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September 20, 2002

Mrs. Blanca Bayo  
Director  
Division of Commission Clerk and Administrative Services  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
Tallahassee, FL 323099-0850

Dear Mrs. Bayo:

**RE: DOCKET NO. 001305-TP  
SUPRA'S SUPPLEMENT TO NOTICE OF APPEAL**

Enclosed is the original and seven (7) copies of Supra Telecommunications and Information Systems, Inc.'s (Supra Telecom) Supplement to Notice of Appeal in the captioned docket.

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

Sincerely,

Brian Chaiken  
General Counsel

DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

**Docket No. 001305-TP**

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served via Hand Delivery or by U.S. Mail on this 20th day of September, 2002, to the following

Wayne Knight, Esq.  
Staff Counsel  
Division of Legal Services  
Florida Public Service Commission  
2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard  
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Nancy B. White, Esq.  
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SUPRA TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
& INFORMATION SYSTEMS, INC.  
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Miami, Florida 33133  
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By: Brian Chaiken / N. H. B.  
BRIAN CHAIKEN, ESQ.

**BEFORE THE  
FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Petition for Arbitration of the )  
Interconnection Agreement between Bell- )  
South Telecommunications, Inc. and )  
Supra Telecommunications & Information )  
Systems, Inc. pursuant to Section 252(b) )  
of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Docket No. 00-1305-TP

Dated: September 20, 2002

**SUPPLEMENT TO NOTICE OF APPEAL**

NOTICE is hereby given that the Respondent, SUPRA TELECOMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION SYSTEMS, INC. ("Supra Telecom"), hereby files this Supplement To Notice of Appeal and states as follows:

1. On July 30, 2002, Supra Telecom filed a Notice of Appeal (Document No. 02-07957) stating that it was appealing to the Florida Supreme Court, the March 26, 2002 Final Order on Arbitration (PSC-02-0413-FOF-TP) together with the March 28, 2002 Amendatory Order (PSC-02-0413A-FOF-TP), as rendered by the Order on Procedural Motions and Motions for Reconsideration entered by the Florida Public Service Commission on July 1, 2002 (PSC-02-0878-FOF-TP). The nature of the appeal was of a final order of the Florida Public Service Commission relating to telephone service and rates. Conformed Copies of the orders appealed from were attached to the Notice of Appeal. Supra Telecom hereby incorporates by reference herein, the Notice of Appeal filed on July 30, 2002.

2. On August 9, 2002, the Florida Public Service Commission entered an Order Resolving Procedural Motions And Addressing Filed Interconnection Agreement (PSC-02-1096-FOF-TP). Thereafter, on August 22, 2002, the Florida Public Service Commission entered an Order Approving Final Arbitrated Interconnection Agreement And Adoption Agreement (PSC-02-1140-

FOF-TP). Conformed copies of the August 9, 2002 Order and the August 22, 2002 Order, are attached hereto. In addition to supplementing the Notice of Appeal, the two orders trigger certain review rights before a United States District Court under 47 U.S.C. § 252.

3. Supra Telecom hereby gives notice that it reserves the right to an independent adjudication before a United States District Court, as provided for by the holdings of England v. Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, 375 U.S. 411 (1964), and its progeny, of all federal questions raised in this appeal. Supra Telecom also gives notice that it reserves the right to file an original action before a United States District Court challenging: (a) the August 22 Order (PSC-02-1140-FOF-TP); (b) the August 9, 2002 Order (PSC-02-1140-FOF-TP); (c) the March 26, 2002 Final Order on Arbitration (PSC-02-0413-FOF-TP) together with the March 28, 2002 Amendatory Order (PSC-02-0413A-FOF-TP), as rendered by the Order on Procedural Motions and Motions for Reconsideration entered on July 1, 2002 (PSC-02-0878-FOF-TP); and (d) all other final and non-final orders previously entered the Florida Public Service Commission in this docket.

4. Supra Telecom further gives notice of service and filing of an Amended Complaint in Supra Telecommunications & Information Systems, Inc. v. BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., et al., (Case No. 4:02CV272 RH/WCS) in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida, which incorporates the above referenced challenges identified in paragraph 3 (above). Supra Telecom informs the Florida Public Service Commission of the existence of its Amended Complaint, in order to permit the Florida Public Service Commission, to the extent it ultimately retains jurisdiction over this matter, to resolve Supra Telecom's state law claims in light of the pending federal claims as required in Government & Civic Employees Organization Committee v.

Windsor, 353 U.S. 365 (1957).

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY Certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S. Mail and Electronic Mail upon NANCY WHITE, ESQ. (BellSouth), 150 South Monroe Street, Suite 400, Tallahassee, Florida 32301 and RICHARD BELLAK, ESQ. and WAYNE KNIGHT, ESQ. (FPSC), 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, this 20th day of September, 2002.

BRIAN CHAIKEN, ESQ.  
MARK E. BUECHELE, ESQ.  
Supra Telecommunications &  
Information Systems, Inc.  
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By: Mark E. Buechela / M.H.B.  
MARK E. BUECHELE  
Fla. Bar No. 906700

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition by BellSouth  
Telecommunications, Inc. for  
arbitration of certain issues in  
interconnection agreement with  
Supra Telecommunications and  
Information Systems, Inc.

DOCKET NO. 001305-TP  
ORDER NO. PSC-02-1096-FOF-TP  
ISSUED: August 9, 2002

The following Commissioners participated in the disposition of  
this matter:

LILA A. JABER, Chairman  
BRAULIO L. BAEZ  
MICHAEL A. PALECKI

ORDER RESOLVING PROCEDURAL MOTIONS AND  
ADDRESSING FILED INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

BY THE COMMISSION:

I. CASE BACKGROUND

On September 1, 2000, BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. (BellSouth) filed a petition for arbitration of certain issues in a new interconnection agreement with Supra Telecommunications and Information Systems, Inc. (Supra). BellSouth's petition raised fifteen disputed issues. Supra filed its response, and this matter was set for hearing. In its response Supra raised an additional fifty-one issues. In an attempt to identify and clarify the issues in this docket, issue identification meetings were held on January 8, 2001, and January 23, 2001. At the conclusion of the January 23 meeting, the parties were asked by our staff to prepare a list with the final wording of the issues as they understood them. BellSouth submitted such a list, but Supra did not, choosing instead to file on January 29, 2001, a motion to dismiss the arbitration proceedings. On February 6, 2001, BellSouth filed its response. In Order No. PSC-01-1180-FOF-TI, issued May 23, 2001, we denied Supra's motion to dismiss, but on our own motion ordered the parties to comply with the terms of their prior agreement by holding an inter-company Review Board meeting. Such a meeting was

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to be held within 14 days of the issuance of our order, and a report on the outcome of the meeting was to be filed with us within 10 days after completion of the meeting. The parties were placed on notice that the meeting was to comply with Section 252(b)(5) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Act).

Pursuant to our Order, the parties held meetings on May 29, 2001, June 4, 2001, and June 6, 2001. The parties then filed post-meeting reports. Thereafter, several of the original issues were withdrawn by the parties. An additional twenty issues were withdrawn or resolved by the parties either during mediation or the hearing, or in subsequent meetings. Although some additional issues were settled, thirty-seven disputed issues remained.

We conducted an administrative hearing in this matter on September 26-27, 2001. On February 8, 2002, our staff filed its post-hearing recommendation for our consideration at the February 19, 2002, Agenda Conference. Prior to the Agenda Conference, the item was deferred.

