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February 22, 2001

Blanca S. Bayo'
Director, Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
Betty Easley Conference Center
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 960786-TL – Consideration of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s entry into interLATA services pursuant to Section 271 of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996

Dear Ms. Bayo':

This is to inform the Florida Public Service Commission and parties in the above-captioned docket that Birch Telecom wishes to withdraw from the proceedings. Please remove Birch from the parties' list. Birch would, however, like to continue to monitor the proceedings and, therefore, respectfully requests that it remain on the interested persons list.

Thank you for your assistance. Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 919-676-5262.

Sincerely yours,

Monica M. Barone
Director, State Regulation
Birch Telecom

cc: Timothy Vaccaro
Parties of Record

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