don't expect the basic math to change.
10 There will be revenues minus cost equals subsidy or not.
11 correct?

May or may not be that way. I think one thing 12 A they are looking at -- I think in total you need to look 13 at the cost versus the revenue. That is how you size the 14 problem in total, and the state will ultimately have to do 15 that, but for what is the federal side of the problem, I 16 think one thing the FCC is looking at is maybe we can look 17 at the amount of support provided via the PIXC charge that 18 you referred to earlier and the carrier common line charge 19 and total that up, and that could be an estimate of the 20 interstate or federal support. And then in addition, they 21 may have additional federal support provided to keep state 22 rates lower, maybe in some of the very rural states; so I 23 think this is an issue that is very much still up in the 24 air. 25

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Q Well, let me take you to an example, and this is the last part of my question. If you would go to your PFM-1, and exchange or the wire center that I picked out was Cocoa Beach, I believe; and it's about, I'll call it 15 lines down, the CLLI code is CCBHFLMA

A Okay.

6

16

Q Okay? As I go across that line, I see that the
8 costs are \$30.56 according to the BCPM, okay?

9 A The corrected revised cost is \$30.48, but okay. Q Okay. Well, if I screw up with my math, you'll know it's because I was using the 30.56, but give or take six cents, eight cents. So the basic math would work is that from residential customers in that wire center you're today receiving \$9.50 in a flat rate -- flat 1FR rate and \$3.50 in a subscriber line charge, correct?

A That's correct.

17 Q And that would be \$12?

18 A I believe that totals to \$13.

19 Q You're right. Now in order to get to a \$31 20 revenue benchmark, I've just used some illustrative 21 numbers, okay? I want you to assume that on average from 22 those customers you receive \$6 in vertical services \$5 in 23 ECS revenues, \$4 in intraLATA toll and \$3 in access 24 charges, okay? That adds up to \$31. Now if a revenue 25 benchmark was selected that only reflected the \$13, we

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would subtract \$13 from \$30.56, and for a line in that wire
 center there would be a subsidy payment of \$17.56, correct?
 A Yeah, using the number you have.

Q Okay. Now if, in fact, the company was receiving \$31 from that customer, then for that customer the company would receive \$31 from the customer and \$17.46 from the USF fund, correct?

A No. I'm glad you asked this question because it
gives us a chance to clarify some things. When this fund
is set up, there will be rate reductions offsetting
whatever support is received. And, again, this is getting
into the next phase, but he's brought it up, so I need to
respond to it.

There will be rate reductions, so the rates will 14 not stay the same. The rates will come down. I don't know 15 16 which rates will come down, but the bottom line is there will be rate reductions totaling whatever amount of support 17 is provided via the universal service fund. So there will 18 be no new dollars flowing to the local exchange carrier 19 from day one from the federal fund or from the state fund 20 under BellSouth's proposal. 21

22 COMMISSIONER JACOBS: Which rates are those that 23 will come down?

MR. MARTIN: Sorry?

24

25

COMMISSIONER JACOBS: Which rate, your \$30 rate

1 will come down?

2	MR. MARTIN: We'll make the recommendation. The					
3	Commission here will be the ones that ultimately decide					
4	which rates come down. I would guess that access rates					
5	would come down. It's possible vertical service revenues					
6	or rates would come down. It's possible that business					
7	rates would come down. That's a package we would have to					
8	put together. And, again, I think this is out there a ways					
9	because we have to go through some other steps; but, yes,					
10	rates would come down to offset in total whatever support					
11	we get.					
12	COMMISSIONER JACOBS: So that would reduce the 17					
13	then?					
14	MR. MARTIN: I don't know if it would come down					
15	to 17, but clearly certain rates would come down when the					
16	fund is instituted.					
17	BY MR. HENRY (Continuing):					
18	Q Well, in any event, even if you reduce vertical					
19	services in half, let's just say, then we'd cut that to \$3					
20	and you'd receive you'd still be receiving \$14.56					
21	though, correct, over and above what you're receiving from					
22	the customer? I'm sorry, \$17.56.					
23	A I think in your static example that could work.					
24	Again, I think once you start seeing competition come in,					
25	you've now made these all of these customers attractive					

1 to competitors, and I think competition will start knocking 2 down revenues. But, again, you are focusing on one 3 customer, and I guess you're saying we are going to get 4 more revenue from that customer. In total we are not going 5 to get any more revenue, so it's hard to make the two 6 examples mesh; but bottom line is there won't be new 7 revenues in total flowing to the local exchange carrier.

8 Q Well, that was the point I wanted to get to. You
9 are going to be getting a government check in effect of
10 \$17.56 from that customer. You are going to be getting \$13
11 from that customer by billing him, correct?

A I would say that if we keep the customer we would
get the subsidy and we would get the revenue he pays as an
end user.

Q So a competitor could come in and you could basically drop your vertical, ECS and toll services to cost, correct, and still maintain the same revenue stream for that customer?

19 A I don't know that I follow that. I know that the 20 competitor comes in. He'll have a certain cost he needs to 21 cover, and it's possible he'll go down to a certain point. 22 We'll have to compete.

Q Well, I'm not talking about the competitor's
cost. I'm talking about BellSouth is receiving \$13 from
that customer by billing him. They are receiving \$17.56

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1 from the government for a total of roughly 30, \$31. Okay,
2 today they are billing him roughly \$18 in vertical, ECS,
3 intraLATA toll and intraLATA access. You could cut those
4 prices almost to cost, still have the same amount of
5 revenue coming in from that customer, correct?

A I guess if you could show me the math. I mean7 from a given average customer?

Q Yeah.

8

Again, I think it's dangerous to just look at the 9 А 10 average customer because part of the problem, and the reason we think you need to look at the basic rate versus 11 the cost associated with it, is that some customers don't 12 get any vertical services; and for that customer it's not 13 going to be viable for a competitor to serve that customer 14 unless they are going to get support for the difference. 15 For the customers who get a lot of vertical service 16 revenues, I think you are going to see a substantial 17 reduction in toll revenues and vertical service revenues as 18 competition takes hold and those above-cost rates start 19 getting competed downwards. 20

Q Mr. Martin, in my example, you're receiving \$31 from that customer today on average. Tomorrow you are going to receive \$13 directly from the customer and \$17.56 from the government, okay? You are still supplying him with vertical, ECS, intraLATA toll and billing

1 interexchange carriers access, okay?

A Yes.

2

Q Now you can basically wipe all those other revenue sources down to zero and you still get the same amount of money tomorrow as you did the day before, correct?

MS. KEYER: Madam Chairman, I'd like to make an 7 objection. I think he has, this is another asked and 8 answered. And in addition to this, it's really irrelevant 9 to this proceeding. He has gone over the same example -- I 10 believe Mr. Martin has given him the best answer he can 11 give him two or three different times, so I would object to 12 any further questioning along these lines and particularly 13 that question. 14

MR. HENRY: Madam Chairman, I don't believe he has given me an answer. I'm asking him whether he could basically reduce his vertical, ECS, intraLATA toll and enter -- and his access charges to nothing and retain the same amount of money from that customer with a \$17.56 USF check.

CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: You can answer the question.
 A Yeah, under the very simple example you've given
 then the dollars would be the same.

24 (Transcript continues in sequence in Volume 11).
25

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