On February 13, 2002, Supra filed a Motion asking that the item not be considered until additional legal briefing could be had addressing the impact of the decision of the United States Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit (hereinafter "11<sup>th</sup> Circuit"), Cir. Order Nos. 00-12809 and 00-12810, the consolidated appeals of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. v. MCIMetro Access Transmission Services, Inc., D.C. Docket No. 99-00248-CV-JOF-1 and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. v. WorldCom Technologies, Inc. And E.spire Communications, Inc., D.C. Docket No. 99-00249-CV-JOF-1, respectively. In the alternative, Supra requested oral argument on the impact of that decision on Issue 1 of our staff's recommendation. By Order No. PSC-02-0202-PCO-TP, issued February 15, 2002, the request for additional briefing was granted. Parties were directed to file their supplemental briefs by February 19, 2002. In rendering our final decision, we noted that we had considered the additional briefing.

Also on February 18, 2002, Supra filed a Motion for Rehearing, Motion for Appointment of a Special Master, Motion for Indefinite Deferral, and Motion for Oral Argument. BellSouth filed its response on February 21, 2002.

ORDER NO. PSC-02-1096-FOF-TP  
DOCKET NO. 001305-TP  
PAGE 3

On February 21, 2002, Supra filed a Renewed Motion for Indefinite Stay of Docket No. 001305-TP, and an Alternative Renewed Motion for Oral Argument. On February 22, 2002, BellSouth filed its Response in opposition.

On February 27, 2002, Supra filed a Motion for Oral Arguments on Procedural Question Raised by Commission staff and Wrongful Denial of Due Process. BellSouth filed its Response in opposition on March 1, 2002.

By Order No. PSC-02-0413-FOF-TP (Final Order), issued March 26, 2002, we resolved the substantive issues presented for our consideration, as well as several procedural motions filed by Supra on February 18, 21, and 27. A few minor scrivener's errors were corrected by Order No. PSC-02-0413A-FOF-TP, issued March 28, 2002. Pursuant to the Notice of Further Proceedings set forth in Order No. PSC-02-0413-FOF-TP and Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code, any motion for reconsideration of the Final Order was due on April 10, 2002.

On April 1, 2002, Supra filed a Motion to Extend the Due Date for Filing Motion for Reconsideration of Final Order. By Order No. PSC-02-0464-PCO-TP, issued April 4, 2002, the Motion was denied. On April 8, 2002, Supra filed a Motion for Reconsideration of Commission Order No. PSC-02-0464-PCO-TP. By Order No. PSC-02-0496-PCO-TP, issued April 10, 2002, the Motion for Reconsideration was denied.

On that same day, April 10, Supra filed a Motion for Reconsideration of Denial of its Motion for Rehearing of Order No. PSC-02-0413-FOF-TP. Supra also filed a separate Motion for Reconsideration and Clarification of Order No. PSC-02-0413-FOF-TP, portions of which were identified as confidential. On April 17, 2002, BellSouth filed responses in opposition to both Motions.

Also on April 17, 2002, Supra filed a Motion to Disqualify and Recuse Commission staff and Commission Panel from All Further Consideration of This Docket and To Refer Docket to DOAH for all Further Proceedings. On April 24, 2002, BellSouth filed its response. This motion has been separately addressed.



Also on April 24, 2002, Supra filed a Motion to Extend Due Date for Filing Executed Interconnection Agreement and a Motion to Strike and Reply to BellSouth's Opposition to Supra's Motion for Reconsideration for New Hearing. On May 1, 2002, BellSouth filed its responses. The extension was granted, in part, and denied, in part, by Order No. PSC-02-0637-PCO-TP, issued May 8, 2002. Thereafter, on May 15, 2002, BellSouth asked for reconsideration of that Order. Supra filed its response in opposition on May 22, 2002.

On April 24, 2002, Supra also filed a Motion to Strike and Reply to BellSouth's Opposition to Supra's Motion for Reconsideration for New Hearing. BellSouth filed its response in opposition on May 1, 2002.

On May 7, 2002, Supra filed a Motion for Leave to File Reply to BellSouth's Opposition to Motion to Strike, or in the Alternative, to Strike New Issues Raised in BellSouth's Opposition. On May 16, 2002, BellSouth filed its response in Opposition.

On May 13, 2002, BellSouth filed its Request for Leave to File Supplemental Authority.

On May 24, 2002, BellSouth filed a Motion for Reconsideration of Order No. PSC-02-0663-CFO-TP, wherein the Prehearing Officer denied confidential treatment of certain information contained in an April 1, 2002, letter to Commissioner Palecki.

On May 29, 2002, Supra filed a Motion for Reconsideration of Order No. PSC-02-0700-PCO-TP.

By Order No. PSC-02-0878-FOF-TP, issued July 1, 2002, we rendered our decisions on the identified procedural Motions and Motions for Reconsideration. Therein, we required the parties to file their final interconnection agreement complying with our decision by July 15, 2002.

On June 17, 2002, Supra filed a Motion to Strike BellSouth's letter of October 30, 2001, to Blanca Bayo; Strike BellSouth's post-hearing position/summary with respect to Issue B; and to Alter/Amend Final Order pursuant to F.R.C.P. 1.540(B). On June 28, 2002, BellSouth filed its response in opposition.

On July 8, 2002, Supra filed a Motion to Stay, which has been separately addressed by the Commission by Order No. PSC-02-1033-FOF-TP, issued July 30, 2002.

On July 15, 2002, Supra filed a Notice of Compliance with Order No. PSC-02-0878-FOF-TP, Notice of BellSouth's Refusal to Continue Negotiations Over Follow-Up Agreement, and Motion to Compel BellSouth to Continue Good Faith Negotiations on Follow-Up Agreement. On July 18, 2002, BellSouth filed its Response in Opposition.

Also on July 15, 2002, BellSouth filed an interconnection agreement, along with an Emergency Motion for Expedited Commission Action. On July 22, 2002, Supra filed its Response in Opposition.

Also on July 22, 2002, Supra filed a Motion to Strike the proposed interconnection agreement submitted by BellSouth on July 15, 2002. On July 30, 2002, BellSouth filed its Response in Opposition.

Set forth herein is our determination on the Motions to Strike and Amend Final Order, Motion to Compel negotiations, Motion for Expedited Commission Action, and the filed interconnection agreement.

II.

**JURISDICTION**

This Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to Section 252 of the Act to arbitrate interconnection agreements, as well as Sections 364.161 and 364.162, Florida Statutes. Section 252 states that a State Commission shall resolve each issue set forth in the petition and response, if any, by imposing the appropriate conditions as required. Further, while Section 252(e) of the Act reserves the state's authority to impose additional conditions and terms in an arbitration consistent with the Act and its interpretation by the FCC and the courts, we utilize discretion in the exercise of such authority. In addition, Section 120.80(13)(d), Florida Statutes, authorizes this Commission to employ procedures necessary to implement the Act.

We retain jurisdiction pursuant to Section 252 (e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 for purposes of approving a final arbitrated interconnection agreement. See also GTE Florida v. Johnson, 964 F. Supp. 333 (N.D. Fla. 1997) (stating, "this court has jurisdiction only 'to determine whether the agreement or statement meets the requirements of' the Act."); citing GTE South, Inc. v. Breathitt, 963 F. Supp. 610, 1997 WL 202470 (E.D. Ky. 1997); GTE South, Inc. v. Morrison, 957 F. Supp. 800, 1997 WL 82527 (E.D. Va. 1997); GTE Northwest, Inc. v. Nelson, 969 F. Supp. 654 (W.D. Wash. 1997); GTE Northwest, Inc. v. Hamilton, Civil Action No. 97-6021 (D. Ore. March 28, 1997); GTE Southwest, Inc. v. Wood, Civil Action No. 97-3 (S.D. Tex. March 13, 1997) (stating "the Court is persuaded that § 252(e)(6) does not extend the scope of review to determinations prior to the stage of approval or rejection of the agreement or statement.")

