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May 23, 2001

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BLANCA BAYO Director of Records & Reporting Divison of Records & Reporting Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850 (850) 413-6770

#### Re: BellSouth v. Supra Telecom, Docket No. 00-1097-TP

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Please find enclosed for filing an original and fifteen (15) copies of the Respondent Supra Telecommunication & Information Systems, Inc.'s <u>Post Hearing Statement Of Issues And</u> Positions And Post-Hearing Brief.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at (305) 531-5286.

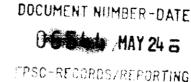
Sincerely,

Mak & Buchel

Mark E. Buechele

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## BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In Re: Complaint of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. against Supra Telecommunications and Information Systems, Inc. for Resolution of Billing Disputes.

Docket No.: 001097-TP

Dated: May 23, 2001

## SUPRA TELECOM'S POST-HEARING STATEMENT OF ISSUES AND POSITIONS AND POST-HEARING BRIEF

RESPONDENT SUPRA TELECOMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION SYSTEMS, INC. ("Supra"), by and through its undersigned counsel, and pursuant to Rule 28-106.215, Florida Administrative Code and the <u>Order Establishing Procedure</u> entered in this cause on or about February 15, 2001, hereby files this its <u>Post-Hearing Statement of Issues and Positions and</u> <u>Post-Hearing Brief</u>, and in support thereof states as follows:

#### I. STATEMENT OF BASIC POSITION

BellSouth failed to provide Supra corrective payments authorized by the 1997 Resale Agreement between the parties ("Resale Agreement"). Such corrective payments conformed with the non-discriminatory provisions of the Telecommunications Act. Alternatively, BellSouth wrongfully refused to provide UNE Combinations to Supra, thus resulting in the overbilling of the disputed charges.

## **II. POSITIONS & ARGUMENT**

# **Issue 1:** SHOULD THE RATES AND CHARGES CONTAINED (OR NOT CONTAINED) IN THE 1997 AT&T/BELLSOUTH AGREEMENT APPLY TO THE BELLSOUTH AT ISSUE IN THIS DOCKET?

**Position:** Yes. Pursuant to the non-discriminatory provisions of § 251, Section XVI.F. of the Resale Agreement provides a corrective payment for the difference in rates DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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between the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement and the Resale Agreement. Under Section XVI.F., a corrective payment is due for the time between AT&T and BellSouth's execution of the agreement and Supra's subsequent adoption.

### **Summary of Argument:**

In the strictest sense and ignoring for now BellSouth's open refusal to provide Supra Telecom access to UNE Combinations, the Resale Agreement does govern the parties' resale relationship from 1997 until Supra's adoption of the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement on or about October 5, 1999. This is a point upon which BellSouth agrees. However, the fact that the Resale Agreement governs the parties' resale relationship, does not end the inquiring or answer the question raised by this issue. This is because the Resale Agreement specifically has a provision requires a corrective payment or refund, if Supra adopts another agreement between BellSouth and another ALEC, which provides that ALEC more favorable terms and/or conditions. The relevant time period for this corrective payment or refund, is the time period between when the third party and BellSouth entered the other agreement and the date Supra adopts that agreement. The reason for this corrective payment provision was obviously to prevent BellSouth from violating the non-discriminatory provisions of Section 251 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, thus ensuring that during any particular time period, every ALEC had the right to be charge the same for similar services and thus allowing refunds where agreements between BellSouth and other carriers may differ.

The terms and conditions of resale under the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement differed from those found in the Resale Agreement. Thus, under the Resale Agreement, a corrective payment

or refund was due back to Supra upon adoption of the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement in an amount equal to the change in rates and other charges between the two agreements. The result of this corrective payment provision is that the rates and charges set forth in the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement retroactively apply to create a refund to Supra. Thus although in a strictest sense, the Resale Agreement governs the resale relationship prior to October 5, 1999, under the corrective payment provisions of the Resale Agreement, the rates and other charges used in the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement actually apply in calculating the amount of the corrective payment or refund.

