BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION In re: Petition of Competitive Carriers for Docket Nos. 981834-TP and 990321-TL § Commission Action to support local (Consolidated) § competition in BellSouth § Telecommunications, Inc.'s territory \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ ECEIVED-FPS In re: Petition of Rhythms Links, Inc. for generic investigation to ensure that BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., Sprint-Florida, Inc., and GTE Florida Inc., comply with obligation to provide alternative local exchange carriers with § flexible, timely, and cost-efficient

§ Filed: January 7, 2000

OBJECTIONS AND RESPONSES OF COVAD COMMUNICATIONS <u>COMPANY TO STAFF'S FIRST SET OF INTERROGATORIES</u>

Pursuant to Rule 28-106.206 of the Florida Administrative Code, and Rule 1.340

of the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, Covad Communications Company ("Covad")

serves its objections and responses to Staff's First Set of Interrogatories ("First Set").

General Objections

1. Covad objects to these interrogatories to the extent they seek to impose

obligations other than those imposed by the Florida Administrative Code or the Florida

Rules of Civil Procedures.

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2. Covad objects to these interrogatories to the extent they seek trade

secrets and/or confidential proprietary information, or information that is protected from

disclosure by privilege or immunity, including but not limited to, the attorney-client

privilege and work product doctrine.

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3. Covad objects to these interrogatories to the extent they seek

information from any entity other than Covad Communications Company or information that is publicly available.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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4. Covad's investigation of this matter is continuing. Covad, therefore, reserves the right to supplement its responses and to assert additional objections to these interrogatories, if necessary.

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5. Covad incorporates each of these General Objections into its responses to individual interrogatories provided below.

Responses to Individual Interrogatories

INTERROGATORY NO. 1: For purposes of the following interrogatories, please refer to Covad witness Moscaritolo's direct testimony, page 12, lines 16-25.

a. Please define and explain the phrase "wrongfully denying."

RESPONSE: Subject to and without waiver of its General Objections, Covad responds as follows:

The phrase "wrongfully denying" as used in the referenced testimony includes, but is not limited to, situations in which an ILEC's reservation of space for future growth prevents collocation as requested by a ALEC and the ILEC's reservation of space (1) violates 47 C.F.R. § 51.323(f)(4), (2) is unnecessary because of the ILEC's projected expansion of the central office or other structure, (3) is made after a ALEC is notified of space availability, or (4) is made in bad faith.

b. At lines 20 - 22, the witness stated, "Presently, no mechanism exists for an ALEC to verify an ILEC's claim that collocation space is unavailable because of space reservations for future ILEC growth." Please explain, in detail, what type of method(s) or procedures should be developed to identify available collocation space.

RESPONSE: Subject to and without waiver of its General Objections, Covad responds as follows:

Several procedures may be adopted to verify an ILEC's claim that collocation space is unavailable because of an ILEC's reservation of space for future growth.

Overall, an ILEC's request to reserve space for future growth should be governed by the "first-come, first-served" rules applicable to ALEC requests for collocation. Thus, an ILEC should be required to publicly notify ALECs of its plans to reserve space for future growth as soon as such plans are available. If a ALEC has submitted a request for collocation in a particular central office before an ILEC notifies ALECs of its plans for space reservation, the ALEC's application for collocation space must be honored over the ILEC's plans for future growth. This would prevent an ILEC from rejecting a ALEC's request for space after the ILEC has accepted a ALEC's application. This procedure also would reduce bad faith claims of future growth by ILECs.

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In addition, if the parties cannot agree about the ILEC's reservation of space, the ILEC should be required to seek a waiver of its collocation requirements under the guidelines promulgated by this Commission. In such a proceeding, the ILEC should have the burden to prove (1) that it properly notified ALECs of its plans for reservation of space, (2) that it has allowed ALECs to reserve space under the same terms and conditions that apply to the ILEC, (3) that its estimations of future growth and the space needed to accommodate such future growth are reasonable, (4) and that no alternative methods for accommodating the ILEC's reasonable estimation of future growth (*i.e.*, methods that would not result in denial of collocation space to ALECs, such as the building of additions to the central office, etc.) are available.

RESPONSE PROVIDED BY: Michael Moscaritolo Expert Witness for Covad Communications Company

INTERROGATORY NO. 2: Please explain, in detail, whether it is necessary for an ALEC to submit an application if the ALEC wishes to convert from virtual to physical collocation.

