

Docket 140156-TP
Rebuttal Testimony of Mike Ray

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Re: Petition for Arbitration of Interconnection)
Agreement Between AT&T Florida)
Telecommunications, LLC d/b/a AT&T Florida and) Docket 140156-TP
Communications Authority, Inc.)

**REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF MIKE RAY ON BEHALF OF
COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY, INC.**

March 23, 2015

1

Introduction

2 **Q. Please state your name, position, and provide your business address.**

3 A. My name is Mike Ray and I am President of Communications Authority, Inc. My business
4 address is 11523 Palm Brush Trail #401, Lakewood Ranch, Florida 34202.

5

6 **Q. On whose behalf are you submitting rebuttal testimony?**

7 A. My testimony is provided in support of Communications Authority, Inc. (“CA”)

8

9

Background

10 **Q. Have you read the direct testimony submitted on behalf of AT&T?**

11 A. Yes, I have read the direct testimony of Susan Kemp, Patricia Pellerin, Scott McPhee,
12 Mark Neinast, and Mark Chamberlin, filed on February 16, 2015.

13

14 **Issue 1: Is AT&T Florida obligated to provide UNEs for the provision**
15 **of Information Services?**

16 **Q. Please state Communications Authority’s position regarding Issue 1.**

17 A. CA believes that it is well established that a CLEC is entitled to use UNEs to provide any
18 service it desires to its end-users, including Telecommunications Service and Information
19 Service. There is little question that is the case. AT&T’s language is simply overly restrictive
20 and seems to preclude CA from providing exactly the same services AT&T and its various
21 affiliates provide to AT&T U-Verse customers.

22

23

1 **Q. Is there another reasonable compromise on this issue?**

2 A. Yes. Perhaps the language should simply allow CA to provide any services allowed by the
3 FCC’s rules and regulations rather than parsing regulatory distinctions between
4 “telecommunications services” and “information services.” After all, the FCC’s recent
5 decision applying Title II regulations to broadband Internet access services, and the certain
6 legal appeals that will be filed, makes this issue even muddier now. It could get even more
7 confusing following appellate rulings, subsequent FCC action, and any potential re-write of
8 the Telecom Act as Congress is currently considering. If, as Ms. Kemp states in her
9 testimony, this is a “pure legal issue”¹, simply stating that CA must follow all FCC rules
10 should be sufficient and would be more flexible during the term of this ICA.

11 **Q. Have you made this suggestion to AT&T yet?**

12 A. No, but I will soon through counsel.

13

14 **Issue 2: Is Communications Authority entitled to become a Tier 1 Authorized**

15 **Installation Supplier (AIS) to perform work outside its collocation space?**

16 **Q. What is the alternative to CA being allowed to qualify as an AIS?**

17 A. Higher cost and even more delays. In some AT&T Florida central offices, there is only
18 one vendor that a CLEC can practically use for small collocation work—Mastec. In fact,
19 AT&T Florida allows Mastec employees to maintain offices inside the central office.

20 Because there is a *de facto* monopoly in place, prices for simple work are very high. This
21 restricts CA’s ability to order new work to be done and therefore restricts CA’s ability to
22 compete for customers. Ultimately, this harms Florida consumers and businesses because it

¹ Kemp testimony at page 3, line 22.

1 harms CA's ability to offer competitive services at lower prices than the AT&T/incumbent
2 cable company duopoly.

3 **Q. Does CA believe there is an "inherent right"² under the Telecom Act to become an
4 AIS?**

5 A. I'm not a lawyer, but I do not believe so. I do believe that AT&T should be prevented
6 from essentially gaming the system, however, and forcing excessive costs on CA.

7 **Q. Do you believe AT&T's security concerns are valid?**

8 A. No.

9 **Q. Why not?**

10 A. Security in central offices is very tight and there is constant video surveillance and strict
11 access control, along with insurance requirements for anyone granted access.

12 **Q. Do you agree that those security concerns are sufficient to preclude CA from
13 becoming a Tier 1 AIS?**

14 A. No, AT&T's security concerns are its problem and they have plenty of resources to
15 address them. Getting reasonably priced collocation construction costs is CA's problem.
16 AT&T suggests that every CLEC would seek to become an AIS. That process is difficult and
17 time consuming so it is highly unlikely that many CLECs would pursue it. Besides, the
18 central offices are not exactly full of CLECs anymore as there are so few CLECs left that
19 actually collocate in central offices.

20 **Q. Is Ms. Kemp correct in stating that there are 87 vendors on the Tier 1 list authorized
21 to perform work in any central office in Florida?**

² See Kemp testimony at page 6.

1 A. I doubt it, but I do not know for sure. I do know that there is often only one vendor that
2 will even provide a quote for smaller work to be completed and there are high per-job
3 minimums even for simple work. CA could do the work for far less money.

4 **Q. How does collocation construction work in other ILECs' central offices?**

5 A. Verizon has a simple price list for work in a central office, the CLEC orders the work it
6 needs from Verizon, then Verizon contracts the work to its choice of COEI contractor and
7 then bills the CLEC from the price list. The prices are fair and reasonable and this is not an
8 issue with Verizon. I cannot provide an opinion on other ILECs.

9 **Q. Have you suggested this as an alternative to AT&T?**

10 A. Yes, we have discussed it verbally and AT&T said they would "take it back for
11 consideration." We also provided a copy of Verizon's price list. AT&T has not yet responded
12 so we assume that idea is a non-starter.

13 **Q. Is it CA's opinion that collocation costs should be based on TELRIC?**

14 A. Yes, and I believe BellSouth took that very position back in 2004 when the Commission
15 last reviewed collocation costs.

16

17 **Issue 3: When Communications Authority supplies a written list for subsequent**

18 **placement of equipment, should an application fee be assessed?**

19 **Q. Do you accept the proposal made in Ms. Kemp's testimony?**

20 A. No. It is not reasonable to charge the application fee for review of a single page document
21 when nothing else is required. AT&T incurs no costs (other than made-up costs that it claims
22 it self-imposes) when a CLEC changes out one piece of equipment for another. The
23 Agreement already requires that all equipment must be NEBS compliant. While AT&T is
24 entitled to its own review, it is not entitled to reject CLEC equipment that is NEBS-compliant

1 on the basis of safety. If AT&T decides to claim that equipment is not necessary for
2 collocation, then that is an AT&T business decision and the CLEC should not bear costs for
3 that.

4

5 **Issue 4a: If AT&T alleges that Communications Authority is in default, should AT&T**
6 **Florida be allowed to reclaim collocation space prior to conclusion of a dispute**
7 **regarding the default?**

8 **Issue 4b: Should AT&T Florida be allowed to refuse Communications Authority's**
9 **applications for additional collocation space or service or to complete pending orders**
10 **after AT&T Florida has notified Communications Authority it is in default of its**
11 **obligations as Collocator but prior to conclusion of a dispute regarding the default?**

12 **Q. Do you believe AT&T's concerns about perpetual disputes are valid.**

13 A. No. As I stated in my direct testimony, the Commission has recently approved an
14 accelerated dispute resolution process which would be available to either party for resolution
15 of time-sensitive issues. AT&T appears desperate to avoid using that procedure. Specifically
16 applying the accelerated dispute resolution procedure within this agreement being arbitrated
17 to these types of issues would eliminate AT&T's concerns. Besides, CA appreciates that
18 AT&T must protect the safety of the central offices and has offered suggestions to allow for
19 that.

20 **Q. Do you agree with Ms. Kemp's assertion that CA would be able to seek a stay in any**
21 **dispute resolution proceeding³?**

³ Kemp testimony at page 10, line 17 *et seq.*

1 A. Our language would make it clear that we are entitled to continue operations while a
2 dispute is pending. She seems to be saying here that, if granted, we would be entitled to a
3 stay while the case was ongoing. It sounds like she agrees with our language.

4 **Q. Are you assuaged by Ms. Kemp's answer at the top of page 11 suggesting that**
5 **AT&T would never disturb CA's collocation space because of the potential liability**
6 **concerns?**

7 A. No, that's silly. AT&T's makes more in profit per day than CA could hope to generate in
8 gross revenue over its entire lifetime. CA requests its language here, and in many other
9 places in the ICA, in recognition of this gross imbalance and to provide a reasonable degree
10 of protection given CA's limited resources.

11 **Q. Do you have any direct experience causing your concerns?**

12 A. I have direct experience as to how "careful" AT&T's actions can be. AT&T knocked out
13 service for thousands of CLEC customers when it unilaterally, and mistakenly, disconnected
14 service due to an alleged default. As it turned out, AT&T disconnected the wrong company
15 and had intended to disconnect a different CLEC which had a similar billing account number
16 issued by AT&T. The outage for Terra Nova's entire South Florida network had been in
17 progress for several hours before AT&T even admitted to Terra Nova that it had deliberately
18 disconnected Terra Nova's interconnection facilities. Even after Terra Nova told AT&T that
19 it had no billing issues, payment disputes or notice of default from AT&T, AT&T still left
20 Terra Nova's customers out of service for a whole business day. The outage was only
21 resolved after Terra Nova informally sought the help of the Commission later in the day
22 when it could not get a straight answer out of AT&T. In the aftermath of this devastating
23 outage for which AT&T eventually admitted fault, AT&T refused to reimburse Terra Nova's

1 demonstrated costs and agreed only to reimburse Terra Nova less than 10% of its actual costs
2 for the outage.

3 **Q. What do you take away from AT&T's addition of the word "materially"?**

4 A. They simply added the word "materially" to their language, but they have still left entirely
5 up to themselves what a material default is. I am not comfortable with that and would prefer
6 that a neutral party decide that.

7

8 **Issue 5: Should Communications Authority be required to provide AT&T Florida with**
9 **a certificate of insurance prior to starting work in Communications Authority's**
10 **collocation space on AT&T Florida's premises?**

11 **Q. What is your response to Ms. Kemp's testimony on issue 5?**

12 A. Ms. Kemp does not appear to understand how the process actually works for CLECs.
13 CLECs must provide all the necessary insurance proof at the time of submitting its first
14 application for collocation, pole attachment or conduit rental. . As such, AT&T's language
15 does not reflect the operational reality and AT&T is already protected from the potential
16 harms she cites.

17 **Q. Is 5 days sufficient time to find insurance?**

18 A. No. It is increasingly difficult for CLECs to find appropriate (and reasonably priced)
19 insurance coverage. Thirty days is the minimum amount of time that would be required. CA
20 understands that it may not continue work if the insurance lapses and certainly would never
21 risk the potential financial harm by doing so.

22

1 **Issue 6: Should AT&T Florida be allowed to recover its costs when it erects an internal**
2 **security partition to protect its equipment and ensure network reliability and such**
3 **partition is the least costly reasonable security measure?**

4 **Q. What is your reaction to Ms. Kemp's testimony on Issue 6?**

5 A. Incredulity, mostly. AT&T admits it has never erected such a security partition. As such,
6 there is simply no reason for such a provision in the ICA.

7 **Q. In reality, how would AT&T or any other ILEC address the potential issues she**
8 **cites?**

9 A. Building modification and environmental modification charges are already part of the
10 application process, and this is not something that is going to come up later if AT&T
11 properly prepared the collocation space for what the CLEC ordered in the first place.
12 Presumably the chief concern would be heat. However, all collocators must disclose their
13 power requirements and heat dissipation for each piece of collocated equipment to AT&T
14 when the collocation is ordered or augmented. Collocators such as CA have no input into the
15 location of a collocation within the Central Office; AT&T exclusively decides where to place
16 each collocation. Therefore, if AT&T knows the power requirements and heat dissipation of
17 each collocator's equipment, AT&T should be able to reasonably design each collocation so
18 that it will not interfere with other equipment. In practice, this is exactly what AT&T already
19 does, which is why I believe it has never erected such a partition and will not need to do so.
20 Why should CA have to pay anything for such an issue above and beyond what it already
21 pays to be in the central office if CA has not violated this agreement?

