

BEFORE THE
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

DOCKET NO. 140156-TP

PETITION BY COMMUNICATIONS
AUTHORITY, INC. FOR
ARBITRATION OF SECTION 252(B)
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT WITH
BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS,
LLC D/B/A AT&T FLORIDA.

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PROCEEDINGS: COMMISSION CONFERENCE AGENDA
ITEM NO. 8

COMMISSIONERS
PARTICIPATING:

COMMISSIONER RONALD A. BRISÉ
COMMISSIONER JULIE I. BROWN
COMMISSIONER JIMMY PATRONIS

DATE: Tuesday, October 13, 2015

PLACE: Betty Easley Conference Center
Room 148
4075 Esplanade Way
Tallahassee, Florida

REPORTED BY: LINDA BOLES, CRR, RPR
Official FPSC Reporter
(850) 413-6734

P R O C E E D I N G S

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2 **COMMISSIONER BRISÉ:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

3 And if I look at the last item that we went through,
4 that item had 46 pages. This item has 267 -- 297 pages.
5 So by how we're working today, I think we might be here
6 until midnight or so.

7 But before my fellow Commissioners leave, I
8 want to recognize Bob Casey. This is his last agenda.
9 So we want to express our gratitude to you for your hard
10 work and service to our state and, dare I say, our
11 nation, particularly in your work with Lifeline and the
12 Task Force and all of those things. And, you know, when
13 we walk around NARUC circles and telecom circles, you're
14 like a demigod in that space. So thank you for your
15 hard work and your service.

16 **MR. CASEY:** Thank you, Commissioners. Thank
17 you.

18 (Applause.)

19 **COMMISSIONER BRISÉ:** All right. Item
20 No. 8, Ms. Salak.

21 **MS. SALAK:** Yes, sir. Good afternoon,
22 Commissioners. I am Beth Salak with Commission staff.
23 Item 8 is a post-hearing recommendation dealing with an
24 arbitration between Communications Authority and Florida
25 AT&T. This recommendation addresses a variety of issues

1 brought to the Commission by the parties. These are
2 issues that the parties could not agree upon for their
3 interconnection agreement.

4 On October 19th we did -- staff did file four
5 modifications to the recommendation, and your office
6 should have received those. Staff is ready to proceed
7 as you desire.

8 **COMMISSIONER BRISÉ:** Thank you very much. So
9 we have 67 issues, Commissioners. We can do this any
10 way you want. If there are issues that you want to pull
11 out and have those addressed in particular. If not, the
12 Chair is willing to entertain a motion for the blocks of
13 issues that you are comfortable with at this time.

14 Commissioner Brown.

15 **COMMISSIONER BROWN:** Mr. Chairman, believe it
16 or not, I read every single page that was put into this,
17 and I have to tell you the time and energy and resources
18 that not only our staff but the parties have spent are
19 just -- it's astronomical. I wish that this could have
20 been resolved at the negotiation table rather through an
21 evidentiary arbitration, but I think the overall end
22 result, looking at each issue by issue, I think it's
23 balanced, I think it's fair, and I think there's a
24 positive result at the end of the day that benefits both
25 of the parties. And I think that they can have -- you

1 know, I'm prepared to make a motion on all issues, but
2 I'd be interested in hearing your perspective. I wish
3 that the parties would have a very long, non-adversarial
4 relationship over the life of the contract that has been
5 extended pursuant to staff's recommendation in here.
6 But, you know, the man-hours that were put in here --
7 our staff put in so much time analyzing past decisions
8 that over -- you know, we haven't had an arbitration in
9 nearly a decade, and they really spent a lot of time and
10 energy in the thorough analysis of each issue, and it's
11 indicative. I mean, this is an exemplary piece of work,
12 and I commend them for their hard work on it. I don't
13 even have a single change to any of the recommendations,
14 and I support the full staff recommendation.

15 **COMMISSIONER PATRONIS:** Second.

16 **COMMISSIONER BRISÉ:** Okay. So it's been moved
17 and seconded. Any further comments? Seeing none, all
18 in favor, say aye.

19 (Vote taken.)

20 Thank you very much. I too want to agree with
21 Commissioner Brown and appreciate -- express my
22 appreciation to staff for your hard work on this. To
23 all the parties that have participated in this process,
24 I too read the -- a lot of the case file because I was
25 the Prehearing Officer on this. So I think the give and

1 take with the issues that were resolved between the
2 parties and then the recommendations that came through
3 from our team really took into account the totality of
4 everything that's involved. And ultimately what matters
5 most is the ability of consumers to be able to access
6 their telecom services, and ultimately this is what this
7 is about, and I think that this agreement ensures that
8 that happens in a seamless way. So with that, we stand
9 adjourned.

10 (Agenda Conference adjourned at 1:00 p.m.)

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1 STATE OF FLORIDA)
2 COUNTY OF LEON) : CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

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4 I, LINDA BOLES, CRR, RPR, Official Commission
5 Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing
6 proceeding was heard at the time and place herein
7 stated.

8 IT IS FURTHER CERTIFIED that I
9 stenographically reported the said proceedings; that the
10 same has been transcribed under my direct supervision;
11 and that this transcript constitutes a true
12 transcription of my notes of said proceedings.

13 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative,
14 employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor
15 am I a relative or employee of any of the parties'
16 attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I
17 financially interested in the action.

18 DATED THIS 22nd day of October, 2015.

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