**III. MOTION TO STRIKE BELLSOUTH'S LETTER OF OCTOBER 30, 2001, TO BLANCA BAYO; STRIKE BELLSOUTH'S POST-HEARING POSITION/SUMMARY WITH RESPECT TO ISSUE B; AND TO ALTER/AMEND FINAL ORDER PURSUANT TO F.R.C.P. 1.540(B)**

**A. ARGUMENTS**

**SUPRA**

Supra notes that our Order No. PSC-01-1401-PCO-TP (Order Establishing Procedure) sets forth the procedures to be followed by the parties in this docket. Supra draws particular attention to the pertinent requirements on page 8 of the Order, that "each party shall file a post-hearing statement of issues and positions" and that "if a party fails to file a post hearing statement in conformance with Rule 28-106.215, Florida Administrative Code, the party shall have waived all issues and may be dismissed from the proceeding." Supra observes that on September 25, 2001, we entered Order No PSC-01-1926-PHO -TP, which included a new issue, noted as Issue B, that asked: "Which agreement template shall be used as the base agreement into which the Commission's decision on the disputed issues will be incorporated." Supra contends that while BellSouth briefly discussed Issue B in its post-hearing brief, it failed to provide a summary of the issue as required by the Order Establishing Procedure.

Supra states that in reviewing documents received as a result of a public records request made to this Commission, it believes that certain e-mails indicate that in October of 2001, Wayne Knight, the lead staff attorney in this docket, initiated a communication with Mike Twomey of BellSouth, for the purpose of informing Mr. Twomey that BellSouth had failed to include a position for Issue B in its post-hearing brief. Supra maintains that Mr. Twomey subsequently submitted a letter to Ms. Bayo as a result of this communication, with a position statement for Issue B. The letter, says Supra, was not a motion or a request for relief, nor did it cite any law or other authority in support of such filing. Supra contends that in our Final Order in this docket, Order No. PSC-02-0413-FOF-TP, issued March 26, 2002, we adopted BellSouth's late-filed position summary with respect to Issue B.

Supra asserts that the letter should be stricken from the record because it believes: (a) the filing was not authorized and procedurally improper; (b) it is the product of a communication initiated by a Commission staff employee; and (c) the filing violates the Commission's Order Establishing Procedure.

Additionally, maintains Supra, BellSouth's position on Issue B should be stricken and deemed waived pursuant to the Order Establishing Procedure. Supra cites past Commission Orders and looks to Docket No. 000731-TP to buttress its argument. Supra maintains that in that case, AT&T's failure to file a post-hearing statement addressing an issue led to a waiver of its position on that issue. Likewise, contends Supra, the failure to timely file a post-hearing statement regarding three issues in Docket No. 000649-TP, or to request leave to file such, led to the exclusion of those positions from our consideration in rendering a decision. Supra believes that a letter attempting to supplement the record, filed after the post-hearing briefs, is procedurally improper and should not be allowed.

Supra also points to several cases for the proposition that papers filed, which are not authorized or violate rules of procedure, are subject to be stricken. See Hicks v. Hicks, 715 So.2d 304, 305 (Fla 5<sup>th</sup> DCA 1998) (where the Court held that a motion filed by an attorney which violated Rule 2.060, Fla.R.Jud.Admin., was voidable and subject to being stricken. Supra argues that BellSouth's October 30, 2001, letter was likewise procedurally

improper, and not authorized by either the rules or the Order Establishing Procedure. As such, claims Supra, the letter should be stricken and BellSouth's position on Issue B waived in accordance with the Order Establishing Procedure and Supra's cited precedence.

Supra also asks us to change the Final Order to reflect Supra's position on Issue B. Supra believes Florida Rule of Civil Procedure, 1.540(b) supports this request, where it reads in pertinent part:

(b) Mistakes; Inadvertence; Excusable Neglect; Newly Discovered Evidence; Fraud, etc. On motion and upon such terms as are just, the court may relieve a party of a party's legal representative from a final judgment, decree, order, or proceeding for the following reasons: . . . (2) newly discovered evidence which by due diligence could not have been discovered in time to move for a new trial or rehearing; (3) fraud (whether heretofore denominated intrinsic or extrinsic), misrepresentation, or other misconduct of an adverse party . . . The motion shall be made within a reasonable time, and for reasons (1), (2), and (3) not more than 1 year after the judgment, decree, order, or proceeding, was entered or taken. . . .

Supra believes that in accordance with prior decisions, this rule is to be liberally construed to allow a party to be relieved of an order which in part, was procured through misconduct discovered after entry of the order. See Lacore v. Giralda Bake Shop, Inc., 407 So.2d 275, 276 (Fla. 3d DCA 1981); In re: Adoption of a Minor Child, 593 So.2d 1209 (Fla. 1991) Here, Supra maintains that the communication between BellSouth and Wayne Knight assisted BellSouth in the litigation of this docket after it had missed a substantive deadline, and was done without the knowledge of Supra. This, says Supra, can only be characterized as misconduct. Supra also believes that BellSouth engaged in misconduct by participating in the communication regarding a substantive deadline, not adequately disclosing the events leading to its October 30, 2001, letter, and in late filing an amendment to its post-hearing brief.

Supra contends that had Mr. Knight not communicated BellSouth's failure to comply with a substantive deadline, it would have prevailed on the issue. As it believes Mr. Knight's communication goes to the merits of the issue, Supra maintains that the Commission's ruling on Issue B should be reversed, and changed to reflect Supra's position on the issue.

BELLSOUTH

BellSouth believes that this motion, along with the seventeen (17) others filed by Supra to date, have been filed for the purpose of delaying operating under a new interconnection agreement. BellSouth characterizes its October 30, 2001, letter to Blanco Bayo, as being meant to correct an unintentional scrivener's error in its post hearing brief as well as the portion of BellSouth's brief relating to Issue B.

BellSouth first contends that Supra waived any objection to the October 30, 2001, letter, and contends that equity dictates that Supra's motion be denied. BellSouth states that Supra received both its post-hearing brief and the October letter, yet waited until after the Commission staff issued a recommendation, after we issued a Final Order, and after we ruled on Supra's post-hearing motions, including a motion for reconsideration of Issue B, before now claiming that the letter was procedurally improper. BellSouth believes that in waiting seven months after BellSouth corrected its scrivener's error, and after this Commission resolved all of Supra's post-hearing motions, Supra has waived any objection to the letter or to BellSouth's post hearing brief. BellSouth characterizes Supra's motion as an untimely request for us to reconsider and reverse ourselves on Issue B.

BellSouth also contends that it would be inequitable to grant Supra's requested relief at this point in time, as it believes the proceedings are complete and BellSouth would be left without an opportunity to cure any purported procedural defect. BellSouth believes that if there was an error, it could have been cured if had Supra raised its objection in a timely manner.

BellSouth's second argument is that it did not violate the procedural order or otherwise waive its right to assert a position on Issue B. BellSouth maintains that it submitted a post-hearing

statement on all issues in the arbitration, including Issue B; that it submitted summaries for all other issues; and the October 31, 2001, letter corrected its scrivener's error.

According to BellSouth, the procedural order, Order No. PSC-01-1401-PCO-TP, provides that a party is required to file a post-hearing statement of issues and positions pursuant to Rule 28-106.215, and that the failure to file this post-hearing statement results in a waiver of all issues and potential dismissal from the proceeding. The Rule, asserts BellSouth, makes no mention of summary position statements. BellSouth maintains that it filed a post hearing statement, and thus complied with the procedural order. BellSouth also claims that Supra's reference to Issue L of the BellSouth/AT&T arbitration actually supports its argument. There, says BellSouth, it was found to have waived its position on issue L because it failed to "present any evidence on the issue at hearing or in its brief." In the instant docket, BellSouth maintains that it has done both. BellSouth also distinguishes Order No. PSC-01-0824-FOF-TP, as cited by Supra, noting that while our decision there was predicated on its failure to address three issues in its post-hearing brief, its failure to file a summary position statement was not at issue.