#### **Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:**

In May 1997, Supra and BellSouth entered into an <u>Agreement Between BellSouth</u> <u>Telecommunications, Inc. and Supra Telecommunications & Information Systems, Inc.</u> <u>Regarding The Sale of BST's Telecommunications Services to Reseller For The Purposes of</u> <u>Resale</u> "Resale Agreement". <u>See</u> Composite Exhibit 3 (Exhibit 1) <u>and</u> Composite Exhibit 4 (PSC-1). Section XVI of the Resale Agreement provides in pertinent part as follows:

#### XVI. More Favorable Provisions

A. The parties agree that if -

1. the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") or the Commission finds that the terms of this Agreement are inconsistent in one or more material respects with any of its or their respect decisions, rules or regulations, or

2. the FCC or the Commission preempts the effect of this Agreement, then, in either case, upon such occurrence becoming final and no longer subject to administrative or judicial review, the parties shall immediately commence good faith negotiations to conform this

Agreement to the requirements of any such decision, rule, regulation or preemption. The revised agreement shall have an effective date that coincides with the effective date of the original FCC or Commission action giving rise to such negotiations. The parties agree that the rates, terms and conditions of any new agreement shall not be applied retroactively to any period prior to such effective date except to the extent that such retroactive effect is expressly required by such FCC or Commission decision, rule, regulation or preemption.

B. In the event that BellSouth, either before or after the effective date of this Agreement, enters into an agreement with any other telecommunications carrier (an "Other Resale Agreement") which provides for the provision with the state(s) of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee of any of the arrangements covered by this Agreement upon rates, terms or conditions that differ in any material respect from the rates, terms and conditions for such arrangements set forth in this Agreement ("Other Terms"), BellSouth shall be deemed thereby to have offered such other Resale Agreement to Reseller in its entirety. In the event that Reseller accepts such offer, such Other Terms shall be effective between BellSouth and Reseller as of the date on which Reseller accepts such offer.

\* \* \* \* \* \*

F. Corrective Payment. In the event that -

1. BellSouth and Reseller revise this Agreement pursuant to Section XVI.A, or

2. Reseller accepts a deemed offer of an Other Resale Agreement or Other Terms, then BellSouth or Reseller, as applicable, shall make a corrective payment to the other party to correct for the difference between the rates set forth herein and the rates in such revised agreement or Other Terms for substantially similar services for the period from the effective date of such revised agreement or Other Terms until the date that the parties execute such revised agreement or Reseller accepts such Other Terms, plus simple interest at a rate equal to the thirty (30) day commercial paper rate for high-grade, unsecured notes sold through dealers by major corporations in multiples of \$1,000.00 as regularly published in *The Wall Street Journal*.

It is undisputed that the Resale Agreement was a BellSouth's standard form agreement,

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and thus had been drafted by BellSouth. As a matter of contract construction, any ambiguity in an agreement is to be construed against the maker of that agreement. <u>St. Charles Foods, Inc.</u> <u>v. America's Favorite Chicken Co.</u>, 198 F.3d 815 (11th Cir. 1999) (under Georgia law); <u>Golden</u> <u>Door Jewelry Creations, Inc. v. Lloyds Underwriters Non-Marine Association</u>, 117 F.3d 1328 (11th Cir. 1997) (under Florida law). In this instance, the clear terms of the Resale Agreement provide for a corrective payment under two circumstances: (a) where the parties revise the Resale Agreement in response to an FCC or Commission action pursuant to paragraph XVI.A.; and (b) where pursuant to paragraph XVI.B., the reseller (Supra) subsequently adopts an agreement between BellSouth and another carrier which contains rates which differ from the Resale Agreement. In this proceeding, the relevant circumstance was Supra's subsequent adoption of the 1997 AT&T/BellSouth Agreement which contained more favorable provisions regarding the resale of telecommunications services.

On October 5, 1999, Supra adopted the AT&T/BellSouth Interconnection Agreement ("AT&T/BellSouth Agreement"). <u>See</u> Testimony of Patrick Finlen at page 30, lines 20-21 and Composite Exhibit 3 (Exhibit 2). As between BellSouth and AT&T, the effective date of the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement was June 10, 1997. <u>See</u> Testimony of Carol Bentley at page 212, lines 2-3 and Composite Exhibit 3 (Exhibit 2). The rates and terms of resale in the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement materially differed from those set forth in the Resale Agreement; and in particular, the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement did not authorize the charges disputed in this proceeding for: (a) Network Access Charges (or End-User Common Line Charges); (b) Service

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Order Charges; and (c) Unauthorized Service Change Charges. <u>See</u> Testimony of Carol Bentley at page 212, lines 8-11 <u>and</u> Composite Exhibit 3 (Exhibit 2). Thus, pursuant to paragraph XVI.B. of the Resale Agreement, the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement was an "Other Resale Agreement" having "Other Terms" which differed from the Resale Agreement, which constituted a deemed offer which Supra could accept at anytime.

