Nancy B. White General Counsel - Florida

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. 150 South Monroe Street Room 400 Tallahassee, Florida 32301 (305) 347-5558

March 15, 2004

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.: 031038-TL</u>

Petition of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. to Revise Customer Contact Protocol

Dear Ms. Bayó:

Enclosed is an original and fifteen copies of BellSouth Telecommunications Inc.'s Motion to Strike Americatel's Reply to BellSouth, 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,

Ylancy B. White PK)

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

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE Docket No. 031038-TL

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served via Electronic Mail, (*) Facsimile and First Class U.S. Mail this 15th day of March, 2004 to the following:

Jeremy Susac
Staff Counsel
Florida Public Service
Commission
Division of Legal Services
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850
jsusac@psc.state.fl.us

Americatel Corporation 4045 N.W. 97th Avenue Miami, Florida 33178-2300 Tel. No. (305) 717-0200 Fax. No. (305) 716-8833 jasecio@americatel.net

J. Harris/R. Jackson/J. Schulz (*) Reed Smith LLP 1301 K Street, N.W. Suite 1100 - East Tower Washington, D.C. 20005 Tel. No. (202) 414-9200 Fax. No. (202) 414-9299

Nancy B. White

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition of BellSouth)	Docket No.: 031038-TL
Telecommunications, Inc. to Revise)	
Customer Contact Protocol)	
)	Filed: March 15, 2004

MOTION TO STRIKE AMERICATEL'S REPLY TO BELLSOUTH

Americatel Corporation ("Americatel") filed a Protest to Order No. PSC-04-0115-PAA-TL. On March 8, 2004, BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") filed its response to this petition. On March 12, 2004, Americatel filed a reply to BellSouth's response. The Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission") should strike Americatel's reply because replies are not expressly authorized under the Uniform Rules of the Administrative Procedure Act and Americatel has not moved the Commission for permission to file a reply.

There is no provision within the Florida Administrative Code that allows a reply to be filed to a response to a petition. While there is a rule that, in certain limited circumstances, a reply can be filed to an opposition to a motion, that rule is inapplicable to this situation. The rules provide that once a motion is filed, a party can file an opposition within seven days of service. Rule 28-106.204, Florida Administrative Code. The rule does not expressly authorize reply memorandums. See *In re: Complaint of Supra Telecommunications and Information Systems, Inc. against BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. for violations of the Telecommunications Act of 1996*, Order No. PSC-00-1777-PCO-TP, Docket No. 980119-TP (Sept. 28, 2000) at 3 ("neither the Uniform Rules nor [the Commission's] rules contemplate a reply to a response to a Motion."). Because reply memorandums are not expressly authorized, a party must seek leave before filing a reply. However, the Commission generally refuses to allow

parties to file reply memorandums, even when leave is sought. See id.; see also, In re: ITC—DeltaCom Communications, Inc., Order No. PSC-00-2233-FOF-TP, Docket No. 990750-TP, (Nov. 22. 2000) at 2; In re: Okeechobee Generating Co., L.L.C., Order No. PSC-99-2438-PAA-EU, Docket No. 991462-EU; (Dec. 13, 1999) at 4-5.

Because there is no rule expressly allowing for a reply to a petition response, because Americatel has neither sought nor received permission to file a reply in this docket and because Americatel has provided no reasons whatsoever for this Commission to deviate from its general rule that reply memorandums are not permissible, BellSouth respectfully requests that the Commission strike Americatel's reply.

Respectfully submitted this 15th day of March, 2004.

BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.

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