22

1 **Issue 7a: Under what circumstances may AT&T Florida charge Communications**
2 **Authority when Communications Authority submits a modification to an application**
3 **for collocation, and what charges should apply?**

4 **Issue 7b: When Communications Authority wishes to add to or modify its collocation**
5 **space or the equipment in that space, or to cable to that space, should Communications**
6 **Authority be required to submit an application and to pay the associated application**
7 **fee?**

8 **Q. What is your reaction to Ms. Kemp's testimony on Issue 7(a)?**

9 A. In her response on this issue, Ms. Kemp tries to make the case that even if AT&T requires
10 CA to submit a revised collocation application, we should have to pay for the
11 resubmission. First, is that really reflective of AT&T's costs? If AT&T asked CA to change
12 something, then they have reviewed it already and know what they want changed. Only a
13 cursory re-review would be needed in that case, because they already know what changes
14 they've asked us to make so they know what to look for on the revised application. Second,
15 Ms. Kemp then alleges that CLECs will never submit correct orders unless there's a financial
16 incentive to do so. That's illogical as CLECs want the collocation work done as fast as
17 possible. In my experience, the only reason why AT&T demands changes to a collocation
18 application has nothing to do with incorrect CLEC information and everything to do with
19 AT&T's various systems not working correctly and/or being inadequately documented and
20 not accepting a valid order unless a special tweak is made. In the cases I have seen, these
21 tweaks are not anything the CLEC could have known to do; they are quirks in the AT&T
22 systems.
23

1 I also take issue with Ms. Kemp’s statement about CLEC lackadaisical behavior. As an
2 example, when Terra Nova collocated in the Miami Grande Central Office, AT&T provided
3 incorrect circuit facility assignment (“CFA”) information five times over a course of as many
4 months. Terra Nova had to fight for months for billing credits to not have to pay for the
5 collocation which it could not use because of AT&T’s sheer incompetence. AT&T did not
6 compensate Terra Nova (and does not propose to compensate CA) for this sort of
7 eventuality. It is not parity for a CLEC to have to pay application fees over and over again,
8 unless AT&T has to also pay a fee whenever it fails to live up to its obligations.

9

10 Finally, we argue that all collocation costs must be TELRIC-based, including the application
11 fee. AT&T seems to be saying they are entitled to charge an enormous application fee over
12 and over again. There is no rational justification for that. If the application fees were
13 reasonable, CA would not object to them.

14

15 **Issue 8: Is 120 calendar days from the date of a request for an entrance facility, plus the**
16 **ability to extend that time by an additional 30 days, adequate time for Communications**
17 **Authority to place a cable in a manhole?**

18 **Q. Do you agree with Ms. Kemp’s assertion that “all other carriers with which AT&T**
19 **Florida has ICAs have to complete the same work, and those carriers have consistently**
20 **been able to meet the 120 plus 30 day deadline”?**

21 A. I do not know, but given that AT&T has changed many of its policies in the past ten years,
22 it seems unlikely that all existing ICAs have the same timeframe.

23

1 **Issue 9a: Should the ICA require Communications Authority to utilize an AT&T**
2 **Florida AIS Tier 1 for CLEC-to-CLEC connection within a central office?**

3 **Issue 9b: Should CLEC-to-CLEC connections within a central office be required to**
4 **utilize AT&T Florida common cable support structure?**

5 **Q. What is your response to Ms. Kemp’s testimony regarding issue 9a?**

6 A. Ms. Kemp suggests that using an AIS for CLEC-to-CLEC cross-connections is the only
7 method employed in AT&T central offices. Counsel has informed me that this is not true.
8 For one example, AT&T California offers a straightforward price for such circuits.

9

10 **Q. What is your response to Ms. Kemp’s testimony regarding issue 9b?**

11 A. If CA is collocated directly next to another CLEC, CA should have the right to just
12 connect a short cable to them and be done. The cable does not traverse any CO space other
13 than ours and the other CLECs. It does not harm AT&T in the least, nor does it cause a
14 “safety and security” issue to have a short cable connecting the two CLECs. Frankly, I find
15 her argument ridiculous and question to what extent she understands how CLECs actually
16 operate. “Safety and security” appears to be AT&T-speak for increasing a CLEC’s costs
17 throughout this ICA.

18

19 **Issue 10: If equipment is improperly collocated (e.g., not previously identified on an**
20 **approved application for collocation or not on authorized equipment list), or is a safety**
21 **hazard, should Communications Authority be able to delay removal until the dispute is**
22 **resolved?**

23 **Q. Do you agree with Ms. Kemp’s concerns cited in her testimony regarding Issue 10?**

1 A. Just to be clear, NEBS certification is the standard for CO equipment safety, not AT&T's
2 arbitrary opinion. While we do not disagree that AT&T is entitled to do its own review, we
3 do disagree that it can supersede NEBS compliance and apply any different "safety" criteria
4 to prevent CLECs from collocating equipment.

5 **Q. Is CA willing to compromise on its position?**

6 A. CA would be willing to agree that CA may not leave collocated equipment in a
7 collocation if it is not NEBS-certified as required by the ICA and standard industry
8 practice. AT&T has not demonstrated any additional risk to AT&T by waiting on the dispute
9 resolution process to conclude as long as CA's equipment is NEBS-certified. However, if CA
10 must replace a failed piece of gear with a newer model of the same equipment which is also
11 NEBS certified to resolve an outage, CA should not be in default. If the equipment is
12 NEBS-certified, then CA should be allowed to leave it in pending the dispute resolution
13 process.

14 **Q. Is CA willing to adjust its position on time frames to remove equipment?**

15 A. Yes. We propose to split the difference on the time frame. AT&T suggests 10 business
16 days, CA asked for 30 calendar days. CA proposes a compromise of 15 business days.
17

18 **Issue 11: Should the period of time in which the Billed Party must remit payment be**
19 **thirty (30) days from the bill date or twenty (20) days from receipt of the bill?**

20 **Q. Ms. Pellerin claims, "The Bill Due Date must be a readily ascertainable date...and**
21 **minimize disputes."**⁴

22 A. This may be more convenient for AT&T to dictate if/when/how a bill must be paid, but it
23 is not reasonable based on my experience running CLECs. It appears AT&T would prefer

⁴ Pellerin testimony page 3 at line 15.

1 that it not be questioned and must remain in total control of everything. The problem with
2 AT&T's language is that it allows for bills with a normal bill date to be sent late. The lack of
3 time to process, dispute and pay a bill, or extreme tardiness of delivery, would allow AT&T
4 to charge Late Payment Charges for virtually every bill it sends. This places CA in a no-win
5 situation where no matter how late they are in sending the bill, CA would owe late charges
6 (and interest it seems). CLECs often get bills from AT&T long after the bill date printed on
7 the bill. In 2015, Terra Nova has received AT&T bills more than once which were
8 postmarked more than 10 days after the date printed on the bill and arrived by mail 20 days
9 after the date printed on the bill. That only gives a CLEC 10 days to process the bill, file
10 disputes, send payment and also allow for mail delays. Even if a CLEC processed, disputed
11 and paid the bill on the same day that it was received in a case like this the payment could
12 still be considered late under AT&T's proposed language solely because of AT&T's delay in
13 mailing.

14 **Q. How do other ILECs address this issue?**

15 A. I do not know about all of them, but Verizon ICAs have long contained the "20 days from
16 receipt" language. That is much more reasonable as it allows CA just enough time to audit
17 the bills and make payment.

18 **Q. Ms. Pellerin states that CA's proposal "complicates the billing process unnecessarily,
19 would impose system modification costs on AT&T Florida that CA has not offered to
20 pay, and is likely to lead to disputes." Do you agree?**

21 A. No. The simple proposed language by CA merely changes the timeframe for when the
22 clock starts for auditing and paying a bill. There are no system modifications necessary or
23 any "imposed costs." In fact, we found three examples of AT&T ICAs currently in force
24 which already have our language in them. Therefore, CA's proposal is not new to AT&T

1 and whatever modifications are needed to its processes would already have been
2 implemented for those other CLECs. However, it is worthy of note that our 20 day proviso
3 only kicks in if it takes more than 10 days from the bill date for us to receive a bill. If AT&T
4 did not cause the mailing delays, the 30 days from bill date would be the controlling date.

5 **Q. How do you respond regarding the performance measure of bill timeliness and the**
6 **issue of bill parity?**

7 A. That really is irrelevant. I have never seen a credit for their bill tardiness, only late fees
8 and the man hours required to correct their billing mistakes. Is “parity” achieved allowing
9 AT&T to charge late fees and interest to CLECs at the same rate that it does retail
10 customers? Parity shouldn’t mean “equally terrible.” As far as I know, the Commission has
11 now lost any authority to regulate AT&T’s retail services and the delivery of them anyway.
12 Even if the retail bills were tardy, the Commission couldn’t force AT&T to fix the problem.
13 AT&T admitted that it wrote the state legislation which stripped that authority away from the
14 Commission. It should not now be able to argue that CLECs are only entitled to parity with
15 retail, when AT&T is responsible for removing oversight from those retail operations. If
16 there is any sort of parity issue involved here, then I’d argue that CLECs should generally be
17 treated equally in the state of Florida. AT&T should simply accept the same ICA billing
18 language that Verizon uses. However, I believe that this is an issue of fairness, and not one of
19 parity. Any reasonable person would conclude that a CLEC should be permitted adequate
20 time to review, process, dispute and pay a bill before Late Payment Fees apply.

21 **Q. Ms. Pellerin argues that you have only experienced this with Terra Nova. Is that**
22 **true?**

23 A. No. That is my most recent experience, but I had over a decade of AT&T billing
24 experience before that with Eagle/AstroTel.

1 **Issue 12: i) Should a Discontinuance Notice allow the Billed Party fifteen (15) days or**
2 **thirty (30) to remit payment to avoid service disruption or disconnection? ii) Should the**
3 **terms and conditions applicable to bills not paid on time apply to both disputed and**
4 **undisputed charges?**

5 Resolved.

6

7 **Issue 13a: i) Should the definition of “Late Payment Charge” limit the applicability of**
8 **such charges to undisputed charges not paid on time? ii) Should Late Payment Charges**
9 **apply if Communications Authority does not provide the necessary remittance**
10 **information?**

11 **Q. In addressing late payment charges, Ms. Pellerin again argues that CA is asking for**
12 **costly changes to its billing system. Is that accurate?**

13 A. No. What we’re asking for results in no changes to their billing systems at all; they are
14 going to bill LPCs in any case. It just means that, on dispute, we have a right to credits for
15 LPCs for bills we didn’t get on time. That’s reasonable, which the standard we believe
16 should be used is. Ms. Pellerin’s statement is also inaccurate because we provided three
17 examples of other in-force ICA between AT&T and other CLECs in Florida which have
18 language similar to ours. Two of the three were even more generous, providing 30 days after
19 receipt of bill instead of the 20 that we asked for. We would be happy to accept the 30 days
20 from receipt language from either of those ICAs if it would address AT&T’s concern here.

21 **Q. Will CA ever submit a payment without proper remittance information on it?**

22 A. No, this is standard practice for any company that I manage and is a built-in feature of the
23 OSS software which we use to process carrier bills.

1 **Q. Does AT&T always apply payments consistent with the remittance information**
2 **provided ?**

3 A. No.

4

5 **Issue 13b: Should the definition of “Past Due” be limited to undisputed charges that are**
6 **not paid on time?**

7 **Q. Through its insertion of “undisputed,” is CA suggesting that if a dispute is found in**
8 **AT&T’s favor that CA would not owe any late fees?**

9 A. No. CA simply seeks to ensure that it is clear to all parties that it is entitled to withhold
10 payment of properly disputed charges without being in default, and that CA shall not be obligated
11 to pay Late Payment Charges for disputed amounts resolved in CA’s favor whether or not they
12 are initially charged and then credited later.

