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November 20, 2003

**BY HAND DELIVERY**

Ms. Blanca Bayó, Director  
Division of Records and Reporting  
Room 110, Easley Building  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Re: Docket Nos. 030867-TL, 030868-TL, 030869-TL, and 030961-TL

Dear Ms. Bayó:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of MCI WorldCom Communications, Inc. are an original and fifteen copies of MCI's Preliminary Objections to BellSouth's First Set of Interrogatories (Nos. 1-4) in the above referenced dockets.

Please acknowledge receipt of these documents by stamping the extra copy of this letter "filed" and returning the same to me.

Thank you for your assistance with this filing.

Sincerely yours,

  
Floyd R. Self

FRS/amb  
Enclosures

cc: Parties of Record

**BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

In re: Flow-through of LEC switched access reductions by IXCs, pursuant to Section 364.163(2), Florida Statutes.

DOCKET NO. 030961-TI

In re: Petition by Verizon Florida Inc. to reform intrastate network access and basic local telecommunications rates in accordance with Section 364.164, Florida Statutes.

DOCKET NO. 030867-TL

In re: Petition by Sprint-Florida, Incorporated to reduce intrastate switched network access rates to interstate parity in revenue-neutral manner pursuant to Section 364.164(1), Florida Statutes.

DOCKET NO. 030868-TL

In re: Petition for implementation of Section 364.164, Florida Statutes, by rebalancing rates in a revenue-neutral manner through decreases in intrastate switched access charges with offsetting rate adjustments for basic services, by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.

DOCKET NO. 030869-TL

Served: November 20, 2003

**MCI's PRELIMINARY OBJECTIONS TO BELLSOUTH'S  
FIRST SET OF INTERROGATORIES (Nos. 1-4)**

MCI WorldCom Communications, Inc. (hereinafter "MCI"), pursuant to the *Order Establishing Procedure*, Order No. PSC-03-0994-PCO-TP, issued September 4, 2003 (hereinafter "*Procedural Order*") by the Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission"), Rule 28-106.206 of the Florida Administrative Code, and Rules 1.280 and 1.340 of the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, hereby generally and specifically objects to BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s (hereinafter "BellSouth") First Set of Interrogatories to MCI, served on November 12, 2003. The Objections stated herein are preliminary in nature and are made at this time for the purpose of complying with the requirements set forth in the *Procedural Order*.

## A. General Objections

MCI makes the following General Objections to BellSouth's First Set of Interrogatories a, including the applicable definitions and general instructions therein ("BellSouth discovery"), which as appropriate will be incorporated into each relevant response when MCI's responses are served on BellSouth.

1. MCI objects to the BellSouth discovery to the extent that such discovery seeks to impose an obligation on MCI to respond on behalf of subsidiaries, affiliates, or other persons that are not parties to this case on the grounds that such discovery is overly broad, unduly burdensome, oppressive, and not permitted by applicable discovery rules. MCI further objects to any and all BellSouth discovery that seeks to obtain information from MCI for MCI subsidiaries, affiliates, or other related MCI entities that are not certificated by the Commission.

2. MCI has interpreted the BellSouth discovery to apply to MCI's regulated intrastate operations in Florida and will limit its responses accordingly. To the extent that any BellSouth discovery is intended to apply to matters that take place outside the state of Florida and which are not related to Florida intrastate operations subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission, MCI objects to such request as irrelevant, overly broad, unduly burdensome, and oppressive.

3. MCI objects to the BellSouth discovery to the extent that such discovery calls for information which is exempt from discovery by virtue of the attorney-client privilege, work product privilege, or other applicable privilege.

4. MCI objects to the BellSouth discovery insofar as such discovery is vague, ambiguous, overly broad, imprecise, or utilizes terms that are subject to multiple interpretations but are not properly defined or explained for purposes of these requests. Any responses provided

by MCI in response to the BellSouth discovery will be provided subject to, and without waiver of, the foregoing objection.