Since Supra and BellSouth did not revise the Resale Agreement pursuant to Section XVI.A. of the Resale Agreement, any reference to a "revised agreement" in Section XVI.F.2. is irrelevant. A restatement of the Section XVI.F. without reference to any "revised agreement" more clearly demonstrates the interplay between Section XVI.A. and Section XVI.B. of the Resale Agreement and would read as follows:

"Corrective Payment. In the event that ... Reseller accepts a deemed offer of an Other Resale Agreement or Other Terms, then BellSouth or Reseller, as applicable, shall make a corrective payment to the other party to correct for the difference between the rates set forth herein and the rates in such ... Other Terms for substantially similar services for the period from the effective date of such ... Other Terms until the date that ... Reseller accepts such Other Terms, plus simple interest at a rate equal to the thirty (30) day commercial paper rate for high-grade, unsecured notes sold through dealers by major corporations in multiples of \$1,000.00 as regularly published in *The Wall Street Journal*."

When viewed without reference to Section XVI.A., Section XVI.F. clearly states that upon adoption of the "Other Resale Agreement" or "Other Terms", a corrective payment is due for the difference in rates and charges between the Resale Agreement and the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement. Moreover, that the corrective payment shall be for the time period of the effective date of the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement and the date Supra accepts the AT&T/BellSouth.

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Although this language is clumsily worded, it only makes sense that the time period should be the time period between when AT&T was offered the rates (i.e. June 10, 1997) and the date Supra adopted the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement (i.e. October 5, 1999). Any other interpretation of this language would render the language meaningless, superfluous and repugnant; and thus in violation of the general rules of contract construction. <u>Coleman v. Valley Forge Insurance</u> <u>Co.</u>, 432 So.2d 1368 (Fla. 2d DCA 1983) (contract provisions should be construed using a reasonable interpretation which does not render provisions meaningless or repugnant); <u>Transport Rental Systems</u>, Inc. v. Hertz Corp., 129 So.2d 454 (Fla. 3d DCA 1961) (contracts should be interpreted as to reconcile provisions, rather than render any provisions superfluous or repugnant). Moreover, ambiguous contract language is to be strictly construed against its maker. <u>St. Charles Foods</u>, <u>supra</u>, 198 F.3d 815 <u>and Golden Door Jewelry</u>, <u>supra</u>, 117 F.3d 1328.

Section 251(b)(1) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 imposes a duty upon BellSouth to not discriminate against ALECs under the rates, terms and conditions of resale. Given the non-discriminatory mandate of § 251(b)(1) and the rules of contract construction, the only reasonable interpretation of Section XVI.F. of the Resale Agreement, is that when Supra adopts another agreement containing rates, terms and conditions of resale which differ from the Resale Agreement, a corrective payment (or refund) is due back to Supra for any difference in charges paid during the time period that the other ALEC was receiving the different rates and charges. Common sense dictates that if between June 10, 1997 (effective date of the AT&T/BellSouth

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Agreement) and October 5, 1999 (when Supra adopted the AT&T Agreement), Supra was charge differing rates and other charges than AT&T during that same time period, then BellSouth could have and would have been violating the non-discriminatory provisions of § 251(b)(1). Thus it only makes sense that the corrective payment provisions of Section XVI.F. require a refund of the difference in rates and charges between the Resale Agreement and the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement.

Accordingly, although the provisions of the Resale Agreement govern the resale relationship between Supra and BellSouth from 1997 through October 5, 1999, the corrective payment provision of Section XVI.F. of the Resale Agreement, in conjunction with Section XVI.B. of the Resale Agreement, effectively require this Commission to determine a refund amount due back to Supra using the rates and charges found in the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement.

## **Issue 2:** DID BELLSOUTH BILL SUPRA APPROPRIATELY FOR END-USER COMMON LINE CHARGES PURSUANT TO THE BELLSOUTH/SUPRA INTERCONNECTION AND RESALE AGREEMENT?

