



ORIGINAL

March 21, 2001

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Records and Reporting
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32299-0850

RE: CONNECTSOUTH COMMUNICATIONS CLOSING OPERATIONS

Records and Reporting:

ConnectSouth Communications, Inc., the parent of the ConnectSouth Communications entity that operates in your state or was certified to operate in your state, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Western District of Texas, on March 13, 2001, Cause No. 01-10851-M.

ConnectSouth has ceased operations, but intends to sell its assets (central office facilities, equipment, customers, collocations, interconnection agreements, etc.) in place at the highest possible value. ConnectSouth, therefore, has requested that the Bell Operating Company take no action regarding the ConnectSouth interconnection agreements and collocations in each state until such time as ConnectSouth completes its bid liquidation process. Upon completion of the bid liquidation, ConnectSouth will provide the Commission further notice of the outcome. ConnectSouth seeks no action by the Commission regarding the ConnectSouth certification and tariffs at this time.

ConnectSouth Internet, Inc., the sole wholesale customer of the operating ConnectSouth entity, notified customers on February 23, 2001, and provided a partial list of alternate providers from which customers could obtain service. A copy of the customer notification is enclosed.

If you have any questions, I can be reached at 512-681-9224.

Sincerely,

Patricia Ana Garcia Escobedo
Regulatory Attorney

- APP _____
- CAF _____
- CMP _____
- COM _____
- CTR _____
- ECR _____
- LEG I
- OPC _____
- PAI _____
- RGO _____
- SEC I
- SER _____
- OTH _____

cc: Southwestern Bell Telephone Company
BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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February 23, 2001

Dear Valued ConnectSouth Customer,

We regret to inform you that, due to the dramatic downturn in the financial markets, ConnectSouth Communications, Inc. will be permanently ceasing operations. This letter is to notify you that ConnectSouth intends to liquidate the business in an orderly fashion. Based on information currently available, it is anticipated that the permanent termination of the network and business services currently provided by ConnectSouth will take place on or before March 24, 2001.

To ensure that you do not experience difficulties with your service, we recommend that you make arrangements to transfer your service to another provider before March 2, 2001. ConnectSouth has prepared a partial listing of organizations that currently provide service in your area. That listing is provided below.

We thank you for your understanding as we continue to work through this difficult period and sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this has caused your organization.

Please direct all inquiries to our toll-free customer hotline 888-797-6884 or email to xxx@connectsouth.com.

Market	<u>Partial List of Alternate Providers</u>
Birmingham, AL	BellSouth, XO, Covad, Verio
Mobile, AL	BellSouth
New Orleans, LA	BellSouth, XO, Covad, Verio
Biloxi-Gulfport, MS	BellSouth
Baton Rouge, LA	BellSouth, Xspedius
Huntsville, AL	BellSouth
Jackson, MS	BellSouth
Lafayette, LA	BellSouth, Xspedius
Montgomery, AL	BellSouth
Memphis, TN	BellSouth, XO, Verio
Charlotte, NC	BellSouth, XO, Covad, Verio
Raleigh, NC	BellSouth, XO, Covad, Verio, NuVox
Greensboro, NC	BellSouth, XO, Verio, NuVox
Greenville, SC	BellSouth, NuVox
Columbia, SC	BellSouth
Charleston, SC	BellSouth, NuVox
Asheville, NC	BellSouth
Wilmington, NC	BellSouth, NuVox
Anderson, SC	BellSouth
Knoxville, TN	BellSouth, NuVox
Chattanooga, TN	BellSouth
Nashville, TN	BellSouth, XO, Verio, NuVox

Market**Partial List of Alternate Providers**

Oklahoma City, OK	SBC, Verizon, NuVox
Tulsa, OK	SBC, Verizon, New Edge, NuVox
Topeka, KS	SBC, Verizon
Wichita, KS	SBC, Verizon, New Edge, NuVox
Kansas City, MO	BellSouth, XO, Verizon, Verio, NuVox
Kansas City, KS	BellSouth, XO, Verizon, Verio, NuVox
Springfield, MO	BellSouth, NuVox
Amarillo, TX	SBC, Verizon, New Edge
Lubbock, TX	SBC, Verizon, New Edge
San Antonio, TX	SBC, XO, Verizon, Verio
Austin, TX	SBC, XO, Verizon, Verio
Waco, TX	SBC, Verizon, New Edge

XO	(800) 539-0214
Covad	(408) 844-7500
Verio	(800) 438-8374
Xspedius	(800) 673-1900
NuVox	(800) 800-9681 southwest (877) 500-1241 midwest
Verizon	(800) 483-4450
New Edge	(360) 693-9009
SBC	(888) 792-0999
BST	(your area code) 780-2885 NC, SC (your area code) 557-2885 AL, LA, MS, TN

If you are a web hosting or online backup customer, please go to our web site at www.connectsouth.com/info/hostingservices for additional directions.