13

14 **Issue 13c: Should the definition of “Unpaid Charges” be limited to undisputed charges**
15 **that are not paid on time?**

16 **Q. At page 15, lines 13-15, Ms. Pellerin claims that CA’s billing language would “serve**
17 **no defensible purpose and would turn perfectly sensible contract provisions on which**
18 **the parties have agreed into nonsense.” Do you agree?**

19 A. Absolutely not. CA’s language actually clarifies standard industry practice respecting a
20 CLEC’s right to dispute a bill.

21

22 **Issue 13d: Should Late Payment Charges apply only to undisputed charges?**

23 **Q. On page 16, Ms. Pellerin claims that “it does not appear that CA would ever pay**
24 **LPCs on any amounts it disputed – even when the dispute is resolved against CA. CA**

1 **should not be permitted to pay late at will and avoid late payment and interest charges**
2 **by disputing the bill.” Do you agree?**

3 A. No, that’s a very strained reading of the proposed language. CA’s proposal simply adds
4 clarity as to when LPCs should be applied rather than leaving it to AT&T’s whims.

5

6 **Issue 14a: Should the GTCs state that the parties shall provide each other local**
7 **interconnection services or components at no charge?**

8 **Q. How do you react to Ms. Pellerin’s testimony on this issue?**

9 A. Both sides accept the proposition that each party must pay its costs on its side of the POI.
10 AT&T seems to be claiming that CA’s language further clarifying that point is unnecessary.

11 **Q. Do you agree?**

12 A. No, and this is a theme throughout the ICA. I believe the more clear the ICA’s language
13 can be, the better it is for both parties as it will eliminate potential points of dispute. This
14 language directly addresses a problem that I have had in practice with AT&T where one side
15 of the company says it would never do something, and then the other side of the company
16 does. AT&T has already attempted to do what this language prevents, but it recently argued
17 before Commission staff that it would never do that. We think it’s very important to clarify
18 this point now because of that disparity within AT&T.

19

20 **Issue 14b: i) Should an ASR supplement be required to extend the due date when the**
21 **review and discussion of a trunk servicing order extends beyond 2 business days?**

22 **Q. Ms. Pellerin raises the issue of performance metrics for trunk orders. How do you**
23 **respond?**

1 A. I find it ironic that AT&T is concerned about being measured on the timeliness of order
2 completion. Their language requires CA to submit a supplemental order to extend the due
3 date in cases where AT&T fails to meet the due date. This has the effect of falsifying
4 AT&T's performance metrics.

5 **ii) Should AT&T Florida be obligated to process Communications Authority's ASRs at**
6 **no charge?**

7 **Q. In what situation is CA suggesting that AT&T should process ASRs at no charge?**

8 A. AT&T should be required to process all Local Interconnection ASRs at no charge. It is
9 well established that Local Interconnection is required to be revenue-neutral between the
10 parties, because Local Interconnection Trunks benefit both parties. This ICA, like most
11 others, places the ordering burden upon CA for Local Interconnection Trunks. This makes
12 sense, because CA will be in a better position to know what type and quantity of trunks it
13 needs in each area to meets its business objectives. However, CA bears the costs on "its
14 side" of Local Interconnection by bearing the ordering responsibility, including the cost of
15 any ordering consultants that it may choose to use. AT&T bears the cost on "its side" of
16 Local Interconnection by processing the orders submitted by CA. That is parity. If CA
17 submits an ASR for anything other than Local Interconnection, then CA should be charged
18 the TELRIC-based rate for such an ASR which is found in the pricing attachment.

19 **Q. At page 19, line 19, Ms. Pellerin argues that CA's proposed language is inconsistent**
20 **with agreed language in the pricing schedule? Is that true?**

21 A. CA's language is not inconsistent with agreed language at all. The provision that they cite
22 is a general provision for the ordering of trunks. Not all trunks are local interconnection
23 trunks. The section she cites mandates that CA shall pay for trunk orders, etc. but the reason
24 why the provision at issue is sought is to clarify that local interconnection does not permit

1 one party to bill the other. The pricing schedule does not distinguish between local
2 interconnection orders and other orders, and as a result AT&T has attempted to charge
3 CLECs previously for Local Interconnection Trunk orders which we seek to avoid. Also, it's
4 important to keep in mind that AT&T refused to negotiate anything on the pricing schedule
5 when CA raised its issues so that's really not "agreed language."

6

7 **Issue 15: i) What is the appropriate time period for Communications Authority to**
8 **deliver the additional insured endorsement for Commercial General Liability**
9 **insurance?**

10 Resolved.

11

12 **ii) May Communications Authority exclude explosion, collapse and underground**
13 **damage coverage from its Commercial General Liability policy if it will not engage in**
14 **such work?**

15 **Q. Ms. Pellerin suggests that CA would be able to engage in work prior to providing**
16 **insurance.⁵ Is that accurate?**

17 A. No, like all of AT&T's employees that are testifying, she does not seem to understand
18 how the process actually works from the CLEC perspective. In this case, she is wrong about
19 AT&T's procedures. It is impossible to proceed with accessing AT&T structures or to
20 perform any other attachments to AT&T property without AT&T's acceptance of the
21 CLEC's application for such work. The application process requires full insurance
22 information to be provided upon submittal.

23

⁵ Pellerin testimony, page 21 at line 1.

1 **Issue 16: Which party’s insurance requirements are appropriate for the ICA when**
2 **Communications Authority is collocating?**

3 **Q. Ms. Pellerin claims that AT&T’s proposed insurance limits are consistent with**
4 **industry practice. Is that true?**

5 A. Again, this reflects AT&T hubris. She claims the limits are consistent to what AT&T has
6 “negotiated” with CLECs over the last several years. That may be AT&T practice, but AT&T
7 is not the entire industry. CA’s proposed insurance levels are actually in line with the
8 “industry practice” and consistent with what AT&T used to require. Moreover, it should be
9 noted that none of the ICAs cited by AT&T was arbitrated. The Commission must be careful
10 not to conflate CLEC acquiescence, and/or fear of trying to negotiate with AT&T, with any
11 form of “standard industry practice.” CA is unaware of any CLEC in Florida which is
12 collocating under a boilerplate AT&T ICA such as those approved over the past several
13 years. Although those agreements may contain collocation provisions, it does not necessarily
14 follow that the CLECs cared about such provisions because they may not plan to collocate.

15 **Q. How do you respond to Ms. Pellerin’s fire damage concerns?**

16 A. She appears to be overlooking the fact that a) we’re in a segregated part of the CO from
17 AT&T own equipment and b) that all equipment must comply with the NEBS standard which
18 does not permit equipment to cause a fire external to its own chassis or which spreads to any
19 other equipment. That’s the whole point of NEBS certification, which is already required for
20 all collocated equipment.

21

22 **Issue 17: i) What notification interval should Communications Authority provide to**
23 **AT&T Florida for a proposed assignment or transfer?**

24 Resolved.

1 **Issue 18: Should the ICA expire on a date certain that is two years plus 90 days from**
2 **the date the ICA is sent to Communications Authority for execution, or should the term**
3 **of the ICA be five years from the effective date?**

4 **Q. How do you respond to Ms. Pellerin's testimony on this issue?**

5 A. First to be clear, AT&T refused to engage in substantive negotiations with CA about the
6 term length. I raised the five year term verbally with AT&T's negotiator, Lora Mach, with
7 no response. I did make clear that CA wanted 5 years and that is what we were going to ask
8 for in the arbitration. There were verbal discussions at that time about a 3 year compromise,
9 but AT&T would not agree to the compromise after it asked CA to propose it in the language
10 being negotiated. In their response, I do not see any rationale as to why their proposal is
11 better. AT&T seems to be just trying to narrow the window for other CLECs to adopt the
12 arbitrated version of this ICA. That does not seem to be a reasonable excuse to potentially
13 force CA to have to expend another huge investment of time, money and resources for
14 another arbitration two years later.

15 **Q. Ms. Pellerin suggests the need for flexibility going forward. Do you agree?**

16 A. AT&T has only given a very vague "rapidly changing industry" defense of their position.
17 The change in law provision in the ICA is sufficient to address future modifications.
18 Moreover, the parties are free to amend the ICA at any time. Seems to me that AT&T does
19 not want to be locked into a more reasonable ICA for 5 years. I do not believe that the
20 industry is changing any more rapidly now than it has over the past two decades. Since the
21 passage of the Act, it is clear that the industry has undergone constant changes in law,
22 regulation, technology and business practices. AT&T has suggested but has offered no
23 evidence that the pace of change is different now.

24 **Q. Does CA have a problem with "hard coding" a date certain for expiration?**

1 A. No, in fact, that would be preferred as Ms. Pellerin's testimony is correct on this point. It
2 seems AT&T is changing policy here and that is good for the industry. We still disagree on
3 the term length however.

4 **Q. Is CA at all comforted by Ms. Pellerin's suggestion that the ICA would likely go into**
5 **evergreen status so no new arbitration would be necessary?**

6 A. No. AT&T has every incentive to limit the availability of an arbitrated ICA as the terms
7 are much more favorable to any CLEC than their standard boilerplate ICA. I fully expect
8 AT&T to send a notice of ICA expiration as soon as they are allowed. Even if it did not,
9 however, since AT&T has taken the position that evergreen ICAs may not be adopted by
10 another CLEC and/or could limit what AT&T considers a "reasonable time," this would once
11 again mean that there are no arbitrated ICAs in Florida for CLECs to adopt. That would
12 leave only AT&T's boilerplate ICA as an option for new CLECs, and this clearly harms
13 competition in general which the Commission is mandated to protect.

14

15 **Issue 19: Should termination due to failure to correct a material breach be prohibited if**
16 **the Dispute Resolution process has been invoked but not concluded?**

17 **Q. Do you agree with Ms. Pellerin's testimony on Issue 19?**

18 A. No. The rule says that if the ICA requires a different dispute resolution process other than
19 before the PSC, then that takes precedence. CA's proposed language allows either party the
20 right to take disputes to the PSC at any time. Thus, our language precludes what they've said
21 here. We have offered repeatedly to include language that would mandate a bond in the event
22 that we lose a proceeding before the PSC and decide to appeal. This is standard for appellate
23 proceedings and in most state commissions. This gives AT&T finality or security after the
24 first adverse decision, which is not open-ended as they stated.

1 **Q. What is your opinion of AT&T's stance towards the Commission's newly created**
2 **expedited resolution procedure?**

3 A. Frankly, AT&T seems desperate to avoid the Commission's expedited resolution
4 procedure by striking the possibility from the ICA. CA would prefer this avenue to resolving
5 disputes rather than being forced into a long, resource-intensive formal complaint
6 proceeding.

7 **Q. How do you respond to Ms. Pellerin's testimony beginning on page 31 regarding**
8 **termination of an ICA due to breach?**

9 A. She makes it plain that AT&T wants to be the sole arbiter of what constitutes a legitimate
10 dispute and what does not. If that was the case, then none of CA's disputes would pass the
11 test. The very fact that a dispute must be escalated shows that AT&T does not consider it to
12 be legitimate.

13 **Q. What about AT&T's alleged reluctance to terminate?**

14 A. The fact is, AT&T would suffer no damage whatsoever if it wrongfully terminated a
15 CLEC's services and then dared the now-defunct CLEC to sue it for damages. Even if it
16 won, the CLEC would be out of business; its network, business relationships and credibility
17 destroyed. AT&T might at some point be forced to pay a settlement to the CLEC but there
18 should be no question that the CLEC suffers catastrophic harm while AT&T carries on with
19 annual profits approaching \$1 billion. This is not adequate incentive for AT&T to "play by
20 the rules."

21 **Q. Do you have any recent experience involving AT&T's termination for breach?**

22 A. Yes. AT&T caused a catastrophic outage for Terra Nova in the entire South
23 FloridaMSA. AT&T did not suffer any huge civil liability as Ms. Pellerin implies. Instead,
24 TNT was forced to accept a payment equal to 10% of Terra Nova's demonstrated damages.

