

Manuel A. Gurdian Attorney Legal AT&T Florida 150 West Flagler Street Suite 1910 Miami, FL 33130 T: 305.347.5561 F: 305.577.4491 manuel.gurdian@att.com

November 3, 2008

Ms. Ann Cole Office of the Commission Clerk Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Re: <u>Docket No. 080631-TP</u>: Petition for Commission to intervene, investigate and mediate dispute between DSL Internet Corporation d/b/a DSLi and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.

Dear Ms. Cole:

Enclosed is BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Florida's Partial Motion to Dismiss and Answer and Affirmative Defenses to DSLI's Petition to Intervene, Investigate and Mediate, which we ask that you file in the captioned docket.

Sincerely,

Manuel A. Gurdian

cc: All parties of record Gregory R. Follensbee Jerry D. Hendrix

E. Earl Edenfield, Jr.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE Docket No. 080631-TP

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy was served via Electronic Mail and First Class U. S. Mail this 3rd day of November, 2008 to the following:

Florida Public Service Commission Charles Murphy, Staff Counsel 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850 Tel. No. (850) 413-6098 cmurphy@psc.state.fl.us

Eduardo Maldonado Vice President - Operations DSL Internet Corporation 815 NW 57th Avenue Suite 300 Miami, Florida 33126 (305) 779-5752 FAX: 305-779-4329 emaldonado@dsli.net

Manuel A. Gurdian

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Petition for Commission to intervene,)	Docket No. 080631-TP
investigate and mediate dispute between)	
DSL Internet Corporation d/b/a DSLI and)	
BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.)	
)	November 3, 2008

AT&T FLORIDA'S PARTIAL MOTION TO DISMISS AND ANSWER AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES TO DSLI'S PETITION TO INTERVENE, INVESTIGATE AND MEDIATE

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Florida ("AT&T Florida") respectfully submits this Partial Motion to Dismiss and Answer and Affirmative Defenses to DSL Internet Corporation's ("DSLi") Petition to Intervene, Investigate and Mediate ("Petition"). For the reasons set forth below, the Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission") should dismiss a certain portion of DSLi's Petition. In addition, AT&T Florida provides its Answer and Affirmative Defenses to the remaining allegations in DSLi's Petition.

MOTION TO DISMISS

A. Standard for Motion to Dismiss

A motion to dismiss questions whether the complaint alleges sufficient facts to state a cause of action as a matter of law. See Varnes v. Dawkins, 624 So.2d 349, 350 (Fla. 1st DCA 1993). In disposing of a motion to dismiss, the Commission must assume all of the allegations of the complaint to be true. See In re: Complaint and petition of John Charles Heekin against Florida Power & Light Co., Order No. PSC-99-10544-FOF-EI, Docket No. 981923-EI, (Issued May 24, 1999)(citing to Varnes, 624 So.2d at 350). To sustain a motion to dismiss, the moving party must demonstrate that, accepting all allegations in the petition as facially correct, the petition still fails to state a cause of

action for which relief can be granted. In re: Petition to investigate, claim for damages, complaint and other statements against respondents Evercom Systems, Inc. d/b/a Correctional Billing Services and BellSouth Corporation by Bessie Russ, Docket No. 060640-TP, Order No. PSC-07-0332-PAA-TP (Issued April 16, 2007) citing In re: Application for Amendment of Certificates Nos. 359-W and 290-S to Add Territory in Broward County by South Broward Utility, Inc. 95 FPSC 5:339 (1995); Varnes, 624 So.2d at 350.

B. Injunctive Relief

DSLi requests in the "CONCLUSIONS" section of its Petition, that the Commission issue "[a]n order which enjoins AT&T (Formerly BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.) from suspending the services of DSLi and thereby keeping the Florida Consumers protected". The Commission cannot provide DSLI's requested injunctive relief.

As a creature of statute, the Commission has only those powers granted by the Legislature and has no common law or inherent powers. *State v. Mayo*, 354 So. 2d 359, 360 (Fla. 1977). ("[T]he Public Service Commission was created and exists through legislative enactment. Being a statutory creature, its powers and duties are only those conferred expressly or impliedly by statute."); *City of Cape Coral v. GAC Utility*, 281 So. 2d 493 (Fla. 1973) (same). Moreover, any authority granted by necessary implication must be derived from fair implication and intendment incident to any express authority. *See Atlantic Coast Line R.R. Co. v. State*, 74 So. 595, 601 (Fla. 1917); *State v. Louisville & N. R. Co.*, 49 So. 39 (Fla. 1909). Finally, "any reasonable doubt as to the existence of

a particular power of the Commission must be resolved against it." *State v. Mayo*, 354 So. 2d 359, 361 (Fla. 1977).