RESPONSE: Subject to and without waiver of its General Objections, Covad responds as follows:

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An ALEC may need to submit a written request, as opposed to a formal application, for the conversion of a virtual collocation arrangement to a cageless collocation arrangement. This conversion request, however, would only need to inform the ILEC of the ALEC's desire to convert the space and, therefore, would require very little effort on the part of the ILEC to process. As stated in my testimony, if an ALEC already has obtained a virtual collocation arrangement, the issues of space availability, location of equipment, installation of equipment, and necessary ventilation and power requirements, among others, have already been determined.

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Essentially, the conversion request would need to provide the ILEC with only the ALEC's desire to covert virtual collocation to cageless. No other information should be necessary. Thus, no additional fee should be required.

RESPONSE PROVIDED BY: Michael Moscaritolo Expert Witness for Covad Communications Company

INTERROGATORY NO. 3: Please identify what potential problems, if any, could occur when any changes, including conversions from virtual to physical collocation, are made to existing collocation space. For each problem identified, please explain what effect, if any, the problem might have on the response and implementation intervals for the proposed changes.

RESPONSE: Subject to and without waiver of its General Objections, Covad responds as follows:

Of course, the potential problems arising from changes to collocation space would depend upon the nature of the change requested. Generally, however, significant technical and administrative problems should not arise from requests for conversion of virtual collocation to cageless collocation, assuming that the ILEC and its contractors employ reasonably capable technicians and staff. As stated in response to Interrogatory No. 2, if a virtual collocation arrangement already exists, the primary issues requiring time and effort have already been resolved. To complete the conversion, an ILEC merely needs to allow a ALEC to have access to the collocation space so the ALEC can maintain its own equipment. No other physical work is required. Billing and other administrative adjustments can be made in parallel to avoid any unnecessary delay. Accordingly, in almost all circumstances, an ILEC should be able to complete a request for conversion of virtual collocation to cageless collocation within a maximum of ten (10) calendar days.

As stated above, the potential problems that may arise with other types of changes to collocation space will depend upon the nature of the requested change. It is difficult to address the issues and corresponding intervals arising from such changes in the abstract. However, the Texas Public Utility Commission has approved a collocation tariff specifying reasonable intervals for different types of augment requests. Under this tariff, the following augment intervals apply:

15 Calendar Days

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- Up to 28 DS1s (cabling only; panels, relay racks and overhead racking exist)
- Up to 3 DS3s (cabling only; panels, relay racks and overhead racking exist)
- Up to 100 copper (shielded or non-shielded) cable pairs (blocks and cabling only; panels, relay racks and overhead racking exist)
- Duplex AC convenience outlets and/or
- Additional overhead lighting and/or
- Cage to cage interconnection conduit within the same collocation area
- Cable pull within the same collocation area
- DC Power requirements when only a fuse change is required

30 Calendar Days

- Up to 84 DS1s (one interconnect panel) and/or
- Up to 48 DS3s (interconnect panel) and/or
- Up to 200 copper (shielded or non-shielded) cable pairs (2 blocks) up to 400 feet
- Ground cable changes within the DC Power arrangement
- Arrange/install fiber cable through innerduct up to 400 feet
- Arrange/install timing leads up to 400 feet
- Arrange/install fiber interconnections up to 12 fiber pairs up to 400 feet

60 Calendar Days

- Up to 168 DS1s (one interconnect panel) and/or
- Up to 48 DS3s (interconnect panel) and/or
- Up to 400 copper (shielded or non-shielded) cable pairs (2 blocks) up to 400 feet
- Power cables added to accommodate greater DC amperage requests within existing power panels
- ILEC will perform a cage expansion of 300 square feet or less immediately adjacent to a collocator's existing cage within the collocation area as long as the collocation area does not have to be reconfigured and does not involve HVAC work
- Arrange/install bay lighting front and back up to three (3) bays
- Arrange and install fiber interconnection up to 12 fiber pairs up to 400 feet.

Not to exceed 90 Calendar Days

- All other augments.

Local Access Service Tariff for Texas, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (Effective

Oct. 29, 1999).

RESPONSE PROVIDED BY:

Michael Moscaritolo Expert Witness for Covad Communications Company

Dated: January 7, 2000

Respectfully submitted ✓ Christopher V. Geodpastor, Esq.

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> QUALIFIED REPRESENTATIVE OF COVAD COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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

facsimile/U.S. Mail this 7th day of January, 2000 to the following:

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