1 **Issue 21: Should Communications Authority be responsible for Late Payment Charges**
2 **when Communications Authority's payment is delayed as a result of its failure to use**
3 **electronic funds credit transfers through the ACH network?**

4 Resolved.

5

6 **Issue 22a: Should the disputing party be required to use the billing party's preferred**
7 **form or method to communicate billing disputes?**

8 **Issue 22b: Should Communications Authority use AT&T Florida's form to notify**
9 **AT&T Florida that it is disputing a bill?**

10 **Q. How do you react to react to Ms. Pellerin's comparison of AT&T and the IRS?**

11 A. I find it instructive as to AT&T's mentality—they are the law so they set the rules. The
12 IRS requires forms so that people can comply with a federal law. AT&T is suggesting CA
13 use their inadequate dispute forms because it's more convenient for them. I do not see the
14 situations as similar. There is no rule or regulation requiring CLECs to use forms that seem
15 purposely designed to allow AT&T to reject disputes and waste a CLEC's resources first in
16 trying to complete the form and then later in escalations and appeals. If the form was
17 sufficient, that would be a different situation. But again, if their bills were accurate, then
18 AT&T wouldn't have such a volume of disputes to address every month.

19 **Q. On page 40 at line 5, Ms. Pellerin states that since it is CA that wishes to take the**
20 **action i.e. to dispute the bill, it is CA that should bear the cost.**

21 A. Do you agree? First, AT&T should send accurate bills. That is out of CA's control.
22 Second, the disputes must be realistic. The ICA requires that all disputes be bona fide and
23 the filing of bad faith disputes is a breach of the ICA. Therefore, AT&T is entitled to remedy
24 if CA files bad faith disputes. Assuming that CA does not file bad faith disputes, then

1 AT&T's inaccurate billing is the cause of billing disputes and therefore it further exacerbates
2 the unfair treatment of CA to make it bear the cost of using AT&T's cumbersome disputes
3 form.

4 **Q. Throughout her testimony, Ms. Pellerin implies that the commercial relationship**
5 **between CLECs is reasonably normal. Do you agree?**

6 A. No. AT&T goes to great lengths to try to establish that the relationship between AT&T
7 and a CLEC is a normal business relationship, when it is clear that this is far from the
8 truth. In a normal B2B relationship, a vendor wants customers to do business with it and so
9 the vendor designs its business processes around what is best for the customer. Not so with
10 the ILEC/CLEC relationship. AT&T barely hides its contempt for CLECs and its desire for
11 its CLEC burdens under the Telecom Act to be lifted. AT&T has a perverse incentive to
12 escalate a CLEC's costs, which is what it is attempting in this arbitration.

13

14 Under AT&T's proposal, the CLEC bears all the costs of billing disputes and AT&T bears
15 none. Thus, the more incorrect billing AT&T sends to a CLEC, the more the CLEC is
16 harmed while AT&T suffers nothing. Alas, AT&T has every incentive to bill a CLEC
17 incorrectly and no incentive at all to correct billing errors. Especially in light of their
18 comparative size, this is hardly fair.

19

20 Finally, AT&T belabors the point over and over again about what all of its other customers
21 accept. Well of course they do; they didn't have the will or the resources to arbitrate an ICA
22 so they took whatever AT&T offered. But that's asking the wrong question. How many of
23 those customers would prefer not to use AT&T's cumbersome disputes form and would opt-
24 in to CA's ICA to obtain that benefit? That's the question that should be asked, and it is not

1 at all relevant what other CLECs have accepted in the context of this arbitration. This
2 proceeding is not about the other CLECs who did not arbitrate; it's about the one CLEC who
3 dared to stand up and say this whole situation is not ok.

4

5 **Issue 23: Should a party that disputes a bill be required to pay the disputed amount**
6 **into an interest-bearing escrow account pending resolution of the dispute?**

7 **Q. Ms. Pellerin cites AT&T's risk exposure as a rationale for requiring disputed**
8 **amounts be placed in escrow. Does that seem reasonable?**

9 A. Absolutely not. AT&T claims that they are unfairly exposed if a CLEC files billing
10 disputes month after month and the CLEC deposit would not cover AT&T's exposure. First,
11 we believe that it is unreasonable for AT&T to take a position that it never has any risk,
12 ever. Nothing in law says that AT&T shall bear no risk. Second, if a CLEC disputes bills
13 month after month in bad faith, AT&T has the option to invoke dispute resolution to get
14 finality on the disputed issue. Under CA's proposed language, AT&T expressly also has
15 access to the Commission's new expedited process. The scenario explained here supposes
16 that AT&T chooses not to invoke the Dispute Resolution mechanism available to it, and just
17 lets things go. That is an action that AT&T took, by its own choice, that leads to AT&T's
18 increased risk. AT&T proposes that CA should be required to address anything AT&T does
19 via the Dispute Resolution process, but proposes for itself remedies like this one where it
20 avoids that same process in favor of a more favorable one where it retains total control and
21 can harm CA without oversight or risk to itself.

22 **Q. Do you agree that AT&T's exceptions to the escrow requirement are sufficient to**
23 **assuage CA's concerns?**

1 A. No. Ms. Pellerin ignores entirely that the more common occurrence is frivolous billing by
2 AT&T to the CLEC. The latter is not only not discouraged by AT&T's language but is
3 encouraged as the CLEC is subjected to greater and greater harm the more AT&T engages in
4 this conduct. If this escrow language were fair, it would require AT&T to reimburse the
5 CLEC both for the cost of capital and administrative costs for escrow monies which end up
6 refunded to the CLEC. However, AT&T proposes none of that in its exceptions or anywhere
7 else.

8 **Q. At the top of page 46, she argues, "the parties' ICA will include comprehensive**
9 **dispute resolution provisions (GT&C section 13), and the Commission's expedited**
10 **dispute resolution process is only available for resolution of disputes not governed by**
11 **the dispute resolution provisions of the ICA." How do you respond?**

12 A. Again, just because they say it over and over again does not make it true. The expedited
13 dispute resolution is available to either party so long as the ICA does not prevent it. That is
14 why we have proposed language (which AT&T has opposed) which provides that either
15 party may directly take any dispute to the Commission.

16 **Q. Ms. Pellerin states at line 21 on page 46, "AT&T Florida should not be exposed to**
17 **the risk of seven months unpaid bills. How do you respond?"**

18 A. I disagree with her assessment. First, what law or regulations says that AT&T is entitled
19 to take no risks, and that the CLEC must assume all risks and burdens including those of
20 incorrect AT&T billing? Second, I do not believe that AT&T would take such risks if it
21 promptly processed disputes in good faith and initiated the Dispute Resolution process when
22 it is entitled to do so.

23

24

1 **Q. Is CA's position changed at all by her discussion of the Biddix fraud?**

2 A. No. The Biddix episode demonstrates what happens when AT&T fails to timely exercise
3 its rights under an ICA. Moreover, it highlights AT&T's lack of reasonable institutional
4 financial loss prevention controls. Why should CLECs have to escrow disputed amounts
5 because of AT&T's openly displayed incompetence? AT&T had dispute resolution avenues
6 available to it during that time which it failed to invoke. That hardly shows that the standard
7 ICA deposit language is inadequate if AT&T's loss is a direct result of Biddix's actions
8 coupled with AT&T's failure to invoke the dispute resolution provisions of the ICA.

9 **Q. Ms. Pellerin raises concerns about CA due to your involvement with AstroTel. How**
10 **do you respond?**

11 A. AstroTel's bankruptcy was solely the result of an unfavorable outcome of a
12 commercially arbitrated dispute with Verizon. Both Verizon and AT&T were paid in full as
13 part of the bankruptcy process. As it happens, AT&T filed a claim in the bankruptcy case
14 trying to collect disputed charges for which it had never responded to AstroTel, but then
15 AT&T failed to appear for the hearing on its own claim. As a result, AstroTel was awarded a
16 default judgment on the claim. Therefore, AT&T took no loss and in fact had to refund
17 AstroTel's deposit in the end. AstroTel, Inc. was permitted not to pay the Regulatory
18 Assessment Fees for 2012 and 2013 because it was not doing business in those years; its
19 operations had previously been sold to Birch Communications and its corporate structure was
20 being wound-down during that time. Her implications are way off base and inappropriate.

21

22 **Issue 24: i) Should the ICA provide that the billing party may only send a**
23 **discontinuance notice for unpaid undisputed charges? ii) Should the non-paying party**
24 **have 15 or 30 calendar days from the date of a discontinuance notice to remit payment?**

1 **Q. Ms. Pellerin claims that the Commission has approved many ICAs with this**
2 **language since 2005. How do you respond?**

3 A. She does not indicate if any of those were arbitrated, so I assume they are all boilerplate
4 ICAs. I researched all ICAs since 2000 prior to deciding to arbitrate this one, and found that
5 there were no arbitrated agreements in at least 6 or 7 years with AT&T Florida. She also
6 notes in a footnote that “vintage ICAs” contain the 30 day provision and dos not explain why
7 AT&T changed its policy.

8 **Q. Do you still maintain that 30 days is necessary?**

9 A. Yes. What makes 30 days unreasonably long to resolve a non-payment problem? The
10 reason why we need 30 days is that the most likely scenario is that there is a payment posting
11 error on AT&T’s side or a payment was not received. It is not reasonable to expect the
12 CLEC to track down what happened to the payment, then get it corrected in 14 days. In the
13 case of a bona fide dispute that needs to go to the Commission, it would be nearly impossible
14 to get that prepared and filed in 14 days. The focus here needs to be on the harm done to the
15 CLEC if AT&T is wrong and terminates services, versus the harm done to AT&T if the
16 CLEC has an extra 14 days. Buried in the footnote is their admission that “vintage ICAs”
17 said 30 days. I think that means that the newer, non-arbitrated ones are the ones that are
18 different. That means that in previous arbitrations, the Commission thought that 30 days was
19 reasonable. What regulatory decision or change of law entitled AT&T to cut this window in
20 half? Nothing, I imagine. I assume AT&T just slipped it into uncontested agreements without
21 any change in law or regulation.

22

1 **Issue 25: Should the ICA obligate the billing party to provide itemized detail of each**
2 **adjustment when crediting the billed party when a dispute is resolved in the billed**
3 **party's favor?**

4 **Q. On page 53, Ms. Pellerin argues, "AT&T Florida should not be contractually**
5 **obligated to do the impossible." How do you respond?**

6 A. AT&T claims that when a CLEC files a billing dispute (the format and detail of which are
7 subject to many AT&T requirements), then AT&T investigates the specific dispute filed by
8 the CLEC and finds that the CLEC is correct, it is then impossible for AT&T to identify
9 which dispute is being credited when billing credits are issued by AT&T to correct billing
10 errors that AT&T made in the first place? Exactly how and why is that impossible? Why is
11 it appropriate for the CLEC to never be able to reconcile its dispute records simply by letting
12 AT&T off the hook for proper accounting after it admits that it billed incorrectly?

13

14 Further, if CA is required to file formal billing disputes with the Commission, those will
15 certainly be based upon quantifiable billing disputes that CA has already filed with AT&T
16 which AT&T has failed to resolve. Why would the fact that the Commission had to decide
17 the issues cause confusion about which disputes are being credited and in what
18 amounts? CA would still be entitled to a fair accounting of billing credits related to its
19 disputes. AT&T appears to acknowledge that its position is that CA is not entitled to a fair
20 accounting even after AT&T admits that it billed in error. Could CA refuse to submit
21 detailed disputes to AT&T solely because it doesn't understand AT&T's billing or thinks the
22 bill is too high and should therefore be excused from "doing the impossible" of
23 understanding the bills?

24

1 At the end of the day, stating that a thing is impossible does not make it so. And in any event,
2 AT&T has made no showing why providing information as to how a credit was resolved is
3 impossible. AT&T simply does not want to be required to provide fair accounting (after it
4 has admitted a mistake) to fully show that the mistake has been corrected. AT&T should be
5 required to do that, at a minimum.

