

ORIGINAL

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March 11, 1999

VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL

Blanca S. Bayó  
Director, Division of Records and Reporting  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0870

990924-TP  
~~990000~~

Dear Ms. Bayó:

US LEC of Florida Inc. and its parent US LEC Corp., by their counsel, hereby enclose for filing an original and five (5) copies of its letter requesting the commencement of negotiations for a regional interconnection agreement with BellSouth.

Please date stamp the enclosed additional copy of this filing and return it in the self addressed, postage pre-paid envelope provided. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours,

*Russell M. Blau*

Russell M. Blau  
Kemal M. Hawa

Counsel for US LEC Corp.

- ACK \_\_\_\_\_
- AFA \_\_\_\_\_
- APP \_\_\_\_\_
- CAF \_\_\_\_\_
- CMU \_\_\_\_\_
- CTR \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosure
- EAG \_\_\_\_\_
- LEG \_\_\_\_\_ / cc: Aaron Cowell, Esq.  
Mr. Gary Grefrath
- LIN \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. Richard Dender
- OPC \_\_\_\_\_
- RCH \_\_\_\_\_ 266825.1
- SEC \_\_\_\_\_
- WAS \_\_\_\_\_
- OTH \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

03184 MAR 12 99

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

# SWIDLER BERLIN SHEREFF FRIEDMAN, LLP

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January 11, 1999

## VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL

Mr. Jerry Hendrix  
Director-Interconnection Services & Pricing  
BellSouth Telecommunications  
675 West Peachtree St., 34S91  
Atlanta, GA 30375

Re: Request that BellSouth Telecommunications Engage in Interconnection Negotiations with US LEC Corp. Pursuant to Section 251(c)(1) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee)

Dear Mr. Hendrix:

Pursuant to Section 251(c)(1) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended ("Act"), we are writing on behalf of US LEC Corp. and its Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee affiliates (collectively, "US LEC") to request that BellSouth Telecommunications ("BellSouth") commence good-faith negotiations with US LEC to enter into a new agreement to fulfill the interconnection duties described in Sections 251(a)-(c) of the Act. The existing interconnection agreement between US LEC and BellSouth is scheduled to expire on June 15, 1999. US LEC does not seek early termination of that agreement. Rather, it seeks a new agreement that will take effect upon the expiration of the existing agreement, or as soon as practical thereafter, subject to completion of any relevant arbitration proceedings in the respective states.

US LEC seeks to establish a comprehensive interconnection agreement with BellSouth or its affiliates in each of the above-mentioned states addressing, among other things, the areas of interconnection, collocation, access to unbundled elements, resale of telecommunications services, and transport and termination of traffic. US LEC also may seek other arrangements within the scope of Section 251(b) and (c).

Mr. Jerry Hendrix  
January 11, 1999  
Page 2

This letter is intended to fulfill US LEC's notification obligations under the Act, and to clarify US LEC's intention that an interconnection arrangement be entered into as expeditiously as possible. In order to move the negotiating process along, as Section 252(b) allots only a limited time for voluntary negotiations, US LEC requests that BellSouth respond to this letter, in writing, within the next week. In addition, please identify all Commission-approved facilities-based interconnection agreements between BellSouth and CLECs in Alabama and South Carolina and, of these, which are arbitrated agreements. Please also confirm whether BellSouth is prepared to offer US LEC the same rates and terms found in BellSouth's interconnection agreements with other parties.

We thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter and look forward to receiving your response so that we can set about the task of completing negotiations on an interconnection agreement according to the terms of the Act. Should you have any questions regarding our request, please do not hesitate to call.

Very truly yours,



Russell M. Blau  
Kernal M. Hawa

Counsel for US LEC Corp.

cc: Mr. Gary Grefrath

-----  
From: Sandra Hargrett CONFIRMED  
To: Kay Flynn  
Subject: fwd: DN 03184-99  
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====NOTE=====3/15/99==2:43pm==  
This document has to do with 980901-TP,  
right? Because in the letter to  
Hendrix it says "existing ... agreement  
... scheduled to expire on June 15,  
1999." New docket, then? Or am I  
directing my question to the wrong  
person? :-)

990298-TP is the third amendment.

Fwd=by:=Kay=Flynn=====3/15/99==2:54pm==  
Fwd to: Sandra Hargrett  
CC: Vic Cordiano  
.....

I'll cc: Vic and ask him about this.

Vic, this is the document (letter) we  
weren't exactly sure what to do with,  
and we did NOT put it in a docket.

Any further thoughts, based on Sandra's  
questions? Or does it just stay  
undocketed?

Kay

Fwd=by:=Sandra=Hargre=3/15/99==3:28pm==  
Fwd to: Kay Flynn, Vic Cordiano  
.....

I think a copy should be filed in  
980901-TP just because it references  
that agreement.  
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-----  
From: Linda Williams  
To: Vic Cordiano  
Subject: fwd: Filing  
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====NOTE=====  
=====3/12/99=12:51pm=====

CC: Kay Flynn

.....  
We have a letter from US LEC of Florida requesting commencement of negotiations for a regional interconnection agreement with BellSouth.

Is this a new docket?

Fwd=by:=Vic=Cordiano==3/12/99==2:20pm=====

Fwd to: Linda Williams

CC: Kay Flynn

.....  
It appears that how you are to handle it is dependent on what was, or what was supposed to have been, included with the letter. Thus, I'd suggest that you contact US LEC to find out.

Fwd=by:=Linda=William=3/12/99==2:22pm=====

Fwd to: Vic Cordiano

.....  
tHANKS.

Fwd=by:=Vic=Cordiano==3/15/99==3:14pm=====

Fwd to: Sandra Hargrett

CC: Kay Flynn

.....  
Sandra, word is US LEC's attorney mentioned to Kay that the letter was simply an informative one. Once they finish up negotiations, they will file their agreement. I have a copy of Document No. 03184-99 and will put it in my tickler file--as discussed--you might want to do this as well. My understanding is that once the agreement is filed, this document will be inserted into the docket folder and recorded in CMS accordingly. Thank you.  
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