**Position:** No. Under the Resale Agreement, a corrective payment (or refund) of the End-User Common Line Charges was required upon Supra's adoption of the AT&T\BellSouth Agreement. If UNE Combinations had been provided under the 1997 Interconnection Agreement, no End-User Common Line Charges should have or could have been charged.

#### **Summary Of Argument:**

BellSouth improperly billed Supra Telecom FCC Access Charges or End-User Common Line Charges for at least two main reasons. First, assuming the Resale Agreement applied to

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the telecommunications services provided, the Corrective Payment provision of Section XVI.F. of the Resale Agreement required BellSouth to make a corrective payment (or refund) to Supra of the amounts previously charged for End-User Common Line Charges. This is because Supra adopted the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement and that agreement did not allow for the assessment of these charges. Although the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement was adopted on October 5, 1999, pursuant to the Corrective Payment provision of Section XVI.F. in conjunction with Section XVI.B. of the Resale Agreement, these amounts previously paid under the Resale Agreement became due as a refund upon adoption of the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement. Although BellSouth had assessed these charges pursuant to the Resale Agreement, BellSouth has never provided Supra the corrective payment/refund required by the Resale Agreement. This request for a corrective payment/refund was made on a timely basis shortly after the corrective payment/refund had become due in October 1999.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the Resale Agreement, it is undisputed that Supra and BellSouth had entered into an Interconnection Agreement in October 1997, that BellSouth filed an erroneous Interconnection Agreement with the Commission which was subsequently replaced by the parties; that under that Interconnection Agreement, Supra had the right to order loop and port combinations of UNEs which recreated BellSouth's resale service and that BellSouth had provided Supra such UNE Combinations, BellSouth could not have imposed an End-User Common Line Charge on Supra.

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#### **Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:**

Pursuant to the discussion set forth in Issue 1 (which Supra incorporates herein by reference), the Resale Agreement requires a corrective payment for the difference in the rates and charges between the Resale Agreement and the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement. The AT&T/BellSouth Agreement did not authorize BellSouth to impose an End-User Common Line Charge. <u>See</u> Testimony of Carol Bentley at page 212, lines 8-11 and Composite Exhibit 3 (Exhibit 2). Exhibit "D" of Composite Exhibit 10, contains a month by month breakdown of BellSouth's billing of these End-User Common Line Charges, which total \$224,287.79. <u>See</u> Testimony of Carol Bentley at page 211, lines 8-9 (inserted) and Composite Exhibit 10 (Exhibit "D"). Supra made a timely request upon BellSouth for this corrective payment shortly after adopting the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement. <u>See</u> Testimony of Carol Bentley at page 247 Lines 1-11 and Composite Exhibit 3 (12/20/99 Billing Adjustment Investigative Request). Since the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement did not authorize these charges, under Section XVI.F. of the Resale Agreement, a corrective payment or refund is due Supra for these amounts.

In addition to the Resale Agreement, on October 23, 1997, the parties executed an Interconnection Agreement. See Exhibits 5 and 6. Exhibit 5 is portions of the Interconnection Agreement filed by BellSouth. See Testimony of Pat Finlen at page 62, lines 6-13, page 90, lines 13-15. The parties then discovered a discrepancy between the agreement filed by BellSouth and the actual agreement, and as a result thereof executed the corrected agreement, portions of

which are found in Exhibit 6. <u>See</u> Testimony of Pat Finlen at pages 54-56, page 59, lines 5-13, page 90, lines 13-25; page 91, lines 1-7. The main difference in the two Interconnection Agreements was that the proper Interconnection Agreement eliminated an entire section in Attachment 2, entitled "Unbundled Service Combinations." <u>See</u> Testimony of Pat Finlen at page 93, lines 23-25 and pages 94-95; page 27, lines 23-25 and page 28. The omitted section which was a part of the original Interconnection Agreement between the parties provided the following language in Attachment 2:

#### 2. Unbundled Service Combinations (USC)

- 2.1.1. Where BellSouth offers to Supra Telecommunications and Information Systems, Inc., either through a negotiated arrangement or as a result of an effective Commission order, a combination of network elements priced as individual unbundled network elements, the following product combination will be made available. All other requests for unbundled element combinations will be evaluated via the Bona Fide Request Process, as set forth in Attachment 9.
- 2.1.2 2-Wire Analog Loop with 2-Wire Analog Port Residence
- 2.1.3 2-Wire Analog Loop with 2-Wire Analog Port Business
- 2.1.4 2-Wire Analog Loop with 2-Wire Analog Port PBX

