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RECORDS AND REPORTING

April 28, 2000

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

> Docket No. 000121-TP (OSS) Re:

Dear Ms. Bayó:

Enclosed please find the original and fifteen copies of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s Comments on Operations Support System Performance Assessment Plan, Staff's Initial Proposal, which we ask that you file in the above-referenced matter.

A copy of this letter is enclosed. Please mark it to indicate that the original was filed and return the copy to me. Copies have been served to the parties shown on the attached Certificate of Service.

APP J. Phillip Carver CAF CMU CTR ee: All Parties of Record EAG Marshall M. Criser III LEG R. Douglas Lackey MAS OPO .... Nancy B. White RFF. SEC WAVY \_\_ OTH \_\_\_\_ RECEIVED & FILED

DOCUMENT NUMBER - DATE

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#### BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Investigation into the	)	Docket No. 000121-TP
Establishment of Operations Support	)	
Systems Permanent Performance	)	
Measures for Incumbent Local Exchange	je)	
Telecommunications Companies	)	Filed: April 28, 2000

# BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATION, INC.'S COMMENTS ON OPERATIONS SUPPORT SYSTEM PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT PLAN,STAFF'S INITIAL PROPOSAL

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") hereby files, pursuant to the Notice given by the Staff of the Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission) at the workshop held on March 30, 2000 in the above-captioned matter, its Comments on Operations Support System Performance Assessment Plan, Staff's Initial Proposal. In support thereof, BellSouth states the following:

#### III. Administration

The Staff has proposed that a Performance Assessment Plan be developed through a collaborative process in which Staff, ILECs and ALECs would participate. While a limited number of workshops may be useful, BellSouth is concerned that efforts to reach an industry-wide consensus will be very time consuming, but not very productive.

BellSouth and many of the interested parties in this proceeding have participated in Performance Measurements workshops in Louisiana and North Carolina. The Louisiana workshops began in October 1998. Eighteen months

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later, the comment cycle has recently concluded, and a decision by the Louisiana Commission is expected in June or July, 2000. This decision will be necessary to resolve the many issues that remain in dispute. Also, the North Carolina Utilities Commission convened a Performance Measurements Task Force that began meeting in November 1999. The North Caroline Task Force is scheduled to make an initial report to the North Carolina Commission on areas of agreement and disagreement in June or July 2000. Substantial disagreements appear to exist, and a hearing will likely be needed.

Thus, the extensive industry-driven workshops in these two states have not produced a consensus. Since, for the most part, the same parties are involved in Florida, a consensus in this proceeding is, likewise, unlikely.

Therefore, any workshops should be limited to those necessary to elicit and develop information that Staff believes is necessary to move the process forward, i.e., to allow the Staff to make a recommendation to the Commission.

#### IV. Establishment of Performance Metrics and Standards

BellSouth concurs in Staff's intent to focus on several key, customer oriented outcome metrics. BellSouth firmly believes the Commission should have the measurements necessary to detect discrimination and to do so in an efficient manner. Staff states in its proposal that it will consider 17 metrics in addition to those being evaluated during the current Florida testing of BellSouth's OSS. BellSouth believes that these additional metrics, and any other proposed additional metrics, should be critically evaluated to screen out those

measurements that are focused on processes/subprocesses rather than key outcome measurements. Similarly, BellSouth encourages Staff to avoid requirements for additional product reporting where the amount of activity for the product is proportionately small.

#### V. Monitoring/Enforcement

ALEC specific monitoring will always be available electronically to the Commission. However, in evaluating BellAtlantic's Application for 271 Authority, the FCC based its determination of compliance on aggregate results rather than individual CLEC results. Therefore, monitoring of individual ALEC results is not necessary to evaluate non-discriminatory access.

#### VI. Review procedures

BellSouth recommends an initial review of the Retail Analogs and Benchmarks six months after the establishment of Performance Measurements and associated Standards. This will allow any necessary refinements to the newly established standards. Thereafter, biannual reviews of the Performance Assessment Plan should be adequate. More frequent ongoing reviews (i.e., annual reviews) would create the potential that a particular review could not be completed before the next review is set to commence.

#### Attachment 1, Monitoring Performance Standards

As BellSouth mentioned in the March 30, 2000 workshop, an ILEC should not be required to meet each individual standard in order to be viewed as compliant with the Federal Communications Act. The Act does not require perfection for every measurement in every month. The FCC reaffirmed this view in the recent BellAtlantic order. Rather, the Commission should evaluate performance as a whole, over an appropriate time period.

Respectfully submitted this 28th day of April, 2000.

BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE Docket No. 000121-TP

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

#### U.S. Mail this 28th day of April, 2000 to the following:

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