6

7 **Issue 26: What is the appropriate time frame for a party to dispute a bill?**

8 Resolved

9

10 **Issue 29: i) Should the ICA permit a party to bring a complaint directly to the**
11 **Commission, bypassing the dispute resolution provisions of the ICA? ii) Should the ICA**
12 **permit a party to seek relief from the Commission for an alleged violation of law or**
13 **regulation governing a subject that is covered by the ICA?**

14 **Q. Do you agree with Ms. Pellerin's position that CA seems to be seeking PSC**
15 **intervention without any discussion between the parties first?**

16 A. No, that's absurd. No CLEC has the time for that and we would much prefer to work
17 things out amicably. CA seeks the right to PSC assistance as a counter-balance to AT&T's
18 position of overwhelming market power.

19 **Q. In her testimony, Ms. Pellerin appears to suggest that no laws or regulations apply to**
20 **the parties outside of the ICA. Do you agree?**

21 A. No, as a broad, sweeping generalization, that is not accurate. I don't think it's true that
22 when two parties have an ICA that no regulations or laws outside of the ICA apply any
23 more. Ms. Pellerin seems to miss a key point—CLECs suffer much greater risk in most ICA
24 disputes than does AT&T. If AT&T is refusing to connect or repair service, the CLEC

1 suffers great harm. If AT&T has taken some action against the CLEC or its customers that is
2 in dispute the CLEC suffers far greater harm than does AT&T. Therefore, time is far more
3 of the essence to the CLEC than to AT&T.

4

5 Ms. Pellerin makes a false assumption throughout her testimony that the CLEC is not being
6 harmed during the dispute resolution process, but that is hardly ever the case in my
7 experience. If AT&T has disconnected something important to the CLEC, the CLEC may
8 not exist after the 60 day window that AT&T proposes. AT&T should not be permitted to
9 “run out the clock” on the ICA’s dispute resolution process perhaps without actually trying to
10 resolve anything, because that action could be fatal to the CLEC and AT&T has an incentive
11 to do that. I cannot envision a dispute wherein a CLEC suffers less harm than AT&T if a
12 party runs out the clock on the dispute resolution process before going to the
13 Commission. Therefore, AT&T’s proposal is disproportionately harmful to the CLEC.

14 **Q. Do you agree that CA’s language is barred due to agreed language in the section?**

15 A. No, our language is in the same section 13 and states “Nothing in this agreement shall be
16 construed...” therefore we have been consistent with our proposal that we never intended for
17 the agreed language to supercede our proposed language. Indeed, it makes no sense for a
18 CLEC to waive its right to regulatory relief which it may urgently need in order to protect
19 itself from anti-competitive behavior by AT&T. Even if a complaint was for a violation of
20 the ICA as Ms. Pellerin claims, either party should be able to proceed directly to the
21 Commission with that complaint when the circumstances warrant, to prevent further harm
22 caused by the other party. The only way that would be contrary to the ICA would be if CA’s
23 provision were not added, which is why we want it. Their argument seems to be “You can’t
24 add this because you can’t go to the commission for breach of ICA claims”, while the reason

1 why you can't is because they presuppose that this provision is not included. That's circular
2 logic.

3

4 **Issue 31: Does AT&T Florida have the right to reuse network elements or resold**
5 **services facilities utilized to provide service solely to Communications Authority's**
6 **customer subsequent to disconnection by Communications Authority's customer**
7 **without a disconnection order by Communications Authority?**

8 Resolved

9

10 **Issue 33a: Should the purchasing party be excused from paying a Tax to the providing**
11 **party that the purchasing party would otherwise be obligated to pay if the purchasing**
12 **party pays the Tax directly to the Governmental Authority?**

13 **Q. Mr. McPhee states, "the issue is whether CA can improperly pay a tax to a**
14 **government authority that AT&T Florida is supposed to pay – and does in fact pay – on**
15 **resale services and then obtain reimbursement from AT&T Florida for those taxes." Do**
16 **you agree?**

17 A. No. I believe AT&T has previously argued that the 911 "surcharge" is a tax, while now
18 they are arguing the opposite. CA is certainly not suggesting that AT&T "reimburse" us for
19 the tax that we pay.

20 **Q. In response to a question on why it is proper for AT&T rather than CA to pay taxes**
21 **on CA's customers' services, Mr. McPhee argues that the ICA language requires it. Is**
22 **that accurate?**

23 A. No. They are essentially arguing that we must double-pay this tax because that is how the
24 ICA would read if AT&T's proposed language was accepted.

1 **Q. His testimony goes on to suggest that it is impossible for a CLEC to double pay a tax.**

2 **Do you agree?**

3 A. The CLEC cannot determine what taxes AT&T has paid to whom so that it can claim
4 exemption, because AT&T does not give the CLEC the county designation for each resale
5 line or an aggregate count of the number of lines (and thus 911 surcharges) per
6 county. Exemptions from the CLEC's 911 obligations must be taken per county, thus the
7 CLEC is forced to double-pay under AT&T's language. AT&T's language assumes that a
8 resale CLEC is not also facilities-based, which is contrary to reality and to the intent of the
9 Act. We need to point out the gall in this incorrect statement.

10

11 **Issue 33b: If Communications Authority has both resale customers and facilities-based**
12 **customers, should Communications Authority be required to use AT&T Florida as a**
13 **clearinghouse for 911 surcharges with respect to resale lines?**

14 **Q. Do you think it is as strange as Mr. McPhee implies that CA wishes to aggregate tax**
15 **burdens between facilities-based and resale customers?**

16 A. No. All taxes other than 911 work that way already. Why should 911 be different, and
17 why is it bizarre to want to bill, collect, and remit 911 charges the same way? I have direct
18 experience with two other ILECs in Florida on this issue, Verizon and CenturyLink. Both of
19 those ILECs exempt CLECs from 911 taxes in the manner that we are requesting here.

20 **Q. Is Mr. McPhee's distinction between resale and facilities-based charges accurate?**

21 A. AT&T seems to argue that resale is exactly the same as retail, but gloss over the fact that
22 CA is already entitled to exemption from all other taxes with resale. From what I understand,
23 all other ILECs in Florida provide the 911 exemption that CA seeks beyond the two that I

1 mentioned. AT&T even has a form for such an exemption which I have seen. This makes me
2 wonder if AT&T's proposed language treats CA differently than other CLECs in Florida.

3

4 **Issue 34: Should Communications Authority be required to interconnect with AT&T**
5 **Florida's E911 Selective Router?**

6 **Q. What is your reaction to Mr. McPhee's testimony regarding this issue?**

7 A. Essentially, AT&T seems to be arguing that CA can send 911 traffic wherever it likes, but
8 must still maintain expensive 911 trunks to AT&T anyway. Similar to if I went to a
9 restaurant and ordered a glass of water, that's fine, but I still have to pay for a bottle of wine
10 whether I wanted it or not. That's absurd.

11 **Q. Mr. McPhee claims that the only way CA could use a third-party 911 carrier would**
12 **be if there was a middleman between us and AT&T's tandem. Is that true?**

13 A. No. Mr. McPhee does not seem to understand how AT&T itself routes 911 calls. AT&T
14 chooses to ignore the fact that the most popular competitor – Intrado – is also who AT&T
15 Florida has contracted out its own 911 database and call routing service to. When a CLEC
16 sends a 911 call to AT&T, a lookup is performed against the Intrado ALI database before the
17 call is sent to a dispatcher even if the call is carrier by AT&T circuits. Thus, the same
18 “middleman” is being used whether or not the CLEC uses AT&T or send 911 calls directly to
19 Intrado for completion.

20 **Q. AT&T suggests that protection of public safety necessitates CLECs using AT&T's**
21 **911 services. Would that provide any guarantee of safety and reliability?**

22 A. No. I have direct experience with this issue recently with Terra Nova Telecom which has
23 had multiple instances where calls were sent to the wrong PSAP by the AT&T Selective
24 Router in the past two years. Terra Nova has detailed records of these events. After

1 numerous calls from Terra Nova, AT&T did eventually correct their error which caused the
2 calls to misroute, but would never connect TNT to an agent who could discuss the problem,
3 never did explain what the cause of the issue was, and failed to return any of TNT's calls on
4 the matter. This is one of many reasons why a CLEC would not want to use AT&T for 911
5 service.

6

7 **Issue 37: Should Communications Authority be solely responsible for the facilities that**
8 **carry Communications Authority's OS/DA, E911, Mass Calling, Third Party and Meet**
9 **Point trunk groups?**

10 **Q. Ms. Pellerin states at page 74 that Pellerin says "CA should be solely responsible for**
11 **the facilities that carry OS/DA, E91, HVCI and Third Party Trunk Groups because**
12 **they are used by CA for the sole benefit of its own customers and not for the mutual**
13 **exchange of traffic with AT&T Florida." How do you respond to this statement?**

14 A. If HVCI trunks are for the sole benefit of CA and solely at CA's expense, then CA should
15 be entitled to opt out of them as it has asserted. This statement seems to be in conflict with
16 their other testimony about HVCI "Choke" trunks. She continues stating that HVCI is not
17 local interconnection but is instead "ancillary services." If that is true, then HVCI should not
18 be required by AT&T as the trunks are not part of local interconnection.

19

20 **Issue 38: May Communications Authority designate its collocation as the POI?**

21 **Q. Is CA arguing that the POI should be in its actual collocation cage?**

22 A. That depends. The industry standard until recently, even involving AT&T, was that any
23 ILEC Central Office is a point on that ILEC's network and thus a collocation within that
24 Central Office is "at the POI". However, AT&T has recently begun to take the absurd

1 position that only a special location within its Central Office is or can ever be a POI because
2 of AT&T's arbitrary distinction of which rooms within its own building are "on its network"
3 or not. We added this language to make clear that if we go to the trouble and expense to
4 build a collocation inside AT&T's Central Office (which is the only location in that Central
5 Office where we can legally go) and we deliver local interconnection circuits there, then we
6 have met our burden to "meet at the POI" and are exempt from any charges AT&T may try
7 to charge for local interconnection circuits delivered by that collocation to some other room
8 in the building which has been arbitrarily designated as "on AT&T's network". And so, if
9 one were to accept AT&T's ridiculous argument that some rooms in its Central Office are on
10 its network and others are not, then yes we are arguing that the POI should be at our
11 collocation. However, we believe that this distinction should not be required; any reasonable
12 person would conclude that the AT&T Central Office itself is "on AT&T's network" and that
13 therefore the POI is the building itself. The ICA already implies that Entrance Facilities
14 connect to the Central Office itself and not to a specific room in the Central Office in
15 AT&T's proposed language for ICC 3.3.2.1 which states "When CLEC does not elect to
16 collocate transport terminating equipment at an AT&T-21STATE Tandem or End Office,
17 CLEC may self-provision facilities, deploy third party interconnection facilities, or lease
18 existing Entrance Facilities from AT&T-21STATE." I see no way to reconcile that language
19 with AT&T's presumption that Entrance Facilities may be charged for circuits within its
20 Central Office. CA's entire point is that when it DOES elect to collocate transport
21 terminating equipment in the Central Office it has no need for Entrance Facility. AT&T's
22 language seems to agree with our position here.

23 **Q. How would you characterize AT&T's position?**

1 A. Their entire argument seems to be that certain rooms within AT&T's own Wire Center are
2 not on AT&T's network. That's silly. AT&T is arguing that the POI is not the building but
3 is an area inaccessible to CLECs thus the ILEC gets to charge the CLEC to reach it. This
4 makes it impossible for the CLEC to "meet at the POI" without incurring made-up charges
5 from AT&T.

6 **Q. Do other ILECs take this position?**

7 A. No. I have personally managed interconnection projects in Florida with three other
8 ILECs: Verizon, Embarq, and Northeast Florida Telephone. None of them have taken this
9 position.

10 **Q. Has AT&T consistently had this position over the past decade?**

11 A. No, this appears to be a change in policy. The interconnections that I project managed
12 from 2005 through 2012 with AT&T/Bellsouth did not encounter this issue.

13 **Q. Why is this position unreasonable?**

14 A. The FCC cannot possibly have intended to impose intra-building costs on CLECs who
15 meet the ILEC in their own central office as the POI. Since CA is entirely paying for its
16 collocation construction, AT&T has absolutely no cost here and no right to charge for
17 imaginary circuits on a monthly basis.