As a tertiary matter, BellSouth maintains that its October 30, 2001, letter was procedurally proper. Along with its assertion that Supra waived its right to BellSouth's correction of what it deemed an oversight, BellSouth states that parties routinely submit letters to this Commission to correct scrivener's errors or other errors that do not affect the substance of an argument. BellSouth notes that recently Florida Cable Telecommunications Association, Inc. and Time Warner Telecom of Florida, L.P. inadvertently omitted their summary position statements in their original post-hearing briefs due to a scrivener's error, and on June 18, 2002, they filed a letter with us to include a corrected post-hearing brief that specifically included their summary position statements. BellSouth also notes that Supra, in this docket on May 8, 2002, filed a letter instead of a motion to correct errors in one of its previous filings. BellSouth asserts that its letter of October 30, 2001, similar to the letters of FCCA and Time Warner, and of Supra, did not affect or modify any of the substantive arguments that BellSouth made in its post-hearing brief, but simply summarized the

arguments set forth in its brief. As such, says BellSouth, the letter was proper and should not be stricken.

BellSouth also believes that the letter actually complies with Rule 28-106.204(1), to the extent that it seeks affirmative relief and is in writing. Citing Mendoza v Board of County Commissioners/Dade County, 221 So. 2d 797, 798(Fla. 3<sup>rd</sup> DCA 1969) for the notion that "courts should look to the substance of a motion and not to the title alone," BellSouth asserts that its letter is similar to those filed by Supra in this docket seeking affirmative relief. Thus, according to BellSouth, Rule 28-106.204's requirement that responses to motions must be submitted within seven days serves to time-bar Supra's instant motion.

BellSouth further contends that Supra's request for a modified order pursuant to Rule 1.540(b) should be denied. BellSouth contends that Supra does not meet the standard to obtain relief for newly discovered evidence because it does not believe that Supra's evidence would change the result in a new trial, and it believes Supra's motion is untimely. Further, BellSouth asserts that Supra does not meet the standard to obtain relief for misconduct because no misconduct occurred, and we have previously determined that no misconduct occurred. BellSouth also asserts that the conduct for which Supra now complains did not prevent Supra from presenting its case.

BellSouth also argues that Supra's request cannot be granted under Rule 1.540(b), and that its Motion under this rule is barred by the doctrine of *res judicata*, because final judgment in this matter has already been rendered.

#### B. DECISION

The crux of Supra's contention is that BellSouth was improperly allowed to modify its post-hearing statement, and that had BellSouth not been allowed to do so, BellSouth's position on Issue B would have been waived in accordance with the Order Establishing Procedure, Order No. PSC-01-1401-PCO-TP. We note that similar language is contained in the Prehearing Order in this Case, Order No. PSC-01-1926-PHO-TP. As such, Supra believes that its argument on this issue would have carried the day on Issue B; thus,



the Final Order should be modified to so reflect a decision in Supra's favor.

Supra, however, misinterprets the provisions of the Order Establishing Procedure as they relate to the filing of post-hearing statements. Specifically, the Order in this case states, in pertinent part:

Each party shall file a post-hearing statement of issues and positions. *A summary of each position of no more than 50 words, set off with asterisks, shall be included in that statement.* If a party's position has not changed since the issuance of the prehearing order, the post-hearing statement may simply restate the prehearing position; however, if the prehearing position is longer than 50 words, it must be reduced to no more than 50 words. *If a party fails to file a post-hearing statement in [conformance with the rule]<sup>1</sup>, that party shall have waived all issues and may be dismissed from the proceeding.* (Emphasis added)

Order No. PSC-01-1401-PCO-TP at pg. 8. See also Order No. PSC-01-1926-PHO-TP at p. 8. The Order does clearly state that a summary of a party's position is required. However, the Order does not indicate that failure to include the **summary** results in waiver of a party's position; rather, the Order reflects that failure to file a **post-hearing statement** results in waiver. BellSouth did, in fact, timely file a post-hearing statement addressing all issues, including Issue B. The company simply neglected to include a summary of its post hearing statement for Issue B. Thus, based on the provisions of the Order Establishing Procedure, as well as the superceding Prehearing Order, BellSouth did not waive its position on Issue B. While this Commission has determined that parties have waived their positions on specific issues by failing to file a post-hearing statement on an issue, we are unaware of any instance where we have determined that a party waived its position on all issues because it failed to file a post-hearing statement on one issue. Furthermore and directly to the issue at hand, we have not

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<sup>1</sup>Bracketed portion is omitted in subsequent Prehearing Order, because the reference to conformance with "the rule" pertains to former Rule 25-22.056, F.A.C., which was repealed.

deemed a party to have waived their position on an issue through inadvertent omission of the summary.

As for our staff's decision to contact BellSouth to identify the omission of the summary, we believe that our staff acted properly in identifying an error, that can only be characterized as administrative, to the responsible party, because the oversight did not have any dispositive impact on the issue or the case. One-on-one contact between our staff and a party to discuss a non-substantive matter, such as the omission of the summary of BellSouth's position, is not prohibited by Rule 25-22.033, Florida Administrative Code or our own Administrative Procedures Manual 13.10.<sup>2</sup>

Furthermore, we note that, historically, the requirement for a summary has generally been included in the post-hearing procedural requirements largely for the administrative ease of our staff in developing the format of its post-hearing recommendations. The summary does not address the specifics of the parties' arguments, which are more fully set forth in the post-hearing statement itself and analyzed by our staff in its recommendation. Thus, the inclusion or omission of the summary would not impair the ability of this Commission to consider the parties' arguments, nor would it be prejudicial to either party in the case. It merely impacts the manner in which the parties' position is summarized for purposes of the preferred format for post-hearing recommendations. In other words, it is inconsequential to the disposition of the matter at issue.

Based on the foregoing, Supra's Motion to Strike BellSouth's letter of October 30, 2001, to Blanca Bayo; Strike BellSouth's post-hearing position/summary with respect to Issue B; and to Alter/Amend Final Order pursuant to F.R.C.P. 1.540(B) is hereby denied.

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<sup>2</sup>It is noted that this situation is not unlike our staff's inquiry as to Supra's omission of its prehearing statement position on Issue 45, which resulted in Supra submitting its supplemental prehearing statement, without specifically requesting leave to do so, on September 7, 2001. Prehearing statements in the case were originally due August 22, 2001.

IV. MOTION TO COMPEL BELLSOUTH TO CONTINUE GOOD FAITH NEGOTIATIONS  
OF A FOLLOW-UP AGREEMENT

A. ARGUMENTS

SUPRA

After laying out its summary of the procedural and factual background of this docket, Supra maintains that on June 12, 2002, the day after our decision on Supra's Motion for Reconsideration, Supra sought to commence good faith negotiations with BellSouth regarding a follow-on agreement. Supra also maintains that it received for the first time on June 13, 2002, an e-mail version of BellSouth's latest proposed interconnection agreement, and later on June 18, 2002, a second amended version. Supra asserts that beginning on June 17, 2002, and continuing through July 15, 2002, the parties met via telephone on numerous occasions in order to negotiate and resolve final language to be used in the agreement. Supra claims that there have been disputes over previously agreed upon issues because concepts were agreed to without reference to particular language changes in any template agreement.

Supra believes that the time period for the parties to file a final agreement was simply inadequate. It also asserts that BellSouth has not always been cooperative in negotiating final language in good faith, and that BellSouth's actions in refusing to negotiate in good faith do not comply with the Telecommunications Act of 1996, nor the spirit and intent of this Commission's Order No. PSC-02-0878-FOF-TP. Supra states that it would be impossible to draft a follow-on agreement by July 15, 2002, which accurately incorporates the parties' prior agreements, together with our substantive rulings. Further, says Supra, BellSouth refuses to continue negotiations without a directive from us to do so. Therefore, Supra requests an Order compelling BellSouth to return to the bargaining table and provide the parties a reasonable amount of time thereafter to complete negotiations.

