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April 2, 1998

Mrs. Blanca S. Bayó
Director, Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 971560-TP (National Directory Assistance)

Dear Ms. Bayó:

Enclosed is an original and fifteen copies of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s Response To MCI's Protest of Proposed Agency Action and Request for Expedited Proceeding, which we ask that you file in the captioned matter.

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,

Nancy B. White *ckr*

Nancy B. White

- ACK _____
- AFA _____
- APP _____
- CAF _____
- CMU *[Signature]* _____
- CTR _____
- EAG _____
- LEG 1 _____
- LIN _____
- OPC _____
- RCH _____
- SEC 1 _____
- WAS _____
- OTH _____

Enclosures

cc: All parties of record
A. M. Lombardo
R. G. Beatty
William J. Ellenberg II

RECEIVED & FILED

[Signature]
FPSC-BUREAU OF RECORDS

DOCUMENT NUMBER - DATE

02862 APR -2 88

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
Docket No. 971560-TP

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

U.S. Mail this 2nd day of April, 1998 to the following:

Charlie Pellegrini, Esq.
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Commission
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FL Public Telecomm. Assoc.
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Represents MCI

MCI Telecommunications
Thomas K. Bond
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Tel. No. (404) 267-6315
Fax. No. (404) 267-5992

Nancy B. White (ke)
Nancy B. White

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition by BellSouth)
 Telecommunications, Inc. for)
 waiver of Rule 25-4.115, F.A.C.)
 Directory Assistance, and for)
 authorization to provide National)
 Directory Assistance (NDA) in)
Florida)

Docket No.: 971560-TL

Filed: April 2, 1998

**RESPONSE TO MCI'S PROTEST OF PROPOSED
 AGENCY ACTION AND REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED PROCEEDING**

NOW COMES BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") and, pursuant to Rule 25-22.037(1), hereby responds to MCI Telecommunications Corporation and MCImetro Access Transmission Services, Inc.'s (collectively "MCI") Protest of Order No. PSC-98-0362-FOF-TL ("Order") and seeks an expedited proceeding on this matter. In support of its Response, BellSouth states:

1. With regard to Paragraph 1 of the Protest, BellSouth denies the allegations for lack of information sufficient to respond thereto.
2. With regard to Paragraph 2 of the Protest, BellSouth denies the allegations for lack of information sufficient to respond thereto.
3. With regard to Paragraph 3 of the Protest, BellSouth denies the allegations for lack of information sufficient to respond thereto.
4. With regard to Paragraph 4 of the Protest, BellSouth denies the allegations contained therein.

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FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

5. BellSouth avers the terms of Section 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the "Act") and Order No. PSC-97-1459-FOF-TL speak for themselves and deny the remaining allegations of Paragraph 5 of the Protest.

6. BellSouth denies the allegations of Paragraph 6 of the Protest, and avers that the only reference to directory assistance in the Act is in Section 271(C)(2)(B) that requires BellSouth to provide ALECs with non-discriminatory access to directory assistance services.

7. BellSouth denies the allegations of Paragraph 7 of the Protest, and avers that National Directory Assistance ("NDA") was permitted under the Modified Final Judgment ("MFJ") and was saved by the grandfathering provisions of Section 271(f) of the Act.

8. BellSouth denies the allegations of Paragraph 8 of the Protest, and avers that NDA is merely a part of regular directory assistance, i.e., is merely an adjunct to the basic local directory assistance.

9. BellSouth denies the allegations of Paragraph 9 of the Protest, and avers that NDA is an adjunct to basic directory assistance.

10. BellSouth denies the allegations of Paragraph 10 of the Protest, and avers that the terms of the Act speak for themselves.

11. BellSouth denies the allegations of Paragraph 11 of the Protest.

12. BellSouth denies the allegations of Paragraph 12 of the Protest, and avers that the provision of NDA service, as adjunct to basic service offering, through the use of the 411 code does not trigger obligations under the FCC's

N11 Order. The N11 Order provides that a LEC may not offer enhanced services using a 411 code unless that LEC offers access to the code to competing enhanced service providers. CC Docket No. 92-105, FCC 97-51.

13. BellSouth denies the allegations of Paragraph 13 of the Protest.

14. BellSouth denies the allegations of Paragraph 14 of the Protest.

15. BellSouth denies the allegations of Paragraph 15 of the Protest.

16. BellSouth denies the allegations of Paragraph 16 of the Protest.

17. BellSouth denies the allegations of Paragraph 17 of the Protest,

and avers that BellSouth's NDA service is effective in Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Alabama. MCI did not file a Protest in any of these states. Moreover, MCI waited until the last minute in filing the instant Protest.

18. BellSouth agrees that there are issues of disputed material fact and denies the remaining allegations of Paragraph 18 of the Protest.

19. BellSouth denies the allegations of Paragraph 19 of the Protest.

20. BellSouth avers that BellSouth filed its NDA tariff with an effective date of March 5, 1998. BellSouth has hired approximately 130 employees in the Panama City and Fort Pierce areas and is currently serving approximately 50,000 calls per day. Termination of the tariff will lead to customer confusion and dissatisfaction. Therefore, BellSouth in accordance with the Commission's past practices will maintain the NDA tariff in effect with any revenues held subject to refund pending resolution of the Protest.

21. BellSouth further requests an expedited hearing on this matter in light of the economic impact and customer uncertainty raised by MCI's Protest.

Respectfully submitted this 2nd day of April, 1998.

BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.

Robert G. Beatty (ks)

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