#### 2.1.5 2-Wire Analog Loop with 2-Wire DID or 4-Wire DID

See Testimony of Pat Finlen at page 27, lines 23-25 and page 28, lines 1-20; and Exhibit 6 (in

attachment 2). In addition to the "Unbundled Service Combinations", Attachment 2 also

provided in paragraphs 1.1.3 and 1.1.4 in pertinent part as follows:

1.1.3 CLEC may purchase unbundled Network Elements for the purpose of combining Network Elements in any manner that is technically feasible, including recreating existing BellSouth services.

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## 1.1.4 In all states of BellSouth's operation, when CLEC recombines unbundled Network Elements to create services identical to BellSouth's retail offerings, the prices charged to CLEC for the rebundled services shall be computed at BellSouth's retail price less the wholesale discount ...

<u>See</u> Exhibit 6 (in Attachment 2). Finally, it is undisputed that if Supra had been providing telecommunications service through UNE Combinations, including service that recreated resale service, BellSouth could not have billed Supra the End-User Common Line Charge. <u>See</u> Testimony of Pat Finlen at pages 78-80; page 98, lines 16-25 and page 99 lines 1-7; and Testimony of Carol Bentley at page 258, lines 16-25 and page 259, line 1.

Based upon any reasonable interpretation of the above reference provisions of the Interconnection Agreement, as of October 1997 through October 5, 1999, Supra had the right to provide telecommunications service through the use of UNE Combinations, including service which recreated resale service. <u>See</u> Testimony of Pat Finlen, page 99, lines 16-21. Moreover, if Supra had been providing the equivalent of resale service using UNE Combinations, the cost would have been the same as the resale cost less the wholesale discount; however, BellSouth could not have charged Supra the End-User Common Line Charge.

However, notwithstanding the provisions of the Interconnection Agreement, BellSouth refused to provide Supra service through UNE Combinations. See Testimony of Pat Finlen at page 85, lines 12-24; page 97, lines 5-18. BellSouth's position in 1998 was that it want not providing UNE Combinations to anyone. See Testimony of Pat Finlen at page 111, lines 16-24; and page 132, lines 2-11. BellSouth's position was that it was un-combining the loop and port elements and was under no obligation to combine them to recreate resale service. See

Testimony of Pat Finlen at page 132, lines 2-11. This position was contrary to the expressed terms of the Interconnection Agreement, which allowed Supra to obtain telecommunications service using UNE Combinations, which recreated existing resale service. BellSouth concedes that in 1999, the United States Supreme Court rejected BellSouth's argument that it would uncombine port and loop combinations which were already previously combined. <u>See</u> Testimony of Pat Finlen at pages 112-115. Thus BellSouth concedes that after the Supreme Court's ruling in <u>AT&T v. Iowa Utilities Board</u>, 119 S.Ct. 721 (Jan. 25, 1999), that Supra had the right to convert over to UNE Combinations, all resale customers who had existing resale lines. <u>See</u> Testimony of Pat Finlen at pages 112-115.

Notwithstanding the above, Supra has been attempting to obtain UNE Combinations from BellSouth since mid-1997 in order to provide telecommunications services, including services which recreate resale service. <u>See</u> Testimony of Carol Bentley at page 254, lines 4-14; and page 258, lines 1-15. Pat Finlen of BellSouth concedes that as of the summer of 1998, Supra had been requesting UNE Combinations but was turned down. <u>See</u> Testimony of Pat Finlen at page 97, lines 8-17. Claude Morton testified that Supra was first allowed to open UNE accounts in February 2000 and began to order UNE Combinations in March 2000. <u>See</u> Testimony of Claude Morton at page 170, lines 12-15; page 172, lines 9-15. However, Morton also testified that Supra could not order UNE Combinations until a Master Account Application had been filled out and accepted by the BellSouth Account Manager and that he did not know if the BellSouth Account Manager had been delaying or refusing to accept a Master Account Application for

