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December 30, 1999

ORIGINAL

BY FEDERAL EXPRESS

Ms. Blanca Bayo
Division of Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Re: In re Petition for Arbitration of the Interconnection Agreement
Between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and Tel-Link, L.L.C.
and Tel-Link of Florida, L.L.C. Pursuant to the
Telecommunications Act of 1996

Docket No. 991786-TP

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing is an original and fifteen (15) copies of Tel-Link, L.L.C.'s request for an extension of time in the above-referenced proceeding.

✓ Please file the enclosed pleadings in your usual fashion and return one file-stamped copy to me in the enclosed envelope.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

Ronald E. Barab

Ronald E. Barab

REB/b
Enclosures
cc: Stephen M. Forte, Esq.
Mr. Terry Fields
Ms. Michelle McKay

AFA _____
APP _____
CAF _____
CMU _____
CTR _____
EAG _____
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BEFORE THE
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ORIGINAL

In the Matter of:

In re Petition for Arbitration)
of the Interconnection Agreement)
Between BellSouth Telecommunications,) Docket No. 991786-TP
Inc. and Tel-Link, L.L.C. and Tel-Link)
of Florida, L.L.C. Pursuant to the)
Telecommunications Act of 1996)

REQUEST BY TEL-LINK, L.L.C. FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

COMES NOW Tel-Link, L.L.C. ("Tel-Link") and respectfully request cancellation of the pending CASR schedule in the above-captioned proceeding to allow for an extension of time in the schedule for a period of ninety (90) days. In support of its request, Tel-Link respectfully states as follows:

1.

Tel-Link and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BST") failed to reach agreement on their unresolved issues relating to their resale agreement within the statutory time frames. During the negotiation period with BST, Tel-Link entered into negotiations with a prospective purchaser (the "Purchaser") for the acquisition for the sale by Tel-Link to the Purchaser of substantially all of its assets its business of reselling telephone service. Prior to the end of the negotiation period for the resale agreement with BST, Tel-Link advised BST of the negotiations and requested an

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extension of time for its existing contract. BST declined Tel-Link's request.

2.

Subsequent to BST's filing its arbitration request with the Commission, Tel-Link reached an agreement in principle for the sale to the Purchaser of substantially all of its assets and its business of reselling telephone service. Pursuant to Commission regulations, the Purchaser will file the necessary petition for approval of the acquisition.

3.

Owing to the foregoing facts and circumstances, Tel-Link believes that it would not be in either party's best interest to arbitrate the issues which are the subject matter of the above-captioned proceeding. Any arbitration proceedings involving Tel-Link's current operations would not be an efficient use of the Commission's time, as the Purchaser would necessarily require negotiations for a resale agreement governing the acquired business.

4.

Tel-Link has attempted without success to advise BST of its desire to extend the arbitration schedule and to determine BST's position with respect to its request. Tel-Link will advise the Commission of BST's support or non-support of Tel-Link's request

immediately upon its being advised thereof.

WHEREFORE, Tel-Link respectfully requests that the Commission cancel the pending CASR schedule in the above-captioned arbitration proceeding and delay further hearings until a reasonable time after the closing of the sale of Tel-Link's resale business to the Purchaser or until the expiration of ninety (90) days from the date hereof, whichever first occurs.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald E. Barab
Stephen M. Forte

Attorneys for Tel-Link, L.L.C.

OF COUNSEL:

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP
Promenade II, Suite 3100
1230 Peachtree Street, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30309


CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Ronald E. Barab, counsel to Tel-Link, L.L.C. in the foregoing arbitration proceeding, hereby certify that I have this day served a copy of the foregoing on BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., the petitioner in the foregoing arbitration proceeding, by depositing copies of the same in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

Nancy B. White, Esq.
Michael P. Goggin
Museum Tower
150 West Flagler Street
Suite 1910
Miami, Florida 33130

R. Douglas Lackey, Esq.
Thomas B. Alexander, Esq.
General Attorneys
Suite 4300, BellSouth Center
675 West Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30375

This December 30, 1999.



Ronald E. Barab
Attorney for Tel-Link, L.L.C.