5. MCI objects to the BellSouth discovery insofar as such discovery is not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence and is not relevant to the subject matter of this action.

6. MCI objects to the BellSouth discovery insofar as it seeks information or documents, or seek to impose obligations on MCI which exceed the requirements of the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure or Florida law.

7. MCI objects to providing information to the extent that such information is already in the public record before the Florida Public Service Commission or which is already in the possession, custody, or control of BellSouth.

8. MCI objects to the BellSouth discovery to the extent that such discovery is overly broad, unduly burdensome, expensive, oppressive, or excessively time consuming as written.

9. MCI objects to each and every request to the extent that the information requested constitutes "trade secrets" which are privileged pursuant to Section 90.506, Florida Statutes. To the extent that BellSouth's requests seek proprietary confidential business information which is not the subject of the "trade secrets" privilege, MCI will make such information available to counsel for BellSouth pursuant to an appropriate Protective Agreement, subject to any other general or specific objections contained herein.

10. MCI is a large corporation with employees located in many different locations in Florida and in other states. In the course of its business, MCI creates countless documents that are not subject to Florida Public Service Commission or FCC retention of records requirements. These documents are kept in numerous locations and are frequently moved from site to site as

employees change jobs or as the business is reorganized. Therefore, it is possible that not every document has been identified in response to these requests. MCI will conduct a reasonable and diligent search of those files that are reasonably expected to contain the requested information. To the extent that the BellSouth discovery purports to require more, MCI objects on the grounds that compliance would impose an undue burden or expense.

11. MCI objects to the BellSouth discovery that seeks to obtain “all,” “each,” or “every” document, item, customer, or other such piece of information to the extent that such discovery is overly broad and unduly burdensome. Any answers that MCI may provide in response to the BellSouth discovery will be provided subject to, and without waiver or, this objection.

12. MCI objects to the BellSouth discovery to the extent such discovery seeks to have MCI create documents not in existence at the time of the request.

13. MCI objects to the BellSouth discovery to the extent that such discovery is not limited to any stated period of time or a stated period of time that is longer than is relevant for purposes of the issues in this docket, as such discovery is overly broad and unduly burdensome.

14. In light of the short period of time MCI has been afforded to respond to the BellSouth discovery, the development of MCI’s positions and potentially responsive information to the BellSouth requests is necessarily ongoing and continuing. Accordingly, these are preliminary objections to comply with the *Procedural Order*, and MCI reserves the right to supplement, revise, or modify its objections at the time that it serves its actual responses to the BellSouth discovery. However, MCI does not assume an affirmative obligation to supplement its answers on an ongoing basis.

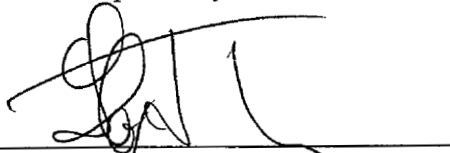
B. Specific Objections

MCI makes the following Specific Objections to BellSouth's First Set of Interrogatories, including the applicable definitions and general instructions expressed therein ("BellSouth discovery"), which as appropriate will be incorporated into each relevant response when MCI's responses are served on BellSouth.

15. MCI objects to each and every interrogatory or request for production that seeks information regarding MCI's operations in ILEC service areas other than the BellSouth ILEC service area within the state of Florida as such information is irrelevant to BellSouth's case in this docket and such discovery is overly broad and unduly burdensome.

16. MCI objects to each and every interrogatory or request for production that seeks to obtain information regarding "former officers, employees, agents, directors, and all other persons acting or purporting to act on behalf of MCI" as such information is not within MCI's control, would be unduly burdensome to attempt to obtain and is likely irrelevant.

Respectfully submitted this 20<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2003.



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MCI WorldCom Communications, Inc.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served on the following parties by U. S. Mail this 20<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2003.

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