

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Consideration of  
BellSouth Telecommunications,  
Inc.'s entry into interLATA  
services pursuant to Section 271  
of the Federal  
Telecommunications Act of 1996.  
(Third Party OSS Testing)

DOCKET NO. 960786B-TL

In re: Petition of Competitive  
Carriers for Commission action  
to support local competition in  
BellSouth Telecommunications,  
Inc.'s service territory.

DOCKET NO. 981834-TP  
ORDER NO. PSC-02-1131-CFO-TP  
ISSUED: August 20, 2002

ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR SPECIFIED CONFIDENTIAL  
CLASSIFICATION OF DOCUMENT NO. 07542-02  
(CROSS-REFERENCE DOCUMENT NO. 06773-02)

Pursuant to Section 271(d)(3) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the Act), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has 90 days to issue a written determination approving or denying a Bell Operating Company's (BOC) application for interLATA authority. Further, the FCC is directed to consult with the appropriate State Commission before making a determination regarding the BOC's entry into the interLATA market. Specifically, the Act requires the FCC to consult with the State Commission in order to verify the BOC's compliance with the requirements of Section 271(c) of the Act. On June 28, 1996, the Commission opened this docket to begin to fulfill its consultative role.

On July 19, 2002, BellSouth filed a Request for Specified Confidential Classification of its End-to-End Process Flow (Document No. 07542-02 and cross-referenced Document No. 06773-02). BellSouth asserts that the document contains strategic planning information for the change control and software release process. BellSouth asserts that it has treated and will continue to treat this information as confidential, and that it has not otherwise been disclosed. BellSouth contends that release of this information would provide its competitors with an undue competitive advantage in that they would have access to information about BellSouth's competitive strategies. BellSouth asks for protection

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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of the specific pages and line numbers as set forth in Attachment A to this Order, which is attached and incorporated in this Order by reference.

Florida law presumes that documents submitted to governmental agencies shall be public records. The only exceptions to this presumption are the specific statutory exemptions provided in the law and exemptions granted by governmental agencies pursuant to the specific terms of a statutory provision. This presumption is based on the concept that government should operate in the "sunshine." Rule 25-22.006(4)(c), Florida Administrative Code, provides that it is the Company's burden to demonstrate that the documents fall into one of the statutory examples set out in Section 364.183, Florida Statutes, or to demonstrate that the information is proprietary confidential information, the disclosure of which will cause the Company or its ratepayers harm.

Section 364.183(3), Florida Statutes, states that "proprietary confidential business information" is

[o]wned or controlled by the person or company, is intended to be and is treated by the person or company as private in that the disclosure of the information would cause harm to the ratepayers or the person's or company's business operations, and has not been disclosed unless disclosed pursuant to a statutory provision, an order of a court or administrative body, or private agreement that provides that the information will not be released to the public.

Based on the definition of proprietary confidential business information in Section 364.183(3), Florida Statutes, it appears that the information for which BellSouth seeks confidential classification is information that, if disclosed, would cause harm to BellSouth's competitive interests and its business operations. Thus, this information qualifies as proprietary confidential business information under Section 364.183, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-22.006, Florida Administrative Code. As such, BellSouth's request for confidential classification is hereby granted.

ORDER NO. PSC-02-1131-CFO-TP  
DOCKETS NOS. 960786B-TL, 981834-TP  
PAGE 3


Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by Commissioner J. Terry Deason, as Prehearing Officer, that BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s Request for Specified Confidential Classification of Document No. 07542-02 (cross-reference Document No. 06773-02) is hereby granted. It is further

ORDERED that pursuant to Section 364.183, Florida Statutes, and Rule 25-22.006, Florida Administrative Code, any confidentiality granted to the material specified herein shall expire eighteen (18) months from the date of the issuance of this Order in the absence of a renewed request for confidentiality pursuant to Section 364.183, Florida Statutes. It is further

ORDERED that this Order will be the only notification by the Commission to the parties concerning the expiration of the confidentiality time period.

By ORDER of Commissioner J. Terry Deason as Prehearing Officer, this 20th Day of August, 2002.

  
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J. TERRY DEASON  
Commissioner and Prehearing Officer

( S E A L )

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NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Mediation may be available on a case-by-case basis. If mediation is conducted, it does not affect a substantially interested person's right to a hearing.

Any party adversely affected by this order, which is preliminary, procedural or intermediate in nature, may request: (1) reconsideration within 10 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.0376, Florida Administrative Code, if issued by a Prehearing Officer; (2) reconsideration within 15 days pursuant to Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code, if issued by the Commission; or (3) judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court, in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility, or the First District Court of Appeal, in the case of a water or wastewater utility. A motion for reconsideration shall be filed with the Director, Division of Records and Reporting, in the form prescribed by Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code. Judicial review of a preliminary, procedural or intermediate ruling or order is available if review of the final action will not provide an adequate remedy. Such review may be requested from the appropriate court, as described above, pursuant to Rule 9.100, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.