JAMES MEZA III Attorney

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. 150 South Monroe Street Room 400 Tallahassee, Florida 32301 (305) 347-5561

August 28, 2001

Mrs. Blanca S. Bayó
Director, Division of the Commission Clerk
and Administrative Services
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: <u>Docket No. 010345-TP (Structural Separation of BellSouth)</u>

Dear Ms. Bayó:

Enclosed is an original and fifteen copies of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s Motion to Dismiss, Motion for More Definite Statement, and Motion to Strike Clarified and Amended Petition, which we ask that you file in the captioned docket.

A copy of this letter is enclosed. Please mark it to indicate that the original was filed and return the copy to me. Copies have been served to the parties shown on the attached Certificate of Service.

Sincerely,

James Meza III (LA)

cc: All Parties of Record Marshall M. Criser III R. Douglas Lackey Nancy B. White

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# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE Docket No. 010345-TP

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

### U.S. Mail this 28th day of August, 2001 to the following:

Jason Fudge
Beth Keating
Staff Counsel
Florida Public Service
Commission
Division of Legal Services
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Time Warner Telecom of Florida, L.P. c/o Carolyn Marek
233 Bramerton Court
Franklin, Tennessee 37069
Tel. No. (615) 376-6404
Fax. No. (615) 376-6405
carolyn.marek@twtelecom.com

Peter M. Dunbar, Esq.
Karen M. Camechis, Esq.
Pennington, Moore, Wilkinson,
Bell & Dunbar, P.A.
P.O. Box 10095 (32302)
215 South Monroe Street, 2nd Flr.
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Tel. No. (850) 222-3533
Fax. No. (850) 222-2126
Counsel for Time Warner
Pete@penningtonlawfirm.com
Karen@penningtonlawfirm.com

Ms. Rhonda P. Merritt
AT&T Communications
AT&T Digital Phone
TCG South Florida
101 North Monroe Street
Suite 700
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Tel. No. (850) 425-6342
Fax. No. (850) 425-6361
rpmerritt@att.com

Michael A. Gross
Florida Cable Telecomm. Assoc.
246 E. 6th Avenue, Suite 100
Tallahassee, FL 32303
Tel. No. (850) 681-1990
Fax. No. (850) 681-9676
mgross@fcta.com

Maxcess, Inc.
Ms. Doris Franklin
315 South Calhoun Street
Suite 314
Tallahassee, FL 32301-1837
Tel. No. (850) 513-1020
Fax. No. (850) 513-1022
dfranklin@maxcess.net

Joseph A. McGlothlin
Vicki Gordon Kaufman
McWhirter, Reeves, McGlothlin,
Davidson, Decker, Kaufman,
Arnold & Steen, P.A.
117 South Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Tel. No. (850) 222-2525
Fax. No. (850) 222-5606
jmcglothlin@mac-law.com
vkaufman@mac-law.com
Attys. for FCCA
Attys. for ACCESS

Brian D. Sulmonetti
MCI Telecommunications Corp.
Concourse Corporate Center Six
Six Concourse Parkway, Suite 3200
Atlanta, GA 30328

Matthew Feil Florida Digital Network, Inc. 390 North Orange Avenue Suite 2000 Orlando, FL 32801 Tel. No. (407) 835-0460 mfeil@floridadigital.net

Michael Sloan Swidler Berlin Shereff Friedman, LLP 3000 K Street Suite 300 Washington, D.C. 20007-5116 Tel. No. (202) 295-8458 mcsloan@swidlaw.com

Richard D. Melson
Hopping Green Sams & Smith, P.A.
P.O. Box 6526
Tallahassee, FL 32314
Tel. No. (850) 425-2313
Atty. for MCI WorldCom

Donna McNuity MCI WorldCom, Inc. 325 John Knox Road Suite 105 Tallahassee, FL 32303 Tel. No. (850) 422-1254

Joseph W. Hatchett
Fred R. Dudley
Bruce Culpepper
Akerman, Senterfitt & Edison, P.A.
301 South Bronough, Suite 200
Tallahassee, Florida 32301-1707
Tel. No. (850) 222-3471
Fax. No. (850) 222-8628
Attys. for AT&T, TCG & MediaOne

John F. O'Sullivan
SunTrust International Center
28th Floor
One Southeast Third Avenue
Miami, Florida 33131-1704
Tel. No. (305) 374-5600
Fax. No. (305) 374-5095
Attys. for AT&T, TCG & MediaOne

George N. Meros, Jr.
Lori S. Rowe
Gray, Harris & Robinson
301 South Bronough, Suite 600
Post Office Box 11189
Tallahassee, FL 32302
Tel. No. (850) 222-7717
Fax. No. (850) 222-3494
Attys. for AT&T

