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June 18, 2001

Mrs. Blanca S. Bayó Director, Division of Records and Reporting Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: Docket No. 990649-TP (UNE Docket)

Dear Ms. Bayó:

Enclosed is an original and fifteen copies of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s Memorandum in Opposition to Motion for Reconsideration and Clarification, which we ask that you file in the captioned docket.

A copy of this letter is enclosed. Please mark it to indicate that the original was filed and return the copy to me. Copies have been served to the parties shown on the attached Certificate of Service.

Sincerely,

James Meza III (KA)

cc: All Parties of Record Marshall M. Criser III R. Douglas Lackey Nancy B. White

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE Docket No. 990649-TP

## I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served via

# U.S. Mail this 18th day of June, 2001 to the following:

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219337

#### BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Investigation into	)	Docket No. 990649-TP
Pricing of Unbundled Network	)	
Elements	)	
	)	Filed: June 18, 2001

# BELLSOUTH'S MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION TO MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND CLARIFICATION

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") submits this Memorandum in Opposition to the Motion for Reconsideration and Clarification of No. PSC-01-1181-FOF-TP ("Order") filed by MCI WorldCom Order Communications, Inc. ("WorldCom"), AT&T Communications of the Southern States, ("AT&T"), DIECA Communications, Inc. d/b/a Covad Inc. Communications Company ("Covad"), and Z-Tel Communications, Inc. ("Z-Tel") (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "ALECs"). For the reasons set forth below, the ALECs' motion should be denied.

#### ARGUMENT

The standard of review for a motion for reconsideration is whether the motion identifies a point of fact or law which was overlooked or which the Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission") failed to consider in rendering an order. See Diamond Cab Co. v. King, 146 So. 2d 889, 891 (Fla. 1962). In a motion for reconsideration, it is not appropriate to reargue matters that have already been considered. See Sherwood v. State, 111 So. 2d 96, 97 (Fla. 3rd DCA 1959) (citing State ex. Rel. Jaytex Realty Co. v. Green, 105 So. 2d 817 (Fla. 1st DCA 1958)). Moreover, a motion for reconsideration is not intended to

be "a procedure for re-arguing the whole case merely because the losing party disagrees with the judgment or the order." <u>Diamond Cab Co.</u>, 394 So. 2d at 891. Indeed, a motion for reconsideration should not be granted "based upon an arbitrary feeling that a mistake may have been made, but should be based on specific factual matter set forth in the record and susceptible to review." <u>Stewart Bonded Warehouse</u>, Inc. v. Bevis, 294 So. 2d 315, 317 (Fla. 1974).

In its motion, the ALECs request that the Commission revisit its ruling on four issues: (1) the use of three cost models; (2) the appropriateness of using inputs from the USF docket; (3) shared cost allocation; and (4) drop routing. The ALECs offer no legitimate basis for the Commission to review its decision on these issues.

#### I. Use of Three Cost Models

The ALECs argue that the use of three scenarios in the BSTLM model was improper. As noted by the Commission in its Order, the ALECs' witnesses argued at the hearing and in their testimony that ". . . the BSTLM should construct a single network that estimates the forward-looking costs of providing the underlying services using existing technology." Order at 121 (emph. added). The ALECs are making this same argument in their Motion for Reconsideration but are now arguing that the Commission erred because it failed to consider FCC Rule 51.505(b) in rejecting their argument and finding that BellSouth's use of three scenarios was reasonable.

Rule 51.505(b) according to the ALECs, requires that UNE rates "be set based on 'the lowest cost network configuration'" that "takes into account 'the

incumbent LEC's provision of other elements." Motion at 3. The ALECs, except for Covad, however, failed to raise this argument in their brief or in their testimony. It is well settled that it is inappropriate to raise new arguments in a motion for reconsideration. In re: Establish Nondiscriminatory Rates, Terms, and Conditions, Docket No. 950984-TP, Order No. PSC 96-1024-FOF-TP, Aug. 7, 1996, 1996 WL 470534 at \*3 ("It is not appropriate, on reconsideration, to raise new arguments not mentioned earlier."); In re: Southern States Utilities, Inc., Docket No. 950495-WS, Order No. PSC-96-0347-FOF-WS, Mar. 11, 1996, 1996 WL 116438 at \*3 ("Reconsideration is not an opportunity to raise new arguments."). Accordingly, the ALECs' Motion for Reconsideration as to this issue should be denied because their Rule 51.505(b) argument is a new argument, not previously asserted.

