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RECORDS AND REPORTING

May 10, 1999

BY HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Blanca Bayo, 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. 980947-TL, 980948-TL, 981011-TL, and 981012-TL,

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of e.spire Communications, Inc. is an original and fifteen copies of e.spire's Prehearing Statement in the above referenced dockets. Also enclosed is a 3 1/2" diskette with the Prehearing Statement on it in WordPerfect 6.0/6.1 format.

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.

RECEIVED & FILED AFA RECORDS APP CAF CMU CTR NHH/amb EAG Enclosure LEG Paul Guarisco, Esq. τc: MAS Parties of Record OPC RRR SEC WAW OTH

Sincerely, Deman Utle Lean Norman H. Horton, Jr.

> DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE 05887 MAY ID S FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In re: BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s Petition)
for waiver of physical collocation requirement)
set forth in the 1996 Telecommunications Act) Docket No. 980947-TL
and the FCC's First Report and Order, for the)
Boca Raton Boca Teeca Central Office)
In re: BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s Petition)
for waiver of physical collocation requirement)
set forth in the 1996 Telecommunications Act) Docket No. 980948-TL
Act and the FCC's First Report and Order, for the)
Miami Palmetto Central Office)
In re: BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s Petition)
for waiver of physical collocation requirement)
set forth in the 1996 Telecommunications Act) Docket No. 981011-TL
Act and the FCC's First Report and Order, for the)
West Palm Beach Central Office)
In re: BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s Petition)
for waiver of physical collocation requirement)
set forth in the 1996 Telecommunications Act) Docket No. 981012-TL
Act and the FCC's First Report and Order, for the) Filed: May 10, 1999
North Dade Golden Glades Central Office)

PREHEARING STATEMENT OF e.spire COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

American Communication Services of Jacksonville, Inc. d/b/a e.spire Communications, and

ACSI Local Switched Services, Inc. d/b/a e.spire Communications, Inc. (collectively "e.spire" or the

"Company"), through undersigned counsel, submits this prehearing statement.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE 05887 HAY 108 EPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING

A. APPEARANCES

Norman H. Horton, Jr., Esq. Floyd R. Self, Esq. Messer, Caparello & Self, P.A. Post Office Box 1876 Tallahassee, FL 32302-1876

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Paul Guarisco, Esq.e.spire Communications, Inc.133 National Business Parkway, Suite 200Annapolis Junction, MD 20701

On behalf of e.spire Communications, Inc.

B. WITNESSES

Witness	<u>Issues</u>
James C. Falvey (Direct Testimony)	All

C. EXHIBITS

e.spire has not prefiled any exhibits, but reserves the right to introduce exhibits, if necessary, as may be required by cross examination, later filed testimony, completion of discovery, or new issues identified at the prehearing conference.

D. BASIC POSITION

Physical collocation is required in order to provide competitive facilities based services. Without physical collocation, e.spire is limited in the services which can be provided to customers and is foreclosed from effectively competing with BellSouth. Given the growing importance of physical collocation, the Commission should carefully review any waiver request and should consider alternatives that would enable physical collocation.

E. ISSUES AND POSITIONS

ISSUE 1: What obligation does BellSouth have to make space available at these central offices to permit physical collocation pursuant to the Act and applicable state and federal requirements?

e.spire's Position: BellSouth is required by Section 251(c)(6) of the Act to provide physcial collocation to requesting carriers.

ISSUE 2. What factors should be considered by the Commission in making its determination on BellSouth's Petitions for Waiver and Temporary Waiver of the requirement to provide physical collocation for the following central offices:

- (a) Daytona Beach Port Orange
- (b) Boca Raton Boca Teeca
- (c) Miami Palmetto
- (d) West Palm Beach Gardens
- (e) North Dade Golden Glades
- (f) Lake Mary

e.spire's Position: The Commission should consider several factors including, but not limited to, the existing configuration and use of space, placement of equipment, accessability and reasonable growth needs. The Commission should also consider the other factors such as shared, cageless and smaller space options, as well as adjacent alternatives.

ISSUE 3: Based on the factors identified in Issue 2, how much space should be considered available in the following central offices:

- (a) Daytona Beach Port Orange
- (b) Boca Raton Boca Teeca
- (c) Miami Palmetto
- (d) West Palm Beach Gardens
- (e) North Dade Golden Glades
- (f) Lake Mary

e.spire's Position: There is space available in the listed central offices but e.spire has not calculated a precise amount.

ISSUE 4: If space is considered available in any of these central offices, is the space

sufficient for physical collocation?

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e.spire's Position: Yes.

ISSUE 5. Should BellSouth's Petition for Waiver and Temporary Waiver of the requirement to provide physical collocation in the following central offices be granted:

- a) Daytona Beach Port Orange
- b) Boca Raton Boca Teeca
- c) Miami Palmetto
- d) West Palm Beach Gardens
- e) North Dade Golden Glades
- f) Lake Mary

e.spire's Position: No.

ISSUE 6. If the Commission determines that a waiver request should be denied, how should BellSouth effectuate FCC Rule 47 C.F.R. §51.323(f)(1) in processing requests for physical collocation in those central offices?

e.spire's Position: Requests should be processed on a first come, first served basis which is the current requirement. Carriers should be provided reasonable time to make a decision as to how to proceed.

G. REQUIREMENTS THAT CANNOT BE COMPLIED WITH

All requirements of the procedural orders can be met by e.spire Communications, Inc.

Dated this 10th day of May, 1999.

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Respectfully submitted,

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NORMAN H. HORTON, JR. FLOYD R. SELF Messer, Caparello & Self, P.A. Post Office Box 1876 Tallahassee, FL 32302-1876 (850) 222-0720

Attorneys for e.spire Communications, Inc.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of e.spire Communications, Inc.'s Prehearing Statement in Docket No. 980947-TL, 980948-TL, 981011-TL and 981012-TL has been furnished by Hand Delivery (*) and/or U.S. Mail to the following parties of record this 10th day of May, 1999:

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