Thomas A. Cloud
Gray, Harris & Robinson
301 East Pine Street, Suite 1400
Post Office Box 3068
Orlando, FL 32802-3068
Tel. No. (407) 843-8880
Fax. No. (407) 244-5690
Atty. for AT&T

William B. Graham, Esq. McFarlain & Cassedy, P.A. 215 South Monroe Street Suite 600 Tallahassee, FL 32301 Tel. No. (850) 222-2107 Fax. No. (850) 222-8475 Atty. for AT&T

IDS Telcom L.L.C. 1525 Northwest 167th Street Second Floor Miami, Florida 33169

Suzanne Summerlin, Esq. 1311-B Paul Russell Road Suite 201 Tallahassee. Florida 32301

Kenneth A. Hoffman, Esq.
Rutledge, Ecenia, Purnell &
Hoffman, P.A.
P.O. Box 551
Tallahassee, FL 32302-0551
Tel. No. (850) 681-6788
Fax. No. (850) 681-6515
Represents US LEC

Mr. Jeremiah T. Needham Regulatory Manager US LEC Corporation Morrocroft III 6801 Morrison Boulevard Charlotte, NC 28211 Tel. No. (704) 319-1944 Fax. No. (704) 602-1944

Covad Communications Company
Ms. Catherine F. Boone
10 Gleniake Parkway
Suite 650
Atlanta, GA 30328-3495
Tel. No. (678) 222--3469
Fax. No. (240) 525-5673
cboone@covad.com

Vicki Gordon Kaufman
McWhirter Reeves McGlothlin Davidson
Decker Kaufman Arnold & Steen, P.A.
117 South Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
Tel. No. (850) 222-2525
Fax. No. (850) 222-5606
Atty. for Covad
vkaufman@mac-law.com

Maureen Flood
CompTel
Director of Regulatory and State Affairs
1900 M Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel. No. (202) 296-6650
Fax. No. (202) 296-7585

Robert J. Aamoth
Andrew M. Klein
Kelley Drye & Warren LLP
1200 19th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel. No. (202) 955-9600
Fax. No. (202) 955-9792
RAamoth@KelleyDrye.com
AKlein@KelleyDrye.com

D. Mark Baxter Stone & Baxter, LLP 557 Mulberry Street, Suite 1111 Macon, Georgia 31201-8256 Represents ACCESS

James Meza III (KA)

#### BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Petition of AT&T Communications of	)	Docket No.: 010345-TP
the Southern States, Inc., TCG South	)	
Florida, and MediaOne Florida	)	
Telecommunications, Inc. for	)	
Structural Separation of BellSouth	)	
Telecommunications, Inc.	)	Filed: August 28, 2001

## BELLSOUTH'S MOTION TO DISMISS, MOTION FOR MORE DEFINITE STATEMENT, AND MOTION TO STRIKE CLARIFIED AND AMENDED PETITION

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") respectfully requests that the Florida Public Service Commission ("FPSC") (1) dismiss AT&T Communications of the Southern States, Inc.'s, TCG South Florida Inc.'s, and MediaOne Florida Telecommunications, Inc.'s (collectively "AT&T") Clarified and Amended Petition for Structural Separation ("Amended Petition") to the extent the Amended Petition is still requesting that the Commission structurally separate BellSouth; (2) require AT&T to file a more definite statement as to its request for "all relief necessary or appropriate as the facts and circumstances require"; and (3) strike the Amended Petition for failing to comply with Rule 25-22.036, Florida Administrative Code. In support of these motions, BellSouth submits the following:

- 1. On March 21, 2001, AT&T filed its Petition for Structural Separation, wherein, after twenty-eight pages of baseless accusations and arguments, AT&T specifically requested that the Commission order the structural separation of BellSouth.
- 2. Based on AT&T's specific claim for relief, on April 10, 2001, BellSouth filed a Motion to Dismiss and Motion to Strike, claiming, among other things, that (1) the Commission lacked the authority to order structural separation; (2) the Commission was

prohibited from ordering structural separation; and (3) the Petition failed to comply with basic pleading requirements. BellSouth's Motion to Dismiss and Motion to Strike are still pending.