18 **Q. So you disagree then with the statement by Mr. Neinast arguing that "CA language
19 that shifts the cost of CA's network build-out onto AT&T Florida."**

20 A. Yes, that's absolutely false.

21

22 **Issue 39a: Should the ICA state that Communications Authority may use a third party**
23 **tandem provider to exchange traffic with third party carriers?**

24 Resolved

1 **Issue 39b: Should the ICA provide that either party may designate a third party**
2 **tandem as the Local Homing Tandem for its terminating traffic between the parties'**
3 **switches that are both connected to that tandem?**

4 Resolved

5

6 **Issue 40: Should the ICA obligate Communications Authority to establish a dedicated**
7 **trunk group to carry mass calling traffic?**

8 **Q. Do you agree with Mr. Neinast's assertion that all CLECs typically have HVCI**
9 **trunks?**

10 **A. No. CLECs are not uniformly required to have HVCI trunks. His response that essentially**
11 **"this is how we've done it for 6 years" is irrelevant because no CLEC has dared seek an**
12 **arbitrated ICA in that time period in Florida. That means that the agreements during that**
13 **time have been at AT&T's pleasure so of course their language has prevailed.**

14 **Q. Do you find his examples of mass calling events persuasive?**

15 **A. No. Their most recent example of a mass calling event was in 2002, and they have only**
16 **cited three events. First, three events nationwide (none of them in Florida) over the entire**
17 **history of the telephone network are not indicative of an overall problem. Further, none of**
18 **the events involved a CLEC, but instead all were internal network issues within AT&T's**
19 **network.**

20 **Q. Does his testimony raise any issues of parity?**

21 **A. Yes. He states, "AT&T believes all carriers should provide adequate mass calling choke**
22 **trunking for their end users." This directly conflicts with their proposed language, because**
23 **they have not proposed to obligate themselves to purchase HVCI trunks as they propose for**
24 **CA. They do have language about us being required to notify them of any choke numbers**

1 we may acquire, but they do not propose language requiring them to order, whether needed
2 or not, HVCI trunks to us or language requiring AT&T to pay us for them. Therefore, that is
3 not parity.

4 **Q. Mr. Neinast claims that CA has not objected to anything specific about the trunks.⁶**

5 **Do you agree?**

6 A. No. We should not be required to order and pay for useless trunks, especially when other
7 CLECs currently operating in Florida do not have such trunks and no harm has been
8 demonstrated as a result. That is our objection.

9

10 **Issue 41: Should the ICA include Communications Authority's language providing for**
11 **SIP Voice-over-IP trunk groups?**

12 **Q. Do you find it strange that AT&T would refuse ICA language seeking to require**
13 **AT&T to offer a future service should it become available?**

14 A. Yes.

15 **Q. Mr. McPhee claims that AT&T Florida does not exchange any traffic over SIP**
16 **trunks with CLECs. Do you disagree?**

17 A. I believe Mr. McPhee is just playing the usual AT&T corporate shell game. Some version
18 of AT&T offers SIP termination for IP-originated calls. It is called AT&T Voice Over IP
19 Connect Service (AVOICS) and my previous company subscribed to the service.⁷ It worked
20 well. I do not believe that the AVOICS service is technically distinct from local
21 interconnection service, and so I do not believe that AT&T is not technically capable of local
22 interconnection in the same manner. It seems to me that AT&T is willing to provide modern

⁶ Neinast testimony, page 13 at line 5.

⁷ See, http://www.business.att.com/wholesale/resource_item/Family/ip-solutions-wholesale/voip-wholesale/Brochure/w_avoics/

1 interconnection when such service generates revenue for AT&T, but claims technical
2 infeasibility for local interconnection which would both be revenue-neutral and would also
3 help CLECs to reduce unnecessary costs which is contrary to AT&T's business objectives.

4 **Q. Do you believe that some AT&T entity provides "SIP interconnection" as Mr.
5 McPhee describes it?**

6 A. Yes. For one example, the Michigan PSC ordered AT&T to file its SIP interconnection
7 agreement with the PSC as an interconnection agreement under §251 and §252. Verizon is
8 facing a similar problem with Massachusetts.⁸

9 **Q. Do you agree that the Florida PSC is precluded from ordering SIP interconnection
10 due to a pending FCC decision on the issue?**

11 A. I am not a lawyer, but I do not see why. The PSC has authority under the Act to decide on
12 the terms of interconnection agreements, that's why we are in this arbitration. It would seem
13 to me that the PSC could not order anything that was prohibited by federal law. But on the
14 other hand, the PSC could decide that ILEC interconnection should be technology neutral
15 and order SIP interconnection. In any case, all CA is asking for now is that its language make
16 it possible in the future should AT&T offer it to someone else. If some version of AT&T is
17 offering IP interconnection now (whether under an ICA, contract, or by tariff), then IP
18 interconnection must be technically feasible, and yes, CA believes it should be entitled to it
19 immediately. CA's proposed ICA language memorializes that position.

20 **Q. What is your response to Mr. McPhee's suggestion that CA should simply adopt
21 another ICA in the future if an ICA with SIP interconnection became available?**

⁸ <http://www.fiercetelecom.com/story/att-mandated-michigan-psc-file-interconnection-agreement-sprint/2014-03-25>

1 A. This is exactly the problem—CA should not have to do so, particularly after spending so
2 much of its resources arbitrating to make this ICA more reasonable.

3 **Q. Mr. McPhee brings up the issue of pick and choose. Do you agree that CA is**
4 **attempting to make that possible?**

5 A. No, CA understands the law and is not attempting to allow for pick and choose other ICA
6 provisions. Pick and choose is a construct of ICA adoption under the Act. CA does not seek
7 here to adopt another CLEC's agreement or any part thereof. Rather, CA seeks to include a
8 reasonable provision in its arbitrated agreement which is solely at issue because of AT&T's
9 claim that it is not technically capable of SIP interconnection today. CA does not believe this
10 claim is true, and believes that it is entitled to such SIP interconnection but for AT&T's
11 claim that it is not feasible. So it seems reasonable that if this claim is proven false or is no
12 longer true, CA should be entitled to SIP interconnection in parity with what AT&T offers to
13 others.

14 **Q. Mr. McPhee states in a footnote, if CA asked AT&T Florida for the same rates, terms**
15 **and conditions and AT&T Florida refused, CA might try to assert some sort of**
16 **discrimination claim – but any such claim would not arise under the 1996 Act, and so is not**
17 **a proper consideration here. Do you agree?**

18 A. I do not understand his point. If he is suggesting that providing language in an ICA preventing
19 discrimination is inappropriate, then I disagree. The PSC maintains jurisdiction to ensure that
20 discrimination among CLECs does not occur.

21

22 **Issue 42: Should Communications Authority be obligated to pay for an audit when the**
23 **PLF, PLU and/or PIU factors it provides AT&T Florida are overstated by 5% or more**

1 **or by an amount resulting in AT&T Florida under-billing Communications Authority**
2 **by \$2,500 or more per month?**

3 Resolved

4

5 **Issue 43: i) Is the billing party entitled to accrue late payment charges and interest on**
6 **unpaid intercarrier compensation charges? ii) When a billing dispute is resolved in**
7 **favor of the billing party, should the billed party be obligated to make payment within**
8 **10 business days or 30 business days?**

9 **Q. Ms. Pellerin claims that CA agrees with the principle that AT&T may charge both**
10 **interest and late payment charges for everything except intercarrier compensation**
11 **charges. Do you agree?**

12 A. No, I do not recall agreeing to that proposition anywhere. To be clear, CA's view is that
13 late payment charges in the agreed amount of 18% APR (1.5% per month) shall apply,
14 period. Adding interest to that is just greedy, and we do not agree. No other ILEC does that.
15 Our intent was to remove interest charges from all sections leaving only the agreed-upon
16 18% late payment charge. Moreover, AT&T's application of interest would violate Florida's
17 usury limit of 18%.

18

19 **Issue 44: Should the ICA contain a definition for HDSL-capable loops?**

20 **Q. Do you agree with Ms. Kemp's assertion that there is no distinction between an**
21 **HDSL loop and HDSL compatible loop?**

22 A. No, she is simply incorrect.

23 **Q. Why would AT&T ignore the distinction?**

1 A. It's simple—under the FCC's Triennial Review Remand Order ("TRRO"), a Tier 1
2 central office becomes non-impaired for a CLEC for DS1 loop facilities. By ignoring the
3 distinction between DS1 and HDSL-compatible (also called HDSL-capable), AT&T can
4 force CLECs to purchase special access DS1 circuits at a much higher cost than HDSL-
5 compatible circuits which should still be priced as UNE. Further, HDSL-compatible circuits
6 can be used by a CLEC to provide a variety of different services and not just DS1. By
7 conflating the definitions of DS1 and HDSL-compatible, AT&T seeks to deny CA the ability
8 to deploy other advanced services using HDSL-compatible loops.

9 **Q. Do you agree with her assertion that CA has conceded this point?**

10 A. Absolutely not. HDSL is the method by which AT&T sometimes delivers a DS1, but the
11 loop is just copper. HDSL-compatible means that it meets the technical requirements for
12 HDSL, not that AT&T has actually lit it and therefore would not be subject to the TRRO's
13 cap.

14

15 **Issue 45: How should the ICA describe what is meant by a vacant ported number?**

16 **Q. Do you agree with Ms. Pellerin's testimony?**

17 A. No, the FCC set clear number portability rules and carriers follow them routinely now.
18 The end user has the right to move the number at its option until that number is disconnected.
19 CA also does not agree that a telephone number may not be conveyed, particularly in the
20 example of an asset purchase sale. Her example at page 84, line 13 is also off-point because
21 they have shown a residential example. That situation is very unlikely to happen; it would be
22 much more likely that a business might be sold and seek to convey its number, which is a
23 routine business transaction that is very common.

1 **Q. Do you agree with Ms. Pellerin’s statement at page 88, line 15, “AT&T Florida’s**
2 **description of when a ported number is vacant is consistent with industry treatment of**
3 **ported numbers and CA’s is not.”**

4 A. No, I do not. That is a conclusory statement without any support.

5

6 **Issue 46: i) Should the ICA include limitations on the geographic portability of**
7 **telephone numbers?**

8 **Q. Do you agree with Mr. neinast’s characterization of this issue?**

9 A. No. He seems to be framing it in terms of the old dial-up reciprocal compensation battles
10 from 15 years ago. Our disagreement has nothing to do with intercarrier compensation or
11 call routing. We do not seek to change the rate center designations of numbers. We’re just
12 saying that if a subscriber wants to keep his number when he moves to a new area, we are
13 permitted to let him do that. That’s clearly required by FCC number portability rules.

14 **Q. Do you agree with his example on page 14 at line 21 regarding geographical porting?**

15 A. No. Whether the end user customer in his example is in Miami or Jacksonville, if we port
16 the number from AT&T then AT&T delivers calls to us at the local tandem to which we are
17 connected. AT&T has no visibility or control of where the end user is and the end user
18 location changes nothing for AT&T in how the order is submitted, processed or how service
19 works after the number ports, as it should be.

20

21 **ii) Should the ICA provide that neither party may port toll-free service telephone**
22 **numbers?**

23 Resolved.

24

1 **Issue 47: Should the ICA require the parties to provide access to live agents for**
2 **handling repair issues?**

3 **Q. Mr. Chamberlin’s testimony suggests that CA expects a live agent to immediately**
4 **answer the phone to make a human agent immediately available for “any CA telephone**
5 **call to report an outage, open a repair ticket, or inquire about a repair ticket.” Is that the**
6 **case?**

7 A. No. CA is simply seeking a method whereby a repair call gets some attention rather than
8 entering an IVR black hole.

9 **Q. How does that occur?**

10 A. When making a call into the repair center, the IVR generally asks for a circuit ID or ticket
11 number. After entering the correct number, the IVR system often cannot locate the circuit or
12 ticket and then disconnects the call without any progress being made.