UNE Combinations. See Testimony of Claude Morton at page 179, lines 21-25; page 180. Moreover, Supra could not obtain UNE Combinations until such time as the Master Account Application for UNEs had been approved by various BellSouth departments. See Testimony of Claude Morton at pages 183-185. Finally, to date, Supra has only been allow to obtain three test UNE Combinations and has still been denied the right to provide the equivalent of resale service through UNE Combinations. See Testimony of Claude Morton at page 187, lines 18-25; and Testimony of Carol Bentley, page 255 and pages 259-260. Finally, Supra has been forced into resale service and has been billed for resale service because it only had a Master Account set up for resale. See Testimony of Carol Bentley at page 252 at lines 14-23; and Testimony of Claude Morton at page 189, lines 6-12.

Based upon the above it is clear that since 1997, Supra has been requesting the right to provide service through UNE Combinations, but that BellSouth has refused to allow Supra to obtain those UNE Combinations, particularly combinations which recreate resale service. BellSouth's claim that it was appealing the FCC rules on UNE Combinations is not relevant. An appeal of a final order does not eliminate a parties' right to enforcement of the order or the right to be compensated for damages accruing to the appeal process. See BASF Corp. v. Old World Trading Co., 979 F.2d 615 (7th Cir. 1992); J. Perez & CIA., Inc. v. United States, 747 F.2d 813 (1st Cir. 1984). BellSouth admits that its refusal to provided Supra with UNE Combinations was rejected by United States Supreme Court. Yet at the same time BellSouth contends that its appeal should immunize it from billing disputes such as this one, wherein

BellSouth concedes that had it allowed Supra the UNE Combinations, BellSouth could not have bill for the End-User Common Line Charges. This position is untenable and contrary to law. Accordingly, Supra should be provide a refund of the End-User Common Line Charges set forth in Exhibit 10 (Exhibit "D").

## **Issue 3:** DID BELLSOUTH BILL SUPRA APPROPRIATELY FOR CHANGES IN SERVICES, UNAUTHORIZED LOCAL SERVICE CHANGES AND RECONNECTIONS PURSUANT TO THE BELLSOUTH/SUPRA INTERCONNECTION AND RESALE AGREEMENTS?

**Position:** No. Under the Resale Agreement, a corrective payment of these charges was required upon Supra's adoption of the AT&T\BellSouth Agreement. Moreover, BellSouth improperly imposed this charge on every "switch back" and demanded proof beyond that required by the Resale Agreement. Finally, if UNE Combinations had been provided as requested, these charges would not apply.

#### **Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:**

Pursuant to the discussion set forth in Issue 1 (which Supra incorporates herein by reference), the Resale Agreement requires a corrective payment for the difference in the rates and charges between the Resale Agreement and the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement. The AT&T/BellSouth Agreement did not authorize BellSouth to impose these charges. See Testimony of Carol Bentley at page 212, lines 8-11 and Composite Exhibit 3 (Exhibit 2). Exhibit "D" of Composite Exhibit 10, contains a month by month breakdown of BellSouth's billing of these Unauthorized Service Change Charges, which total \$\$48,917.69. See Testimony of Carol Bentley at page 211, lines 8-9 (inserted) and Composite Exhibit 10 (Exhibit "D"). Supra made a timely request upon BellSouth for this corrective payment shortly after adopting

the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement. <u>See</u> Testimony of Carol Bentley at page 232, lines 2-5, page 246, lines 23-25 and page 247 Lines 1-11 <u>and</u> Composite Exhibit 3 (Exhibit 3) (12/20/99 Billing Adjustment Investigative Request). Since the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement did not authorize these charges, under Section XVI.F. of the Resale Agreement, a corrective payment or refund is due Supra for these amounts.

Moreover, BellSouth imposed this charge on every customer who switched back from Supra to BellSouth. <u>See</u> Testimony of Carol Bentley at page 253, lines 19-25 and page 254, lines 1-3. BellSouth refused to remove the charges unless Supra could provide a written letter of authorization from each customer. <u>See</u> March 30, 200 Letter from Lynn Smith to Carol Bentley which is part of Exhibit 3 to Exhibit 3. However, the Resale Agreement does not require written letters of authorization and thus BellSouth was imposing more restrictive conditions on providing customer authorization. <u>See</u> Testimony of Carole Bentley at page 264, lines 10-24; page 267, lines 4-17; <u>and</u> Composite Exhibit 3 (Exhibit 1) <u>and</u> Composite Exhibit 4 (PSC-1) at paragraph 6-d.