- 3. On June 20, 2001, AT&T filed its Motion to Clarify and Amend AT&T's Petition for Structural Separation, wherein it requested that the Commission award all relief necessary or appropriate under the circumstances in addition or as an alternative to structural separation. On July 2, 2001, BellSouth filed an Opposition to AT&T's Motion to Clarify and Amend on the grounds that it was untimely and introduced new issues into the proceeding. In Order No. PSC-01-1615-PCO-TP, dated August 8, 2001, the Commission granted AT&T's Motion and ordered that all responses to the Amended Petition be filed by August 28, 2001.
- 4. As stated above, AT&T's Amended Petition seeks as relief the structural separation of BellSouth in addition to "all relief necessary or appropriate as the facts and circumstances require." Amended Petition at 1. To the extent AT&T is still requesting structural separation as relief, BellSouth moves that the Commission dismiss AT&T's Amended Petition. In support of this request, BellSouth incorporates by reference all of the arguments set forth in the Motion to Dismiss that BellSouth filed in this docket on or about April 10, 2001.
- 5. Regarding AT&T's request that the Commission "order all relief necessary or appropriate as the facts and circumstances requires", BellSouth requests that, pursuant to pursuant to Rule 1.140(e), Florida Rules of Civil Procedure and Rule 28-106.24, Florida Administrative Code, AT&T provide a more definite statement as to the specific type of relief it is requesting. See Manka v. DeFranco's, Inc., 575 So. 2d 1357,

1359 (Fla. 1<sup>st</sup> DCA 1991) (any ambiguity as to claim for damages could be cured by motion for more definite statement).

AT&T has not identified what type of additional or alternative relief it is requesting. Indeed, in its Motion, AT&T admitted that the "facts determined at the hearing might compel relief more substantial, less substantial, or just different than structural separation." Motion at 1. As currently stated, AT&T's Amended Petition forces BellSouth to speculate as to what relief AT&T is requesting, which severely prejudices BellSouth. Without knowing what additional or alternate relief AT&T is requesting, BellSouth cannot prepare a defense to these unlimited, unspecified claims for relief.

Furthermore, as made clear in BellSouth's Motion to Dismiss, the Commission's power is not unlimited because it is a creature of statute. City of Cape Coral v. GAC Utilities, Inc., 281 So. 2d 493 (Fla. 1973). "As such, the Commission's powers, duties, and authority are those and only those that are conferred expressly or impliedly by statute of the State. Any reasonable doubt as to the lawful existence of a particular power that is being exercised by the Commission must be resolved against the exercise thereof." Id.

Consequently, it is axiomatic that AT&T specifically identify what alternative or additional claims of relief it is requesting so that the parties as well as this Commission can determine whether the Commission has the authority to order the requested relief. Accordingly, to the extent AT&T's Amended Petition is seeking alternative or additional relief to structural separation, BellSouth moves that AT&T specifically identify the additional or alternative relief it is seeking.

- 9. In addition, BellSouth requests that the Commission strike the Amended Complaint because it fails to comply with Rule 25-22.036, Florida Administrative Code. This Rule requires that each Complaint contain "the specific relief requested, including any penalty sought." Rule 25.22.036, Florida Administrative Code. For the reasons stated above, AT&T's request for "all relief necessary or appropriate as the facts and circumstances require" in addition to or as an alternative to structural separation does not identify the specific relief requested. Accordingly, AT&T's Amended Petition does not comply with Rule 25-22.036 and should be stricken.
- defects previously identified in BellSouth's Motion to Strike. As stated in the Motion to Strike, stripped of the improper allegations, opinions, and legal conclusions, AT&T's Petition as well as its Amended Petition do not satisfy basic pleading requirements, including the requirement that the Complaint identify the actions that allegedly constitute a violation of rule, order or statute as set forth in Rule 25-22.036. Id. Therefore, BellSouth incorporates by reference all of the arguments set forth in the Motion to Strike and adds that the Amended Petition should be stricken because it does not conform to Rule 25-22.036. <sup>1</sup>

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, BellSouth respectfully requests that the Commission (1) dismiss AT&T's Amended Petition to the extent it is still requesting that the Commission structurally separate BellSouth; (2) require AT&T to provide a more definite statement as to the specific relief it is requesting in addition or as an alternative to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> It should be noted that in AT&T's Memorandum in Opposition to BellSouth's Motion to Dismiss, AT&T cited to only five alleged instances in the twenty-eight page Complaint where it claims that it complied with Rule 25-22.036(b)(2). Absent a claim for relief in addition or alternative to structural separation, the Amended Petition is identical to the original Petition.

structural separation; and (3) strike AT&T's Amended Petition for failing to comply with Rule 25-22.036.

Respectfully submitted this 28th day of August, 2001.

BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.

Douslashackor

Mancy B. White NANCY B. WHITE

JAMES MEZA III c/o Nancy H. Sims

150 So. Monroe Street, Suite 400

Tallahassee, FL 32301

(305) 347-5558

R. DOUGLAS LACKEY

E. EARL EDENFIELD JR.

PATRICK W. TURNER

Suite 4300

675 W. Peachtree St., NE

Atlanta, GA 30375

(404) 335-0747

408093