

**BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.**

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**Marshall M. Criser III**

Vice President  
Regulatory & External Affairs

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August 16, 2001

Mrs. Blanca S. Bayo  
Director, Division of Commission Clerk and Administrative Services  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

01105-TP

Re: Approval of two Amendments to the Interconnection, Unbundling, Resale and Collocation Agreement Negotiated by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") and Ernest Communications, Inc. pursuant to Sections 251, 252 and 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996

Dear Mrs. Bayo:

Pursuant to section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, BellSouth and Ernest Communications, Inc. are submitting to the Florida Public Service Commission an amendment to their negotiated agreement for the interconnection of their networks, the unbundling of specific network elements offered by BellSouth and the resale of BellSouth's telecommunications services to Ernest Communications, Inc.. The Commission approved the initial agreement between the companies in Order No. PSC-00-1506-FOF-TP issued August 18, 2000 in Docket 000712-TP. These amendments incorporate the rate for 8XX Access Ten Digit Screening for the State of Florida, and LATA-Wide Local Calling Scope for UNE-P Combinations.

Pursuant to section 252(e) of the Act, the Commission is charged with approving or rejecting the negotiated agreement between BellSouth and Ernest Communications, Inc. within 90 days of its submission. The Act provides that the Commission may only reject such an agreement if it finds that the agreement or any portion of the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement or the implementation of the agreement or any portion of the agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity. Both parties aver that neither of these reasons exist as to the agreement they have negotiated and therefore, are very hopeful that the Commission shall approve their agreement.

Very truly yours,

*Marshall M. Criser III*

Regulatory Vice President (KA)

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

10097 AUG 16 2001

FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK



**AMENDMENT  
TO THE  
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
ERNEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.  
AND  
BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.  
DATED APRIL 27, 2000  
ALABAMA, FLORIDA, GEORGIA, KENTUCKY, LOUISIANA (TSP ),  
MISSISSIPPI, NORTH CAOLINA, SOUTH CAROLINA AND TENNESSEE**

Pursuant to this Amendment, (the "Amendment"), Ernest Communications, Inc. ("ECI"), and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth"), hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Parties," hereby agree to amend that certain Interconnection Agreement between the Parties dated April 27, 2000 ("Agreement").

WHEREAS, BellSouth and ECI entered into the Agreement on April 27, 2000, and;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual provisions contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereby covenant and agree as follows:

1. Attachment 2 of the Agreement is hereby amended to include a new section 3.1.3.1 and all its subsections as follows:
  - 3.1.3.1 Unbundled Local Switching, together with Common Transport and, if necessary, Tandem Switching, provides to ECI local subscribers local calling and the ability to presubscribe to a primary carrier for intraLATA toll service and a primary carrier for interLATA toll service.
    - 3.1.3.1.1 Provided that ECI purchases unbundled local switching from BellSouth and uses the BellSouth CIC for its end users' LPIC or if a BellSouth local end user selects BellSouth as its LPIC, then the Parties will consider as local any calls originated by an ECI local end user, or originated by a BellSouth local end user and terminated to an ECI local end user, where such calls originate and terminate in the same LATA, except for those calls originated and terminated through switched access arrangements (i.e., calls that are transported by a party other than BellSouth). For such calls, BellSouth will charge ECI the UNE elements for the BellSouth facilities utilized. Neither Party shall bill the other originating or terminating switched access charges for such calls.

Intercarrier compensation for local calls between BellSouth and ECI shall be as described in BellSouth's UNE Local Call Flows set forth on BellSouth's web site.

- 3.1.3.1.2 Where ECI purchases unbundled local switching from BellSouth but does not use the BellSouth CIC for its end users' LPIC, BellSouth will consider as local those direct dialed telephone calls that originate from an ECI end user and terminate within the basic local calling area or within the extended local calling areas and that are dialed using 7 or 10 digits as defined and specified in Section A3 of BellSouth's General Subscriber Services Tariffs. For such local calls, BellSouth will charge ECI the UNE elements for the BellSouth facilities utilized. Intercarrier compensation for local calls between BellSouth and ECI shall be as described in BellSouth's UNE Local Call Flows set forth on BellSouth's web site.
- 3.1.3.1.3 For any calls that originate and terminate through switched access arrangements (i.e., calls that are transported by a party other than BellSouth), BellSouth shall bill ECI the UNE elements for the BellSouth facilities utilized. Each Party may bill the toll provider originating or terminating switched access charges, as appropriate.
- 3.1.3.1.4 Reverse billed toll calls, such as intraLATA 800 calls, calling card calls and third party billed calls, where BellSouth is the carrier shall also be considered as local calls and ECI shall not bill BellSouth originating or terminating switched access for such calls.
- 3.1.3.1.5 BellSouth shall assess retroactive charges for UNE transport and switching associated with using the BellSouth LPIC if a CLEC has been able to previously select BellSouth as the end user LPIC prior to the option allowing the selection of a BellSouth provided LATA-wide local calling area being offered.

- 2. All of the other provisions of the Agreement, dated April 27, 2000, shall remain in full force and effect.
- 3. Either or both of the Parties is authorized to submit this Amendment to the respective state regulatory authorities for approval subject to Section 252(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this  
Amendment to be executed by their respective duly authorized  
representatives on the date indicated below.

**Ernest Communications, Inc.**

By: 

Name: Paul Masters

Title: President

Date: 6/11/01

**BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.**

By: 

Name: CW Bolte

Title: MANAGING DIRECTOR

Date: 6-20-01



**Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement  
By and Between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.  
And  
Ernest Communications, Inc.  
Dated April 27, 2000**

This Agreement refers to the Interconnection Agreement ("the Agreement") entered into by Ernest Communications, Inc. ("ECI") and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") on April 27, 2000. This Amendment ("Amendment") is made by and between ECI and BellSouth and shall be deemed effective on the date executed by ECI and BellSouth.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual provisions contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, ECI and BellSouth (individually, a "Party" and collectively, the "Parties") hereby covenant and agree as follows:


1. The Parties hereby mutually agree to delete in its entirety the rate of "N/A" for the rate element for "8XX Access Ten Digit Screening (all types), per call" for Florida in Exhibit C of Attachment 2 of the Agreement and to replace it with the new rate "\$0.0006531".

2. All of the other provisions of the Interconnection Agreement shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

3. Either or both of the Parties are authorized to submit this Amendment to the appropriate State Public Service Commissions or other Regulatory Agencies for approval subject to Section 252 (e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Amendment to be executed by their respective duly authorized representatives on the date indicated below.

**Ernest Communications, Inc.**



Signature

Paul Masters

Name


President

Title

6/14/01

Date

**BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.**



Signature

C.W. Boltz

Name

Managing Director

Title

6-20-01

Date