BELLSOUTH

BellSouth maintains that the agreement sent to Supra on June 13, 2002, incorporated the changes required by our decision on the motions for reconsideration. BellSouth also notes at least three

other versions of the agreement that it had sent to Supra. BellSouth also claims that the parties' meetings of June 17 and 24, 2002, were devoid of substance, as on one occasion, Supra was not prepared, and in the other instance, Supra's counsel was not available. BellSouth also demonstrates through Exhibit L that it believes only about one third of the ordered issues were discussed. It also claims that Supra spent time disputing and discussing issues which the parties represented to this Commission as either being resolved or withdrawn. BellSouth notes that Supra at no time proposed language changes to any of the templates provided by BellSouth. Furthermore, although Supra claims it could not come up with an agreement which complied with the settled issues and the Commission's rulings, BellSouth believes its July 15, 2002, filing does just that.

BellSouth contends that it is Supra who is unwilling or unable to negotiate in good faith by being unprepared for negotiations or revisiting settled issues, and notes that Supra did not seek reconsideration of the Order's fourteen day filing requirement, choosing instead to ignore our order. BellSouth asks, therefore, that we deny Supra's request for relief.

B. DECISION

The record of this case reflects that BellSouth originally sent Supra a proposed interconnection agreement in September of 2000, nearly two years ago. In March of 2002, after the Agenda in which we originally decided the disputed issues, BellSouth apparently sent Supra an electronic copy of the proposed interconnection agreement. Thereafter on April 25, 2002, BellSouth filed a version with this Commission purporting to comply with our decision in PSC-02-0413-FOF-TP. On June 13, 2002, after our Agenda deciding the issues on reconsideration, BellSouth again apparently sent Supra a version of the agreement incorporating our changes, with an amended version submitted to Supra on June 18, 2002. Also on June 18, 2002, BellSouth apparently provided to Supra a list of each arbitrated issue and how it was resolved. Supra has had ample opportunity to become familiar with BellSouth's agreement template and to ascertain what parts of the agreement would require modification, both to comply with the parties agreed upon and unarbitrated issues, as well as those issues decided by this Commission.

As early as May 8, 2002, and pursuant to Order No. PSC-02-0637-PCO-TP, Supra was aware that it would have fourteen days after we ruled on Supra's Motion for Reconsideration of our decision on the merits of the case to execute an interconnection agreement. In seeking additional time to file the agreement, Supra stated that it did not want to have to negotiate language for the follow-on agreement twice. This desire not to negotiate language at that time did not relieve Supra of the obligation to familiarize itself with the language of the agreement, prepare alternative language, and generally become conversant on the issues given the time period afforded the parties. The parties' awareness of the time constraints also meant that the obligation was on both parties to provide the time and resources necessary to complete the task as ordered by this Commission. Neither party is a virgin to the negotiation and arbitration process, and both are well aware of the back and forth dialogue that ensues in situations such as this, as well as the occasional need to review positions and issues with other persons in their respective organizations.

Supra provided neither the time nor resources necessary to complete the negotiation process and file an agreement on July 15, 2002, as ordered by this Commission. By way of example, a review of the parties' e-mails reveals that on June 18, 2002, Greg Follensbee of BellSouth noted that because of the time constraints, he and Parkey Jordan, also of BellSouth, would clear their calendars all of the following week in an attempt to finish reviewing the proposed agreement. The parties had not discussed substantive issues in their June 17, 2002, meeting. The meeting of June 24, 2002, was cancelled due to an emergency that required the attention of Supra's outside counsel. No meeting was held on the following day. Supra suggested meeting on the following Wednesday, a day it knew, or should have known, it was deposing BellSouth's negotiator Greg Follensbee in another arbitration. Then, Supra indicated that its own negotiator, David Nilson, would be unavailable Friday, leaving outside counsel only able to discuss a few issues.

Save a discussion on June 28, 2002, indicating that in paragraph 16 of the General Terms and Conditions, the word "shall" should be changed back to "may," we find no example of Supra proposing language for inclusion in this agreement. It is clear that no alternative language was filed by Supra on the required

date, July 15, 2002. If Supra continued to disagree with BellSouth's interpretations of issues and inclusive language, Supra could have formulated its own language and submitted that to this Commission in an attempt to comply with our Order. This was certainly possible, as demonstrated by BellSouth's filing.

Finally, we were very clear that the signed agreement must be filed by July 15, 2002. There was no contemplation of further extensions for the parties to negotiate. We were explicit that we found it imperative that a new agreement be timely filed.

Therefore, upon consideration of the foregoing, Supra's Motion to Compel BellSouth to Continue Good Faith Negotiations of a Follow-Up Agreement is denied.

V. MOTION FOR EXPEDITED COMMISSION ACTION

A. ARGUMENTS

BELLSOUTH

BellSouth asserts that after two years, it is now time for a final resolution of this case. BellSouth emphasizes that this matter has been to hearing, this Commission has resolved the issues, addressed reconsideration, as well as numerous procedural motions, and we are now presented with an interconnection agreement that complies with our decisions in the case. BellSouth contends that in keeping with its actions throughout this case, Supra has refused to reasonably participate in negotiations to prepare the final arbitrated agreement, in spite of numerous scheduled negotiation meetings, and has consequently refused to sign the version of the agreement prepared and submitted by BellSouth.

BellSouth notes that as of the morning of July 15, 2002, the date upon which the final signed agreement was due, Supra had only identified four arbitrated issues, Issues 1, 10, 11 A & B, and Issue 49, upon which it could not agree to final language with BellSouth. While discussions between the parties resulted in some modifications, disagreement still remains on these issues. BellSouth indicates that while Issue 19 is also at issue, Supra had stated that it simply needed more time to review BellSouth's proposed language to address this issue, but did not yet have any

specific objection to the language. As of July 15, 2002, BellSouth asserts that Supra had not even mentioned 24 of the issues addressed through our arbitration.

BellSouth acknowledges Supra's contentions that engaging in the negotiation of a new interconnection agreement is a daunting, arduous task, but emphasizes that Supra has not used the considerable time available since our final arbitration decision to engage in the discussions necessary to develop the final agreement. BellSouth contends that this Commission established a very clear deadline for the filing of the parties' interconnection agreement; Supra has "made little effort to review an agreement that BellSouth worked hard to prepare" and has not been prepared to participate in scheduled negotiation meetings. Motion at p. 9.

BellSouth claims that a new interconnection agreement must be approved expeditiously to prevent further harm to BellSouth. The company contends that Supra receives wholesale services from BellSouth for over 300,000 customers. According to BellSouth, Supra receives payment from its customers for the services rendered to them, but does not pay BellSouth for the wholesale services BellSouth has provided to Supra. BellSouth contends that this has an adverse effect on competition in the state, because Supra is able to obtain an advantage over other competitive local exchange carriers (CLECs) that do timely pay their bills. Due to this advantage, BellSouth believes that Supra is able to devote more resources to advertising than would a similarly-situated CLEC that pays its bills.

BellSouth notes that under the Reservation of Rights Clause in the new agreement, Section 25.1, execution of and operation under the new agreement does not waive either parties' rights to pursue appellate relief. Thus, BellSouth emphasizes that either party will be able to continue to seek relief through the appellate courts, and Supra will not be harmed because its appellate rights will not be affected.