13 **Q. Does Mr. Chamberlin’s testimony indicate a lack of understanding as to how the**
14 **system actually operates for CLECs?**

15 A. Yes. First, it has not been shown that calls are handled more efficiently or quickly via IVR
16 without human intervention. Perhaps AT&T thinks it is cheaper, but it is surely not as
17 efficient. AT&T does not seem to acknowledge the difficulties that it has forced upon CLECs
18 who have to use this bizarre system. In my opening testimony, I offered specific examples of
19 major outages for TNT where AT&T did not make a live agent available to TNT which
20 dramatically lengthened the outage. His comment that CA will reach a live agent after going
21 through call tree prompts is patently false; he is omitting the fact that some of the prompts
22 often cannot be correctly navigated (i.e. circuit ID).

23

24

1 **Q. Is CA requesting a single live agent dedicated to CA?**

2 A. CA has not demanded a dedicated agent. That would certainly be nice, but AT&T has no
3 incentive to make life easy and efficient for CLECs. It is not unreasonable for AT&T to
4 provide live agents to handle repair issues even if it means for all CLECs in Florida. That is
5 how it used to be, and AT&T did not ask (to my knowledge) the PSC's permission to change
6 that.

7 **Q. Mr. Chamberlin claims that the cost of AT&T providing live repair agents to
8 CLECs is not reflected in the pricing that it proposes to charge CLECs. Do you agree?**

9 A. I don't see how that can be true, because AT&T's UNE price list has been the same (or
10 has increased substantially in some cases) since all repairs were handled by live agents.

11 **Q. Mr. Chamberlin cites a previous ICA arbitration that purportedly addresses this
12 issue. Do you agree it is applicable?**

13 A. No, that case was seeking substantial changes to BellSouth's OSS. How is asking for
14 eventual access to a live, reasonably well-trained employee the same thing? Requiring AT&T
15 to allow a phone ring on an agent's desk or in a call queue is not the same thing. CA's
16 proposal is not overly complicated nor would it involve any huge expense or
17 undertaking. His response is a smokescreen. AT&T would prefer to leave CLECs with the
18 current disadvantage of not being able to have repairs or outages timely addressed. Even
19 though the problem was not caused by CA, eventually customers get frustrated with the
20 process and decide to go elsewhere for service, including to AT&T.

21 **Q. Is CA concerned about AT&T's repair times?**

22 A. Yes, but that is not the issue here. Many years ago, the PSC recognized that problem and
23 created the SEEMS program. SEEMS is a self-reporting mechanism where BellSouth can
24 self-disclose how often it fails to process orders, complete repairs, or complete installations

1 and makes payments for the CLEC's troubles. Just because SEEMS still exists should not
2 mean that Bellsouth is excused from fair treatment of CLECs (and more specifically CA). In
3 my experience in the past several years, practically all such issues caused by AT&T were not
4 self-disclosed through SEEMS or compensated for. This is in contrast to what I witnessed
5 prior to the AT&T acquisition of Bellsouth where SEEMS payments were regular.

6 **Q. Does it appear that Mr. Chamberlin is trying to reframe the issue and make CA**
7 **appear unreasonable?**

8 A. Yes, that is a common theme throughout AT&T's testimony. This issue regards AT&T's
9 deliberate construction of a barrier which delays the reporting and resolution of a problem
10 through normal channels by imposing an unworkable process for the reporting of
11 repairs. Although AT&T does provide an "escalation list," my experience is that everyone
12 on that list, when called, goes directly to voicemail and they never call back. This is why the
13 process is broken. By the time a CLEC tries their normal process which fails, then calls
14 everyone on the escalation list and leaves voicemail, the outage has now been in progress for
15 several hours. While that is not troubling to AT&T, it is to a CLEC. Especially with a major
16 outage.

17

18 **Issue 48a: Should the provisioning dispatch terms and related charges in the OSS**

19 **Attachment apply equally to both parties?**

20 **Issue 48b: Should the repair terms and related charges in the OSS Attachment apply**

21 **equally to both parties?**

22 **Q. How do you respond to Ms. Kemp's testimony on Issue 48a and 48b?**

23 A. Ms. Kemp has created an artificial CA and then developed a story around that. Again, she
24 seems not to fully understand how things actually work on the ground for CLECs. She

1 states, "AT&T never orders services from CA." Although true, CA never suggested AT&T
2 did. She continues with, "CA never dispatches on behalf of AT&T Florida." Perhaps not, but
3 CA might dispatch based upon false information provided by AT&T Florida (install
4 complete, or repair complete) just as AT&T's language permits it to charge CA if it
5 dispatches based upon false information from CA (service not working).

6

7 She then states, "The reciprocal scenario whereby AT&T provides CA with incorrect or
8 incomplete information (e.g. incomplete address, incorrect contact name/number, etc.)
9 simply will never occur; therefore no reciprocal terms for billing should be included." CA
10 never raised this as a possibility. It is not the issue that actually happens. The more common
11 scenario is that AT&T claims "no trouble found" on a trouble ticket and after rolling a truck,
12 the CLEC determines that, in fact, AT&T was wrong. In many cases that I have seen, the
13 CLEC's end user states that no AT&T employees has even shown up. Then AT&T has to
14 dispatch "again" and the problem continues. AT&T should reimburse CA for wasting its time
15 and resources.

16 She continues with, "AT&T Florida would never submit a service order nor order any service
17 from CA" CA never said they did, this is about one party rolling a truck based upon false
18 information from the other. She concludes with, "Thus, in this context, CA's proposed
19 reciprocity is meaningless." That would be true only if you accept the above false statements
20 and ignore CA's actual proposed language.

21

22 Finally, Ms. Kemp argues, "The proposed addition to Section 7.11 contains no limits, enables
23 CO alone to determine that the issue was caused by AT&T Florida, and allows CA to bill
24 AT&T Florida for all dispatches that CA attributes to AT&T Florida's error." This is false

1 on its face. The actual clear language that we proposed is the exact same language that
2 AT&T proposed for itself, with our added proviso: “such as AT&T tampering with CLEC
3 End User’s ICA Service, AT&T falsely reporting that ICA Service has been properly
4 installed when it has not, or AT&T falsely reporting that ICA Service has been repaired when
5 it has not).” Those are very clear limits, and the language is reciprocal because it is their
6 actual language from the paragraph above.

7

8 She goes on to complain, “The proposed section 6.4 contains no limits, enables CA alone to
9 determine that the issue was caused by AT&T Florida, and bills AT&T Florida for all
10 dispatches that CA attributes to AT&T Florida’s error.” Again, actually, this is parity as it is
11 exactly the same rights that AT&T has reserved to itself for billing isolation charges.

12

13 **Issue 49: When Communications Authority attaches facilities to AT&T Florida’s**
14 **structure, should Communications Authority be excused from paying inspection costs if**
15 **AT&T Florida’s own facilities bear the same defect as Communications Authority’s?**

16 Resolved.

17

18 **Issue 50: In order for Communications Authority to obtain from AT&T Florida an**
19 **unbundled network element (UNE) or a combination of UNEs for which there is no**
20 **price in the ICA, must Communications Authority first negotiate an amendment to the**
21 **ICA to provide a price for that UNE or UNE combination?**

22 **Q. Do you agree with Ms. Kemp’s characterization of CA’s position on this issue?**

23 A. No. She is suggesting that CA seeks to “pick and choose” from ICAs and that is not the
24 case. CA simply seeks some assurance in the ICA that should a UNE or UNE combination

1 become available in the future to another carrier, CA may seek that same element(s). It is an
2 issue of preventing discrimination, one that is controlled by federal law. Presumably, if the
3 new UNE was created by a change in law, CA could seek an amendment using the change in
4 law provision in the ICA. AT&T can always refuse to execute an amendment, however,
5 leaving CA with no recourse but follow the dispute resolution process. CA's language simply
6 attempts to make it clear that AT&T cannot discriminate in the future in the provision of new
7 UNE(s), something that is plainly true.

8

9 **Issue 51: Should AT&T Florida be required to prove to Communications Authority's**
10 **satisfaction and without charge that a requested UNE is not available?**

11 **Q. Do you agree with Ms. Kemp's characterization of CA's position on this issue?**

12 A. Absolutely not, and again, it appears she does not understand how AT&T's systems
13 actually work for CLECs. She states, "CA has access to the same tools to determine the
14 availability of facilities that AT&T Florida uses to make a determination." This is not true.
15 My experience is that in Florida, their automated systems automatically say no facilities are
16 available everywhere. A CLEC must issue a request and it queries AT&T's TIRKS database
17 for dark fiber. TIRKS does not, however, contain an inventory of dark fiber so the request
18 automatically returns "no facilities available." As such, dark fiber queries normally need
19 manual intervention and those records are not accessible to CLECs as Ms. Kemp has
20 claimed.

21

22 For copper UNE facilities, the situation is similar. AT&T's on-line tools for CLECs often
23 show no facilities when in fact the facilities exist. That forces CLECs to request a manual
24 LMU which we have to pay for, and which they use as a reason to delay another two

1 weeks. Then AT&T often replies to the LMU with a simple “no facilities” when we know
2 the facilities do exist. Most often, this is because they have unofficially retired the facilities
3 (to prevent CLECs from obtaining them) even though the facilities are still in place. This is
4 the issue that causes this disagreement. CA seeks its language in the ICA to avoid this
5 problem.

6

7 **Issue 52: Should the UNE Attachment contain the sole and exclusive terms and**
8 **conditions by which Communications Authority may obtain UNEs from AT&T**
9 **Florida?**

10 Resolved

11

12 **Issue 53: Should Communications Authority be allowed to commingle any UNE element**
13 **with any non-UNE element it chooses?**

14 **Q. How do you respond to Ms. Kemp’s testimony on Issue 53?**

15 A. CA believes that it is entitled to commingle facilities as specified in its language, and that
16 AT&T’s language restricts CA’s ability to commingle in a manner inconsistent with FCC
17 rules and orders. That is all. Ms. Kemp repeatedly claims that CA’s language is “unlawful,”
18 even when CA’s language specifically requires consistency with FCC rules and regulations.
19 To make her point, Ms. Kemp appears to be using a fictional version of CA that would not
20 exist. CA would be open to adding language to clarify that any non-UNE “service element”
21 must be purchased from an AT&T agreement, tariff or price list. I do not think she
22 understands CA’s actual operating concerns.

23

1 **Issue 54a: Is thirty (30) days written notice sufficient notice prior to converting a UNE**
2 **to the equivalent wholesale service when such conversion is appropriate?**

3 **Q. How would you distinguish CA's position from Ms. Kemp's testimony on Issue 54a?**

4 A. She cites a single example that on its face appears to be reasonable. However, there are
5 several obvious problems with her proposal:

6 1. If CA ceases to meet the UNE eligibility criteria, this could only happen if the central
7 office were reclassified as non-impaired. That's the only trigger event that would change
8 UNE eligibility, contrary to her assertion.

9 2. CA and AT&T may define the term "building" differently. For instance, often
10 customers in the same building have different physical addresses. CA may not be in a
11 position to know which different physical address AT&T considers to be in the same
12 "building".

13 3. Once the parties agree that a transition away from UNE is justified, AT&T has a
14 number of different non-UNE service options that CA can choose from. To do this, CA
15 would need to submit an LSR to AT&T to convert the UNE(s) to the new arrangement. This
16 is not a simple (it is UNE or non-UNE) question, and it will take time for CA to determine,
17 for each UNE being converted, what its best option will be. CA may also need to consider
18 other options, such as using a third-party provider for the service or disconnecting the
19 customer's service because it is no longer financially feasible to provide without the UNE.

20 4. CA, like most CLECs, has far more limited resources than does AT&T. While
21 AT&T may not think it is a big deal to find new service arrangements for dozens or hundreds
22 of customers, to a small CLEC this is a large project that takes considerable time and
23 resources. AT&T has not shown that it will be substantially harmed by CA's proposed
24 timeline.

