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**ORIGINAL**

February 23, 2001

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

Re: Investigation into Pricing of Unbundled Network Elements  
Docket No. 990649-TP

Dear Ms. Bayó:

The purpose of this letter is to advise the Commission that BellSouth has reached a regional settlement with the Data ALECs concerning the appropriate charge for one of the elements associated with line sharing. AT&T and MCI have no objection to the settlement. The settlement concerns the software monthly expense included in BellSouth's cost studies for Item J.4.3.<sup>1</sup>

In this docket, BellSouth requested that the Commission approve a monthly recurring rate of \$7.70 for Element J.4.3 (Line Sharing Splitter - Per Line Activation in the Central Office). Recently, after further discussions with counsel for the Data ALECs, the parties reached a region-wide settlement of the rates for Element J.4.3. The largest component of the rate for this element was the costs associated with BellSouth's contract with Telcordia Technologies, Inc. Under the settlement, BellSouth will charge \$0.61 per month as an interim rate, subject to retroactive true-up once a permanent rate has been established. BellSouth agrees that it will not seek to establish a permanent rate until: (1) the Telcordia solution has been implemented and is commercially available; and (2) the parties in this docket have been advised in writing of BellSouth's intent to seek the establishment of a permanent rate. BellSouth further agrees that it will only seek to establish a permanent rate in the context of a Commission proceeding in which the Commission must affirmatively approve the proposed rate rather than

<sup>1</sup> Although the settlement discussions did not include all of the parties to this proceeding (because those discussions took place shortly before a hearing in Georgia concerning only xDSL elements), BellSouth is nevertheless willing to offer any ALEC in Florida the \$.061 rate for Element J.4.3.

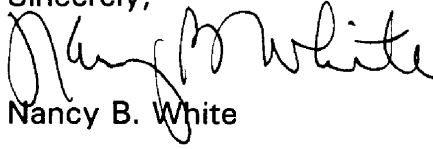
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RPO \_\_\_\_\_  
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RUC \_\_\_\_\_  
RUR \_\_\_\_\_  
OTH None

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merely allowing the rate to go into effect (e.g., a Statement of Generally Available Terms and Conditions).

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy B. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "N" and "W".

Nancy B. White

cc: Wayne Knight, Esq.  
All parties of record

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE  
Docket No. 990649-TP**

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

U. S. Mail this 23rd day of February, 2001 to the following:

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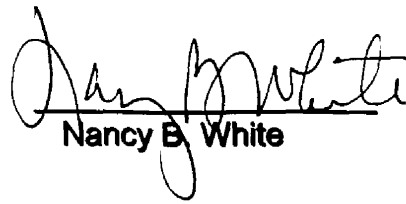
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**(+) Signed Protective Agreement**

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