For the foregoing reasons, BellSouth requests the following specific relief:

1. A decision by this Commission on its Emergency Motion for Expedited Commission Action at the first available Agenda Conference;

2. Supra should be required by us to take one of the following actions within seven (7) days of the Agenda Conference decision:

A. Sign the new agreement filed by BellSouth on July 15, 2002; or

B. Pursuant to 252(i) of the Act, opt into an existing agreement entered into by BellSouth and approved by the Commission, subject to the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 51.809.

3. We should order that, if Supra does not take one of the actions identified above within 7 days of the Agenda Conference decision, the existing agreement between BellSouth and Supra is immediately deemed terminated and declared null and void. (Motion at p. 14.)

BellSouth also offers an alternative request for relief:

1. We should order the parties to immediately begin operating under the agreement filed by BellSouth on July 15, 2002, as of the date of the Agenda Conference at which BellSouth's motion is decided; or

2. We should order that BellSouth is relieved of the duty to provide services to Supra as of the date of the Agenda Conference.

In addition, BellSouth asks us to sanction Supra for bad faith, award BellSouth attorneys' fees, and provide any other relief we find appropriate.

BellSouth notes that there is precedent for the action it requests. In an Order from the California Public Utilities Commission, Decision No. 01-06-073, 2001 Cal. PUC LEXIS 600, issued June 28, 2001, wherein the parties were directed to either sign PAC



Bell's proposed agreement, terminate the existing agreement, or Supra was to opt into an existing agreement. The parties chose to terminate the agreement.

SUPRA

Supra contends that it has devoted hundreds of man-hours to reviewing BellSouth's proposed agreement, reviewing the parties' prior agreements, reviewing our orders, documenting problems with the proposed agreement, and attempting to negotiate with BellSouth. Supra contends that BellSouth's request to expedite approval of the unilaterally filed agreement is a "gaming tactic" designed to have this Commission force an unacceptable agreement upon Supra.

Supra further contends that BellSouth's request for expedited treatment is made in bad faith, because BellSouth has not even attempted to negotiate acceptable language with Supra and has failed to properly reflect the areas on which the parties did agree prior to arbitration. Supra contends that this motion is designed to avoid due process in an effort to quickly escape the parties' current agreement. Supra maintains that the July 15, 2002, version of the agreement is "riddled with mistakes, inaccuracies and other language. . . ." For these reasons, Supra asks that the Motion for Expedited Commission Action be denied.

B. DECISION

This Docket was opened on September 1, 2000. The Final Order on Arbitration was issued in this Docket on March 26, 2002. The Order on the parties' various procedural motions and motions for reconsideration, Order No. PSC-02-0878-FOF-TP, was issued July 1, 2002. Therein, we clearly stated:

As noted by Supra, we have the authority to show cause a party which fails to sign an arbitrated interconnection agreement in the event there is no good cause for failing to execute the agreement. We now place the parties on notice that if the parties or a party refuses to submit a jointly executed agreement as required by Order No. PSC-02-0637-PCO-TP and Order No. 02-0143-FOF-TP within fourteen (14) days of the issuance of a final order on Supra's Motion for Reconsideration, we may impose a

\$25,000 per day penalty for each day the agreement has not been submitted thereafter in accordance with Section 364.285, Florida Statutes.

Order at p. 65. The parties have had ample time in which to reach an agreement on a final interconnection agreement. Based on the time that has passed, the exhibits attached to BellSouth's pleading, and the numerous procedural motions filed in this case by Supra, it appears to us that Supra has devoted insufficient resources to the negotiation of a final agreement -- perhaps intentionally.

While we clearly have the authority to sanction or fine Supra for its failure to sign an agreement, or even to submit its own version of an agreement, by July 15, 2002, in this circumstance, the best remedy is simply to impose BellSouth's primary request for relief, which is that Supra either sign the agreement proposed by BellSouth, opt into another existing, approved agreement, or the existing agreement will be considered terminated, null, and void. We shall, however, extend of the time requested by BellSouth from seven to 10 days, which seems more reasonable. Additional time will allow for some additional discussion between the parties, sufficient time to get the required signatures and have the agreement filed, or for Supra to make a determination as to which other existing agreement it may wish to adopt.

We emphasize that the agreement the parties continue to operate under was approved by this Commission. Section 2.3 of that Agreement states that should the parties petition the Commission for arbitration of unresolved issues, the parties would encourage the Commission to resolve the disputed issues prior to the expiration of the current agreement. If that did not occur, the parties agreed to continue to operate under the terms of the "current" terminated agreement until the subsequent agreement became effective. The agreement clearly contemplated that the current agreement would eventually terminate. But for the Supra's apparent failure to devote sufficient resources to negotiating a new agreement reflecting our arbitration decisions, there might very well be a subsequent, executed agreement for us to approve. The "current" agreement also clearly contemplates that both parties would endeavor to resolve any outstanding issues in order to develop a subsequent agreement. That has not occurred in this

case; therefore, we shall require that the "current" agreement be terminated, including the provisions of Section 2.3, which require that the parties continue to operate under the terms of the current agreement pending approval of a new agreement. As noted by BellSouth, the California Commission has taken similar action in a similar situation under the same federal Telecommunications Act.

Based on the foregoing, we hereby require the parties to file a signed version of the interconnection agreement within 10 days of our decision at the August 6, 2002, Agenda Conference. If the parties file a signed agreement, our staff may review and administratively approve the final agreement if it complies with our Order and the Telecommunications Act. If the parties do not file a signed agreement within 10 days of our Agenda Conference, the existing agreement under which the parties' have continued to operate shall be deemed terminated, and declared null and void after the close of business on August 16, 2002. Supra may, however, adopt another existing, approved interconnection agreement with BellSouth, if it so chooses.

VI. MOTION TO STRIKE JULY 15, 2002, AGREEMENT FILED BY BELL SOUTH

A. ARGUMENTS

SUPRA

Supra argues that the agreement filed by BellSouth on July 15, 2002, does not fully incorporate the parties' voluntary agreements on issues not decided by this Commission. Supra contends that because the agreement does not incorporate the parties' voluntary agreements, we cannot "shove the nonconforming agreement down Supra's throat." Supra maintains that although we directed the parties to file a jointly executed interconnection agreement, we did not order Supra to sign an agreement that does not reflect the parties' voluntary agreements. Supra therefore asks that we strike the filing by BellSouth as a filing interposed for purposes of delay, harassment, or frivolous increase in expense, in violation of Section 120.569(2)(e), Florida Statutes, Rule 2.060(c), Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, and Rules 1.140 and 1.150, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure.

BELLSOUTH

BellSouth contends that Supra has never proposed language for inclusion in any of the versions of the agreement that it has sent to Supra. BellSouth also argues that it has included the language that the parties agreed upon for the issues resolved between themselves, as well as the language required by our Orders. BellSouth further contends that Supra has erroneously identified several issues for which no negotiated resolution was reached and has referred to a three-step approval process that was never discussed by the parties. BellSouth also identifies what it believes to be a number of other inaccuracies in Supra's assertions regarding the negotiations between the parties. Finally, BellSouth asserts that contrary to Supra's arguments, BellSouth's July 15, 2002, filing is appropriate, because it was contemplated, and in fact required, by Order No. PSC-02-0878-FOF-TP. For these reasons, BellSouth asks that Supra's Motion be denied.

B. DECISION

Upon consideration, we do not find that BellSouth's July 15, 2002, filing violates the standards of Section 120.569(2)(e), Florida Statutes, nor Rule 2.060, Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, although we note that Rule 2.060 is not directly applicable to administrative proceedings. The July 15, 2002, filing by BellSouth does not appear to be filed for purposes of delay, but instead in an effort to comply with our decisions in this Docket. As for Rule 1.140, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, we also find the July 15, 2002, filing complies with this rule in that the pleading does not appear to be "redundant, immaterial, impertinent, or scandalous." Rather, it is a filing apparently aimed at complying with our Orders Nos. PSC-02-0637-PCO-TP and PSC-02-0878-FOF-TP. The mere fact that the agreement filed was not executed by both parties does not render the filing "redundant, immaterial, impertinent, or scandalous." Likewise, we find the pleading does not violate Rule 1.150, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, because it is not a "sham" pleading.