1 **Issue 54b: Is thirty (30) calendar days subsequent to wire center Notice of**
2 **Nonimpairment sufficient notice prior to billing the provisioned element at the**
3 **equivalent special access rate/Transitional Rate?**

4 **Q. Do you agree with Ms. Kemp's position on Issue 54(b)?**

5 A. No. I do not believe that Ms. Kemp is correct in her assertion on page 50, line 10 that this
6 is only about true-up and not facilities changes. If there is no special access equivalent, what
7 then? In any case, I have several observations:

8 1. AT&T's argument here presumes that this is a simple flip-of-the-switch conversion of
9 billing from UNE to Special Access, which everyone knows has One Clear Price. This is far
10 from true. Once a central office is designated as non-impaired, AT&T has a number of
11 different non-UNE service options that CA can choose from. To do this, CA would need to
12 submit an LSR to AT&T to convert the UNE(s) to the new arrangement. This is not a simple
13 (it is UNE or non-UNE) question, and it will take time for CA to determine, for each UNE
14 being converted, what its best option will be. CA may also need to consider other options,
15 such as using a third-party provider for the service or disconnecting the customer's service
16 because it is no longer financially feasible to provide without the UNE.

17 2. CA, like most CLECs, has far more limited resources than does AT&T. While AT&T
18 may not think it is a big deal to find new service arrangements for dozens or hundreds of
19 customers, to a small CLEC this is a large project that takes considerable time and
20 resources. AT&T has not shown that it will be substantially harmed by CA's proposed
21 timeline, other than its inability to cause maximum damage to its smaller rival.

22 3. CA has cited three currently in-force ICAs with other CLECs where the 180 day
23 transition period is used. The last six years of boilerplate AT&T ICAs, none of which were
24 arbitrated, should have no bearing on what is reasonable here.

1 4. Even assuming that this is just about true-up, the real issue is that under AT&T's
2 language, it would be entitled to convert CA's UNE service to its most-expensive Special
3 Access service, even if lower cost options were available. In order for CA to manage such a
4 transition effectively, it must have enough time to assess the impact of the re-designation,
5 determine what customer circuits are affected, determine for each customer which conversion
6 options are available for that customer location, and then place an order with AT&T to
7 convert the service to the new arrangement or disconnect the service entirely if there are no
8 feasible conversion options. Any competent engineer would tell you that this process will
9 take far longer than 30 days to complete. Therefore, there is really no situation in which this
10 would be a simple billing-only change unless AT&T were permitted to force a CLEC into its
11 most-expensive service offering during the conversion. We think the intent of the Act is not
12 to do that, but is instead to provide CLECs with a reasonable transition time.

13 5. She closes this out with "AT&T Florida would experience the loss of revenue equal
14 to the difference between the lower UNE rates and the higher special access rates to which it
15 is entitled." The TRRO itself gave a longer transition time when it first occurred, 180 days,
16 and other state commissions have agreed this is reasonable. CA seeks only the interval
17 specified in the TRRO, which did not seem to agree that the "loss of revenue" cited by Ms.
18 Kept was compelling.

19

20 **Issue 55: To designate a wire center as unimpaired, should AT&T Florida be required**
21 **to provide written notice to Communications Authority?**

22 **Q. Please respond to Ms. Kemp's position regarding Issue 55.**

1 A. She states that the CLEC community has accepted accessible letters posted to their
2 website is accepted by “the CLEC Community”. On what basis does she make this
3 claim? She seems to know nothing about how CLECs actually operate. She continues with
4 “...to provide customized individualized notice just for CA’s benefit would be
5 discriminatory as to other CLECs, costly, inefficient and patently unreasonable.” Every
6 other ILEC I have worked with sends written notice. Verizon sends such notices via certified
7 mail. What would happen if a CLEC did not check the AT&T website for a notice, or if
8 AT&T were allowed to say, “we emailed it, we don’t know why you didn’t get it” for such
9 an important notice? We are just asking AT&T to conform with industry standard and with
10 what any reasonable person would expect, not to create a special procedure for CA.

11

12 **Issue 56: Should the ICA include Communications Authority’s proposed language**
13 **broadly prohibiting AT&T Florida from taking certain measures with respect to**
14 **elements of AT&T Florida’s network?**

15 **Q. How do you respond to Ms. Kemp’s position on Issue 56.**

16 A. She doesn’t understand that AT&T does take in-service loops from CLECs for its own
17 customers and then leaves CLECs with inferior loops. We are open to alternative language
18 but have not reached a consensus on this. If her position is that AT&T would never do what
19 we are concerned with, then I do not understand her reluctance to commit to not doing that.

20

21 **Issue 57: May Communications Authority use a UNE to provide service to itself or for**
22 **other administrative purposes?**

23 Resolved

24

1 **Issue 58: Is Multiplexing available as a stand-alone UNE independent of loops and**
2 **transport?**

3 **Q. How do you respond to Ms. Kemp's testimony on this issue?**

4 A. CA's specific objection is that UNE multiplexing should not automatically be considered
5 an EEL, subject to the restrictions and additional costs imposed upon EELs. Multiplexing
6 should be considered a routine network modification.

7

8 **Issue 59a: If AT&T Florida accepts and installs an order for a DS1 after**
9 **Communications Authority has already obtained ten DS1s in the same building, must**
10 **AT&T Florida provide written notice and allow 30 days before converting to and**
11 **charging for Special Access service?**

12 **Issue 59b: Must AT&T Florida provide notice to Communications Authority before**
13 **converting DS3 Digital UNE loops to special access for DS3 Digital UNE loops that**
14 **exceed the limit of one unbundled DS3 loop to any single building?**

15 **Q. Doe CA have a response to Ms. Kemp's testimony on this issue?**

16 A. We think our position is reasonable. AT&T, as a rule, should not be able to install a
17 different service than what was ordered. AT&T should either install what was ordered, or
18 refuse to install that. We've only asked for 30 days after their notice to decide what to do
19 about it and make a change, so there's not a lot of time that will pass. If we have ordered a
20 UNE service when we were not entitled to it, we are going to bear two sets of ordering costs
21 and the likely cost of re-designing the service. There is a financial disincentive for CA to
22 order UNEs which we are not entitled to in these cases.

23

1 **Issue 59c: For unbundled DS1 or DS3 dedicated transport circuits that AT&T Florida**
2 **installs that exceed the applicable cap on a specific route, must AT&T Florida provide**
3 **written notice and allow 30 days prior to conversion to Special Access?**

4 **Q. Do you agree with Ms. Kemp’s assertion that CA’s language would “unlawfully**
5 **allow CA to pay UNE rates?”**

6 A. I do not believe there is any such law regarding this issue, but it misses the point. CA is
7 simply asking AT&T to notify CA that CA’s chosen service is not available. AT&T, as a
8 rule, should not be able to install a different service than what was ordered. AT&T should
9 either install what was ordered, or refuse to install that. We’ve only asked for 30 days after
10 their notice to decide what to do about it and make a change, so there’s not a lot of time that
11 will pass. If we have ordered a UNE service when we were not entitled to it, we are going to
12 bear two sets of ordering costs and the likely cost of re-designing the service. There is a
13 financial disincentive for CA to order UNEs which we are not entitled to in these cases.

14

15 **Issue 62a: Should the ICA state that OS/DA services are included with resale services?**

16 **Issue 62b: Does Communications Authority have the option of not ordering OS/DA**
17 **service for its resale end users?**

18 **Q. How do you respond to Ms. Kemp’s testimony on Issues 62a and 62b?**

19 A. We believe that AT&T provides OS/DA blocking at no charge to its retail customers
20 upon request. All CA is seeking is parity with that arrangement. Ms. Kemp states that we
21 can order the blocking and pay for it, but we should not have to pay for that via resale if the
22 AT&T retail offering provides it at no cost.

23

1 **Issue 63: Should Communications Authority be required to give AT&T Florida the**
2 **names, addresses, and telephone numbers of Communications Authority's end user**
3 **customers who wish to be omitted from directories?**

4 Resolved.

5
6 **Issue 64: What time interval should be required for submission of directory listing**
7 **information for installation, disconnection, or change in service?**

8 **Q. Do you agree with Ms. Kemp that AT&T has a right to receive directory listing**
9 **information from CA's customers?**

10 A. This portion of the testimony really highlights AT&T's self-perception as keeper of the
11 public good. It is ironic that AT&T demands this information but does not even bother to
12 publish residential directories anymore. This interferes with the relationship between CA and
13 its customers. Ms. Kemp's testimony provides no reasonable justification for it.

14

15 **Issue 65: Should the ICA include Communications Authority's proposed language**
16 **identifying specific circumstances under which AT&T Florida or its affiliates may or**
17 **may not use Communications Authority's subscriber information for marketing or**
18 **winback efforts?**

19 **Q. do you agree with Ms. Kemp's assertion that CA's additional language is**
20 **unnecessary?**

21 A. No, she agrees that §222 of the Act should be followed regarding the protection of CPNI,
22 but makes no argument as to why CA's additional language that deals with CPNI in more
23 granularity should not be included. It is interesting that AT&T has not really discussed what
24 it should be permitted to do with CA's information that this language prevents, and why.

1 **Issue 66: For each rate that Communications Authority has asked the Commission to**
2 **arbitrate, what rate should be included in the ICA?**

3 **Q. Ms. Pellerin suggests that CA should accept AT&T's proposed rates because those**
4 **rates have already been approved. Do you agree?**

5 **A. No, those rates were approved more than a decade ago. Ms. Pellerin suggests that CA**
6 **should provide support for our pricing. That is not how it's done as she later addresses, "Like**
7 **almost all state commissions in the United States, 1 this Commission establishes**
8 **TELRIC-based rates in generic dockets in which all interested parties are allowed to**
9 **participate. Docket Nos. 990649-TP and 000649-TP were such dockets."**

10 **Q. What would be the cleanest solution to address the rate issues raised by CA?**

11 A. To be clear, CA raised these issues during negotiation and AT&T refused to discuss them.
12 Since the arbitration began, AT&T has repeatedly stated as a foregone conclusion that a cost
13 study is not part of this docket. Nobody asked CA if this is reasonable, AT&T just repeated it
14 over and over. CA has not objected.

15

16 The fact remains that the Commission has not ordered a UNE or collocation cost study since
17 2001. It is time for the Commission to require AT&T to justify those costs it believes are
18 subject to TELRIC via a new cost study case. CA would accept this as a suitable remedy for
19 all TELRIC-based charges raised by its petition and drop them from the case. CA does
20 desire to address one point which CA believes is a typographical mistake. AT&T's proposed
21 rates note that dark fiber transport has a non-recurring cost per mile. With all other ILECs in
22 Florida, the non-recurring charge for dark fiber transport is per termination and not per mile.
23 In other AT&T states, dark fiber transport NRCs seem to also be per termination. While this
24 may not be a rate dispute, CA seeks to correct what it believes is a typographical error in

1 AT&T's document. However, AT&T refused to discuss even this issue in negotiations so it
2 remains unresolved.

3

4 For the charges in the ICA that AT&T alleges are not subject to TELRIC, the Commission
5 should revise the charges to be more reasonable and consistent with those charged by
6 Verizon as a similarly situated ILEC. Ms. Kemp's claim that these charges are "market-
7 based" is ludicrous. There is no "market;" AT&T controls a complete monopoly on all rates
8 in its incumbent territory. CA seeks the Commission's assistance on making these rates more
9 reasonable be it through an order in this case, or part of a larger generic proceeding. To the
10 extent that the Commission decides that it does not have authority over any given rate
11 element, CA believes that the rate should not be included in this agreement and is more
12 appropriately placed in a separate commercial agreement between the parties.

13

14 **Q. Do you have anything more to add?**

15 A. Not at this time.

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition by Communications Authority, Inc. for arbitration of Section 252(b) interconnection agreement with AT&T Florida Telecommunications, LLC d/b/a AT&T Florida.	DOCKET NO. 140156-TP DATED: MARCH 23, 2015
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the original of COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY'S
REBUTTAL TESTIMONY has been served by electronic mail and US Mail this day March 23rd,
2015 to:

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