Assuming <u>arguendo</u> that the ALECs previously argued that Rule 51.505(b) required the use only of the Combo scenario, it is clear that the Commission properly considered all applicable FCC rules in establishing UNE rates, which includes Rule 51.505(b). As stated by the ALECS in their motion, "[t]he Commission properly concluded that its decision on appropriate UNE rates is bound by the FCC rules as they currently stand'... and that the UNE rates must be set using the forward-looking cost standards authorized by ... the FCC's rules and orders implementing [Section 252(d)(1)] of the Act...." Motion at 2 n.1 (citing Order at 26, 34). Indeed, regarding other issues, BellSouth and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Unlike the other parties who raised this motion, Covad specifically cited to Rule 51.505 in support of its argument that the "network design assumptions should be based on a single

the ALECs cited to Rule 51.505(b) numerous times in their briefs and the Commission's Order cites to the Rule at least three times. There can be no question that even though the Commission did not cite to Rule 51.505(b) in reaching its decision, the Commission was aware of and properly considered all relevant FCC rules, including Rule 51.505(b) in finding that the use of three cost scenarios was reasonable. Accordingly, the ALECs' motion should be denied even if the ALECs previously raised the Rule 51.505(b) argument.

Likewise, assuming <u>arguendo</u> that the Commission had not considered Rule 51.505(b) in reaching its decision, the motion should still be denied because this modeling technique fully adheres to the principles outlined in that Rule. For instance, BellSouth considered the "total quantity of facilities" in each scenario – i.e., each scenario had the same overall line count. Thus, the use of three cost scenarios fulfilled the FCC's directive that "a reasonable projection of the sum of the total number of units" be considered. Moreover, this methodology is appropriate because BellSouth cannot anticipate the ultimate use for any particular loop. A loop delivering voice grade service today potentially can be utilized to provide digital service tomorrow.

Additionally, BellSouth does not possess any ALEC's marketing plans.

Consequently, BellSouth cannot anticipate where ALEC customers will be located and what type of loop they will purchase. Any attempt to assign a loop type to a specific customer location would be an exercise doomed to futility. By

forward-looking network designed to support all UNEs." Covad Brief at 31.

assuming all customer locations are potential candidates for a particular unbundled loop, BellSouth has eliminated the arbitrary assignment process.

Further, contrary to the ALECs' argument, BellSouth's methodology does reflect the economies of scale and scope. In fact, the universe is larger in BellSouth's proposal as larger sized cables can be considered and efficient network configuration can be established. This results in lower costs. For these reasons, the Commission should deny the ALECs' motion as to this issue.

# II. Appropriateness of Using Inputs from the USF Docket

The ALECs request in their motion that the Commission clarify its decision to refuse to use the inputs from the USF proceeding in Order No. PSC-99-0068-FOF-TP to establish UNE rates. In reaching this decision, the Commission specifically found that "inputs ordered in PSC-99-0068-FOF-TP were for a specific purpose and are not appropriate in this instance." Order at 241. Now, the ALECs want the Commission to state that its decision does not (1) imply that it is appropriate to use "different network designs or underlying cost information for UNE costing and USF purposes;" and (2) prohibit company specific data and network design information developed for UNE costing purposes from being used in future USF proceedings. Such a "clarification" is improper for the following reasons.

First, although no Commission rule authorizes motions for clarification, they are generally used when the Commission's intent is not readily apparent from the Order. In re: BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., Docket No. 991854-TP, Order No. PSC-01-1015-FOF-TP, Apr. 24, 2001, 2001 WL 584259 at 8. In

this case, the Commission's intent is absolutely clear — the USF rates promulgated in Order No. PSC-99-0068-FOF-TP are not appropriate in this proceeding. Indeed, the subject of whether the USF rates should be used for UNEs was raised only by the Florida Competitive Carriers Association ("FCCA") and only at the hearing. Order at 240. Neither the ALECs who filed this motion nor the FCCA raised this issue in their briefs. Thus, the Commission properly disposed of the only issue relating to the use of the USF inputs and no clarification is necessary.