Furthermore, the parties were directed to file an agreement complying with our decisions on the issues addressed at arbitration. It is the burden of the parties to properly reflect any agreements between the parties that were not presented for

arbitration to this Commission. Alleged failure by BellSouth to properly reflect such voluntary agreements is not a matter reviewed by state commissions pursuant to Section 252(e)(2)(b) of the Act, nor does it constitute a "sham" or "frivolous" filing intended for delay. The Act requires the parties to present for arbitration those things that cannot be negotiated and to resolve, through good faith negotiations, those things that do not need to be arbitrated. We need only determine whether what is filed complies with the Act and with our arbitration decision. 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(b). Thereafter, it is incumbent upon the parties to develop an agreement that properly reflects our decisions, the state of the law, and the parties' negotiated provisions. We agree with Supra that we cannot require either party to sign an agreement that the parties do not believe properly reflects other agreements between the parties. However, as more fully set forth in the previous issue, we can deem the previous agreement terminated -- leaving the parties with the options of: 1) timely filing a signed version of the negotiated agreement; 2) Supra adopting an approved agreement; or 3) otherwise terminating their relationship.

Based on the foregoing, the Motion to Strike July 15, 2002, Agreement Filed by BellSouth is denied.

VII. INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT COMPLIANCE

A. CONSIDERATION

With regard to State commission approval or rejection of an interconnection agreement, Section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act states, in pertinent part:

(1) APPROVAL REQUIRED - Any interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation or arbitration shall be submitted for approval to the State commission. A State commission to which an agreement is submitted shall approve or reject the agreement, with written findings as to any deficiencies.

(2) GROUNDS FOR REJECTION - The State commission may only reject-

(B) an agreement (or any portion thereof) adopted by arbitration . . . if it finds that the agreement does not

meet the requirements of section 251, including the regulations prescribed by the Commission pursuant to section 251, or the standards set forth in subsection (d) [pricing standards] of this section.

Section 252(e) (3) states:

Notwithstanding paragraph (2), but subject to section 253, nothing in this section shall prohibit a State commission from establishing or enforcing other requirements of State law in its review of an agreement, including requiring compliance with intrastate telecommunications service quality standards or requirements.

By Order No. PSC-02-0413-FOF-TP, issued March 26, 2002 (Final Order on Arbitration) and Order No. PSC-02-0878-FOF-TP, issued July 1, 2002 (Reconsideration Order), we resolved the thirty-seven substantive issues presented for arbitration by BellSouth and Supra<sup>3</sup>. The parties were required to submit a signed agreement that complied with our decisions within 14 days of issuance of the Order on Reconsideration, by July 15, 2002.

On July 15, 2002, BellSouth filed an unsigned Interconnection Agreement. We have reviewed the document specifically to determine compliance with our Orders in this proceeding relating to the thirty-seven arbitrated issues addressed at hearing. In view of the fact that the agreement was not signed, we also reviewed the entire document to determine compliance with other applicable Florida Public Service Commission and Federal Communications Commission decisions and orders.

Upon review and consideration, we find that the Interconnection Agreement filed on July 15, 2002, complies with our Orders in this docket, Order Nos. PSC-02-0413-FOF-TP and PSC-02-0878-FOF-TP. It appears to incorporate our decisions regarding the issues arbitrated at hearing. In fact, in some cases the language contained in the Agreement almost mirrors the language in our

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<sup>3</sup>The orders also addressed several procedural motions.

Orders. For example, with regard to one particular issue, we ordered<sup>4</sup>:

. . . the final arbitrated agreement submitted to us for approval shall not reflect a reduced rate for a loop when the loop utilizes DAML equipment.

PSC-02-0413-FOF-TP at p. 53. The Interconnection Agreement states:

Loop rates specified in this Agreement shall not be reduced when the loop is provided to Supra using Digitally Added Main Line (DAML) equipment . . . .

Attachment 2, Section 3.2. We also ordered:

The agreement shall reflect that when changes are to be made to an existing Supra loop that may adversely affect the end user, BellSouth should provide Supra with prior notification.

PSC-02-0413-FOF-TP at p. 53. The Interconnection Agreement states:

. . . in the event BellSouth wishes to add DAML equipment to an existing Supra UNE loop that may adversely affect the end user, BellSouth shall provide Supra Telecom with prior notification and must obtain Supra Telecom's authorization.

Attachment 2, Section 3.2.

While we find the Agreement complies with our Orders in this proceeding, we have identified two sections which do not comply with other applicable orders or decisions. The specific language in question is underlined below.

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<sup>4</sup>The example does not represent the Commission decision on Issue E in its entirety.

First, Attachment 1, Section 3.7 of the Interconnection Agreement, which addresses resale provisions, states:

Current telephone numbers may normally be retained by end user. However, telephone numbers are the property of BellSouth and are assigned to the service furnished. Supra Telecom has no property right to the telephone number or any other call number designation associated with services furnished by BellSouth, and no right to the continuance of service through any particular central office. BellSouth reserves the right to change such numbers, or the central office designation associated with such numbers, or both, solely in accordance with BellSouth's practices and procedures and on a non-discriminatory basis.

The underlined text is incorrect and conflicts with current law.

Section 3(a)(2)(46) of the Act defines number portability as the ability of users of telecommunications services to retain, at the same location, existing telecommunications numbers without impairment of quality, reliability, or convenience when switching from one telecommunications carrier to another. While we are aware that BellSouth is the code holder for the telephone numbers at issue, the telephone numbers are BellSouth's property. The Industry Numbering Committee<sup>5</sup> Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines (INC Code Guidelines) define a code holder as:

An assignee of a full NXX code which was allocated by the CO Code Administrator. While the Code Holder is participating in thousand-block number pooling, the Codes Holder becomes a LERG Assignee at the Block Donation Date.

Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines, July 21, 2002, INC 95-0407-008. Furthermore the INC Code Guidelines state:

The NANP resources are considered a public resource and are not owned by the assignees. Consequently, the

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<sup>5</sup>Staff notes that BellSouth is a member of the Industry Numbering Committee.



resources cannot be sold, brokered, bartered, or leased by the assignee for a fee or other consideration. Transfer of code(s) due to merger/acquisition is permitted. (emphasis added)

Central Office Code (NXX) Assignment Guidelines, July 21, 2002, INC 95-0407-008 at p. 6.

Lastly, and most importantly, 47 C.F.R. §52.23(a), confirms that:

all local exchange carriers (LECs) must provide number portability in compliance with the following performance criteria:

(6) Does not result in a carrier having a proprietary interest;

BellSouth is clearly an assignee of codes, and as such, the sentence identified in Attachment 1, Section 3.7 of the Interconnection Agreement, which asserts telephone numbers are the property of BellSouth is contrary to current law and shall be deleted.

Second, Attachment 4, Section 6.4, which addresses collocation provisions, states, in pertinent part:

Construction and Provisioning Interval. . . . BellSouth will use best efforts to complete construction for collocation arrangements under ordinary conditions as soon as possible and within a maximum of 100 calendar days from receipt of a complete and accurate Bona Fide Firm Order.

The 100 calendar days provisioning interval for collocation arrangements conflicts with the interval established by this Commission in Order PSC-99-1744-PAA-TP issued in Docket No. 981834-TP. Specifically, that order states:

Upon firm order by an applicant carrier, the ILEC shall provision physical collocation within 90 days or virtual collocations within 60 days.

Order at p. 17. As such, we find that BellSouth must modify the language in Attachment 4, Section 6.4 to reflect this Commission's decision that 90 calendar days is the appropriate provisioning interval for physical collocation.