The Commission has acknowledged that it lacks authority to issue injunctions in In re: Complaint and Petition of Cynwyd Investments Against Tamiami Village Utility, Inc., Docket Nos. 920649-WS and 930642-WS, Order No. PSC-94-0210 (February 21, 1994), where it stated: "We agree that this Commission does not have subject matter jurisdiction to issue injunctions" Id. at 9; see also Florida Power & Light Company v. Albert Litter Studios, Inc. 896 So.2d 891, 892 n.3 (Fla. 3d DCA 2005) (The Commission "concedes that it lacks the authority to issue injunctive relief.") and In re: Petition to investigate, claim for damages, complaint and other statements against respondents Evercom Systems, Inc. d/b/a Correctional Billing Services and BellSouth Corporation by Bessie Russ, Docket No. 060640-TP, Order No. PSC-07-0332-PAA-TP (Issued April 16, 2007)("We find it appropriate to grant BellSouth's Partial Motion to Dismiss. The Petition/Complaint shall be dismissed in part because we do not have judicial power required to... (b) issue injunctions").

Because DSLi's Petition seeks a remedy that the Commission has no authority to provide, the portion of the Petition seeking injunctive relief should be dismissed.

ANSWER

- AT&T Florida admits that DSLi has a company code of TX609 and is a Competitive Local Exchange Carrier with a certificate to provide telecommunications services within the State of Florida.
- AT&T Florida admits that DSLi and AT&T Florida executed an Interconnection Agreement and that the Interconnection Agreement speaks for itself.

AT&T Florida denies the remainder of the allegations contained in paragraph 2 of the Petition.

- 3. AT&T Florida admits that on or about May 28, 2008, AT&T Florida issued DSLi an invoice which contained the amount of \$188,820.59 on account number 305N280044 for true-ups to special access rates dating back to March 10, 2005.
- 4. AT&T Florida denies the allegations contained in paragraph 4 of the Petition. AT&T Florida specifically denies that DSLI properly submitted to AT&T Florida a "dispute" of the True-ups on or about July 17, 2008.
- 5. AT&T Florida denies the allegations contained in paragraph 5 of the Petition. AT&T Florida specifically denies that DSLi properly submitted to AT&T Florida a "dispute" of the True-ups on or about September 26, 2008.
- 6. AT&T Florida admits that on or about September 26, 2008 it denied DSLi's dispute. AT&T Florida denies the remainder of the allegations contained in paragraph 6 of the Petition.
- 7. AT&T Florida admits that on or about October 7, 2008, AT&T Florida advised DSLi that AT&T Florida would suspend the services it provides to DSLi if payment was not received on October 8, 2008. AT&T Florida denies the remainder of the allegations contained in paragraph 7 of the Petition.
- 8. AT&T Florida denies the allegations contained in the unnumbered "DISCUSSION" section of the Petition and states that the referenced sections of the Interconnection Agreement speak for themselves. AT&T Florida further specifically denies that it is "not allowed to back bill the true-ups to March 10, 2005."

9. AT&T Florida denies the allegations contained in the unnumbered "CONCLUSIONS" section of the Petition and states that the referenced sections of the Interconnection Agreement speak for themselves. AT&T Florida specifically denies that DSLi is entitled to the relief requested in the Petition.

AT&T Florida denies each and every allegation in the Petition not expressly admitted herein, and demands strict proof thereof.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

- DSLi's Petition fails to state a cause of action upon which relief can be granted.
- The Commission lacks the authority to issue an injunction as requested by

 DSLi.

WHEREFORE, AT&T Florida respectfully requests the Commission to enter an Order in AT&T Florida's favor, deny the Petitioner the relief sought, and grant AT&T Florida such other relief as the Commission deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted this 3rd day of November, 2008.

AT&T FLORIDA

E. Earl Edenfield, Jr.

Tracy W. Hatch

Manuel A. Gurdian

c/o Gregory R. Follensbee

150 South Monroe Street

Suite 400

Tallahassee, Florida 32301

(305) 347-5558

Lisa S. Foshee

675 West Peachtree Street

Suite 4300

Atlanta, Georgia 30375

(404) 335-0750

#723195