Further, such a clarification would effectively result in the Commission establishing precedence for a future USF proceeding. Such a result is beyond the issue as presented to the Commission by the parties and this proceeding. If and when the Commission establishes future USF rates, it can, in that proceeding, determine if "company-specific data and network design information" developed in UNE costing purposes can be used. To reach this conclusion now is premature and beyond the scope of this proceeding.

#### III. Shared Cost Allocation

The ALECs argue that the Commission overlooked certain information in adopting BellSouth's "per-DS0" allocation methodology for shared investments instead of a "per pair" methodology. The ALECs base their argument on the FCC's First Report and Order and Section 364.01(4), Florida Statutes. They state that the definition overlooked the fact that items "which are truly shared costs have no causal linkage to any single service." Motion at 8. The basis of the ALECs' argument is that "[w]hen applied to the allocation of shared costs . . .

[the] pro-competitive requirements of the FCC's rule and Chapter 364 require the Commission to 'give the nod' to allocating those costs in a way that minimizes any adverse impact on competition." Motion at 9.

As with their argument in Section I, this argument is a new argument raised for the first time in the Motion for Reconsideration. As a result, the Commission must deny the motion as to this issue because it is inappropriate to raise new arguments in such a motion. See Order No. PSC-96-1024-FOF-TP at \*3; Order No. PSC-96-0347-FOF-WS at \*3.

Additionally, assuming arguendo that the ALECs previously raised these arguments, as stated by the ALECs in their motion, the Commission properly considered all FCC rules in developing the appropriate UNE rates, which necessarily includes the <u>First Report and Order</u>. <u>See Motion at 2 n.1 (citing Order at 26, 34)</u>. Further, it is disingenuous for the ALECs to argue that the Commission ignored its legislative mandate to promote competition in a docket whose primary purpose is to foster competition in the State of Florida. To the contrary, the Commission, after specifically weighing the potential competitive effect and based on the evidence in the record, found that "allocating shared investments based on DS0 equivalents is reasonable." Order at 134. Accordingly, assuming that the ALECs' arguments were previously asserted, the motion should be denied as to this issue because the ALECs point to no fact or law that the Commission overlooked or failed to consider.

#### IV. Drop Routing

Regarding drop routing, the ALECs appear to argue that the Commission failed to consider Rule 51.505(b) in accepting BellSouth's approach for drop routing, which "employed angle routing but implicitly assume[d] that some terminals are not in lot corners." Order at 135. As with the arguments made in Sections I and III, this argument is a new argument raised for the first time through a motion for reconsideration. In their testimony, the ALECs' witnesses testified primarily that the "BSTLM should always assume that the drop is placed at the corner of a customer's lot." (Tr. 2169). They did not address or even mention Rule 51.505(b) in their analysis of this issue. Furthermore, the ALECs did not specifically address the drop routing issue in their briefs.

Now, faced with an adverse result, the ALECs argue that Rule 51.505(b) "requires the use of the 'lowest cost network configuration' and that angular drop placement necessarily produces shorter drop distances than a rectilinear method, and thereby produces the lowest cost configuration." Motion at 10. This is factually inaccurate because BellSouth has adopted the angle drop approach. In addition, this new argument is improperly raised in a Motion for Reconsideration and therefore should be denied. See Order No. PSC-96-1024-FOF-TP; Order No. PSC-96-0347-FOF-WS.

Again, assuming <u>arguendo</u> that the ALECs previously raised this argument, a different conclusion would not be required because the Commission considered all relevant FCC rules, including Rule 51.505(b), in determining the appropriate UNE rates. See Motion at 2 n.1 (citing Order at 26, 34).

Additionally, there is no record evidence to support the ALECs' claim that terminals placed in lot corners would be more efficient. Consequently, assuming that the ALECs previously asserted their Rule 51.505(b) argument, the motion should still be denied.

# CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the Commission should deny the ALECs' Motion for Reconsideration and Clarification.

Respectfully submitted this 18th day of June, 2001.

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