B. DECISION

Upon consideration, the July 15, 2002, Interconnection Agreement complies with our Orders in this docket. However, the language contained in Attachment 1, Section 3.7, and Attachment 4, Section 6.4 shall be modified as noted in the body of this Order to comply with other applicable orders and laws.

VIII.

CONCLUSION

This Docket shall remain open pending administrative approval, on an expedited basis, of a signed interconnection agreement or notice of adoption filed by close of business on August 16, 2002. Upon administrative approval of an agreement, or if no signed agreement or notice of adoption is filed by close of business on August 16, 2002, we direct our staff to administratively close this Docket after the time for filing an appeal has run.

We will not entertain any motions for reconsideration of our decisions set forth herein. By this Order, we address several motions that appear to be thinly-veiled motions for reconsideration for which our rules do not provide for further reconsideration. See Rule 25-22.060, Florida Administrative Code. Furthermore, this proceeding has been conducted pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which does not contemplate further review by the state commission of its own decisions in proceedings conducted pursuant to the Act. While Chapter 120, Florida Statutes, and Commission rules do provide for reconsideration of final orders, Section 120.80(13), Florida Statutes, also allows us to adopt processes and procedures necessary to implement the Act. In this particular instance, we find that proper, timely implementation of this case consistent with the Act necessitates that the opportunity for

reconsideration of our decisions on the issues addressed in this Order shall not be provided.

We have conducted these proceedings pursuant to the directives and criteria of Sections 251 and 252 of the Act. We believe that our decisions are consistent with the terms of the Section 251, the provisions of FCC rules, applicable court orders and Chapter 364, Florida Statutes.

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that Supra Telecommunications and Information Systems, Inc.'s Motion to Strike BellSouth's Letter of October 30, 2001, to Blanca Bayo; Strike BellSouth's Post-hearing Position/Summary with Respect to Issue B; and to Alter/amend Final Order Pursuant to F.R.C.P. 1.540(b) is denied. It is further

ORDERED that Supra Telecommunications and Information Systems, Inc.'s Motion to Compel BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. to Continue Good Faith Negotiations of a Follow-Up Agreement is denied. It is further

ORDERED that BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s Motion for Expedited Commission Action is granted, in part, and denied, in part, as set forth in the body of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that Supra Telecommunications and Information Systems, Inc.'s Motion to Strike July 15, 2002, Agreement filed by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. is hereby denied. It is further

ORDERED that the July 15, 2002, Interconnection Agreement submitted by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. is deemed compliant with the Commission Orders in this Docket. It is further

ORDERED that BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. shall amend the language contained in Attachment 1, Section 3.7, and Attachment 4, Section 6.4 of its July 15, 2002, Interconnection Agreement as noted in the body of this Order to comply with other applicable orders and laws. It is further

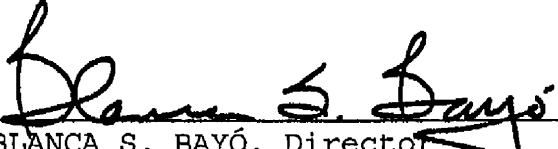
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ORDERED that this Docket shall remain open pending administrative approval, on an expedited basis, of a signed interconnection agreement or notice of adoption filed by close of business on August 16, 2002. It is further

ORDERED that if an interconnection agreement signed by both parties is not filed by close of business on August 16, 2002, and we are not otherwise notified of Supra Telecommunications and Information Systems, Inc.'s adoption of another approved interconnection agreement with BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., the current interconnection agreement under which the parties have continued to operate shall be deemed terminated and no longer effective between Supra Telecommunications and Information Systems, Inc. and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. It is further

ORDERED that upon administrative approval of an agreement, or if no signed agreement or notice of adoption is filed by close of business on August 16, 2002, this Docket shall be closed administratively after the time for filing an appeal has run.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 9th Day of August, 2002.

  
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BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director  
Division of the Commission Clerk  
and Administrative Services

( S E A L )

BK/WDK

NOTICE OF FURTHER PROCEEDINGS OR JUDICIAL REVIEW

The Florida Public Service Commission is required by Section 120.569(1), Florida Statutes, to notify parties of any administrative hearing or judicial review of Commission orders that is available under Sections 120.57 or 120.68, Florida Statutes, as well as the procedures and time limits that apply. This notice should not be construed to mean all requests for an administrative hearing or judicial review will be granted or result in the relief sought.

Any party adversely affected by the Commission's final action in this matter may request judicial review by the Florida Supreme Court in the case of an electric, gas or telephone utility or the First District Court of Appeal in the case of a water and/or wastewater utility by filing a notice of appeal with the Director, Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services and filing a copy of the notice of appeal and the filing fee with the appropriate court. This filing must be completed within thirty (30) days after the issuance of this order, pursuant to Rule 9.110, Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The notice of appeal must be in the form specified in Rule 9.900(a), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. Judicial review in Federal district court pursuant to the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(6) may be available as allowed by law.

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Petition by BellSouth  
Telecommunications, Inc. for  
arbitration of certain issues in  
interconnection agreement with  
Supra Telecommunications and  
Information Systems, Inc.

DOCKET NO. 001305-TP  
ORDER NO. PSC-02-1140-FOF-TP  
ISSUED: August 22, 2002

ORDER APPROVING FINAL ARBITRATED INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT  
AND ADOPTION AGREEMENT

BY THE COMMISSION:

On August 16, 2002, Supra Telecommunications and Information Systems, Inc. (Supra) filed its arbitrated Interconnection Agreement with BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. in accordance with Order No. PSC-02-1096-FOF-TP, issued August 9, 2002. Thereafter, on August 21, 2002, an amending Adoption Agreement between Supra and BellSouth was filed, incorporating the dispute resolution provisions from the BellSouth/AT&T Interconnection Agreement into the new BellSouth/Supra agreement.<sup>1</sup> A copy of the agreement and amending agreement may be obtained by contacting our Division of the Commission Clerk and Administrative Services. The background of this case is more fully set forth in Order No. PSC-02-1096-FOF-TP.

This agreement governs the relationship between the companies regarding local interconnection and the exchange of traffic pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 251. Having reviewed the interconnection agreement, the Agreement complies with this Commission's Final Order on the parties' arbitration, Order No. PSC-02-0413-FOF-TP and PSC-02-0413A-FOF-TP, and the decision on the motions for reconsideration, Order No. PSC-02-0878-FOF-TP. Furthermore, the Interconnection Agreement and amending Adoption Agreement meet the

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<sup>1</sup>The Commission approved the BellSouth/AT&T Interconnection Agreement by Order No. PSC-01-2357-FOF-TP, issued December 7, 2001.

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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standards set forth in Sections 252(e) and (i) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Therefore, this agreement is hereby approved. BellSouth and Supra are required to file any subsequent supplements or modifications to this agreement with the Commission for review under the provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 252(e).

Based on the foregoing, it is

ORDERED by the Florida Public Service Commission that the Interconnection Agreement filed on August 16, 2002, and subsequent amending Adoption Agreement filed on August 21, 2002, between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and Supra Telecommunications and Information Systems, Inc. are hereby approved. A copy of the agreement and amendment may be obtained as specified in the body of this Order. It is further

ORDERED that any supplements or modifications to this agreement must be filed with the Commission for review under the provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 252(e). It is further

ORDERED that this docket is hereby closed.

By ORDER of the Florida Public Service Commission this 22nd Day of August, 2002.

BLANCA S. BAYÓ, Director  
Division of the Commission Clerk  
and Administrative Services

By: Kay Flynn  
Kay Flynn, Chief  
Bureau of Records and Hearing  
Services

( S E A L )

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Any party adversely affected by the Commission's final action in this matter may request judicial review in Federal district court pursuant to the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(6).