BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Comprehensive review of the revenue requirements and rate stabilization plan of SOUTHERN BELL TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

) DOCKET NO. 920260-TL) ORDER NO. PSC-92-0986-FOF-TL) ISSUED: 09/11/92

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of this matter:

THOMAS M. BEARD, Chairman SUSAN F. CLARK J. TERRY DEASON BETTY EASLEY LUIS J. LAUREDO

ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFF FILING

BY THE COMMISSION:

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This docket was initiated pursuant to Order No. 25552 in Docket No. 911109-TL, to conduct a full revenue requirements analysis and to evaluate the Rate Stabilization Plan under which BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company (Southern Bell or the Company) has been operating since 1988. Order No. 25552 required that the Company file Minimum Filing Requirements (MFRs) on May 1, 1992. This was done; however, the Company notified the Commission in its Test Year Request letter of March 25, 1992, that it would not be submitting its testimony or proposals at the time of the MFR filing. The Chairman approved a revised case schedule that required Southern Bell to submit its testimony and updated MFRs by July 15, 1992.

In its filing, Southern Bell has proposed to decrease revenues in 1993 by approximately \$13.3 million. In addition, it has proposed permanent revenue reductions of \$47.4 million based on amounts identified by the Commission in Docket No. 880069-TL, and which are currently being credited on monthly customer bills per Order No. 25558. The total 1993 impact, based on a July 1, 1993 effective date would therefore be \$60.8 million.

The Company has proposed the following changes to achieve this revenue reduction: (1) an <u>optional</u> Expanded Local Service (ELS) plan which would be applicable to both residential and business customers; (2) reductions to certain business basic local exchange rates, the elimination of all flat rate extended area service (EAS) activities, and a lifeline offering; (3) service connection charges

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to be restructured and reduced; (4) reductions to residential Call Waiting, residential Call Forwarding Variable, switched access charges, and mobile interconnection rates; and (5) an Economic Development Plan whereby the Company would waive nonrecurring charges and reduce basic monthly local rates by 50 percent for 12 months for businesses which locate in economically depressed areas designated as "Enterprise zones" by the Florida Enterprise Zone statute. In addition, the Company is proposing that the Commission modify its current form of regulation from rate of return with earnings sharing to a form of price cap regulation.

We believe the Company's proposals in this proceeding warrant careful scrutiny. To this end, twelve days have been reserved for hearings, beginning January 25, 1992. In addition, six service hearings have been scheduled at various locations in Southern Bell's territory. Accordingly, pursuant to our authority under Section 364.05, Florida Statutes. We find it appropriate to suspend Southern Bell's proposed tariffs to allow a complete investigation of all aspects of this filing.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the tariffs filed by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company on july 15, 1992, (T-92-447) are hereby suspended. It is further

ORDERED that this docket shall remain open.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this <u>11th</u> day of <u>September</u>, <u>1992</u>.

Director

STEVE TRIBBLE, Director Division of Records and Reporting

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.59(4), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

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Any party adversely affected by this order, which is preliminary, procedural or intermediate in nature, may request: (1) reconsideration within 10 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.038(2), Florida Administrative Code, if issued by a Prehearing Officer; (2) reconsideration within 15 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code, is issued by the Commission; or (3) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court, in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility, or the First District Court of Appeal, in the case of a water or wastewater utility. A motion for reconsideration shall be filed with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code. Judicial review of a preliminary, procedural or intermediate ruling or order is available if review of the final action will not provide an adequate remedy. Such review may be requested from the appropriate court, as described above, pursuant to Rule 9.100, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.