In any event, BellSouth refused to provide Supra with service through UNE Combinations as detailed previously in Issue 2 (which Supra incorporates herein by reference). Under the Interconnection Agreement, no written authorization requests are necessary. <u>See</u> Testimony of Carol Bentley at page 263, lines 7-10, 23-25 and page 264, lines 1-5. Moreover, no such charges are present in the Interconnection Agreement. Accordingly, Supra should be provide a refund of the Unauthorized Service Change Charges set forth in Exhibit 10 (Exhibit "D").

## **Issue 4:** DID BELLSOUTH BILL SUPRA APPROPRIATELY FOR SECONDARY SERVICE CHARGES PURSUANT TO THE BELLSOUTH/SUPRA INTERCONNECTION AND RESALE AGREEMENTS?

**<u>Position:</u>** No. If under the Resale Agreement, a corrective payment (or refund) of these charges was required upon Supra's adoption of the AT&T\BellSouth Agreement. If UNE Combinations had been provided under the Interconnection Agreement, these charges should have been billed at a reduced rate.

#### **Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:**

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Pursuant to the discussion set forth in Issue 1 (which Supra incorporates herein by reference), the Resale Agreement requires a corrective payment for the difference in the rates and charges between the Resale Agreement and the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement. The AT&T/BellSouth Agreement did not authorize BellSouth to impose these charges. See Testimony of Carol Bentley at page 212, lines 8-11 and Composite Exhibit 3 (Exhibit 2). Exhibit "D" of Composite Exhibit 10, contains a month by month breakdown of BellSouth's billing of these Unauthorized Service Change Charges, which total \$33,352.97. See Testimony of Carol Bentley at page 211, lines 8-9 (inserted) and Composite Exhibit 10 (Exhibit "D"). Supra made a timely request upon BellSouth for this corrective payment shortly after adopting the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement. See Testimony of Carol Bentley at page 232, lines 2-5, page 246, lines 23-25 and page 247 Lines 1-11 and Composite Exhibit 3 (Exhibit 3) (12/20/99 Billing Adjustment Investigative Request). Since the AT&T/BellSouth Agreement did not authorize these charges, under Section XVI.F. of the Resale Agreement, a corrective payment or refund is due Supra for these amounts.

Moreover, BellSouth refused to provide Supra with service through UNE Combinations as detailed previously in Issue 2 (which Supra incorporates herein by reference). These charges were for switching customers from BellSouth to Supra. <u>See</u> Testimony of Pat Finlen at page 138, lines 10-21. Under this Commission's Order No. PSC-98-0810-FOF-TP in Docket No. 971140-TP, BellSouth could only charge \$1.4596 for the first installation and \$0.9335 for each addition installation when converting resale customers over to UNE Combinations. If this Commission rules that BellSouth should have been providing Supra with service through UNE Combinations, then BellSouth's charges should be reduced to reflect the rates set forth in Order No. PSC-98-0810-FOF-TP. Accordingly, Supra should be provide a refund of the Change In Service Charges set forth in Exhibit 10 (Exhibit "D").

#### **III. CONCLUSION**

For the reasons stated above, Supra is entitled to a refund of the charges set forth above and in this proceeding.

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WHEREFORE, SUPRA TELECOMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION SYSTEMS,

INC., hereby files this its Post-Hearing Statement of Issues and Positions and Post-Hearing Brief.

Respectfully Submitted,

MARK E. BUECHELE, ESQ. P.O. Box 398555 Miami Beach, Florida 33239-8555 Telephone: (305) 531-5286 Facsimile: (305) 531-5287

MARK E. BUECHELE Florida Bar No. 906700

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY Certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S. Mail upon NANCY WHITE (BellSouth), 150 South Monroe Street, Suite 400, Tallahassee, Florida 32301; R. DOUGLAS LACKEY (BellSouth), BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., 675 West Peachtree Street, N.E., Suite 4300, Atlanta, Georgia 30375; and LEE FORDHAM (FPSC Staff), 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida; this <u>23rd</u> day of May, 2001.

E Vicelal By:

MARK E. BUECHELE Fla. Bar No. 906700