BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

October 5, 2001

)
APPROVAL OF THE INTERCONNECTION) DOCKET NO. 01-00542
AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED BY BELLSOUTH)
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND THE)
ELECTRIC POWER BOARD OF CHATTANOOGA)
PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 251 AND 252 OF THE)
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996)

ORDER APPROVING INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT

This matter came before the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority") upon the Petition for approval of the Interconnection Agreement (the "Agreement") negotiated by and between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") and the Electric Power Board of Chattanooga ("EPB"). The Petition for approval of the Agreement came before the Authority pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252.

The Agreement was considered at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on August 7, 2001, in Nashville, Tennessee before Chairman Sara Kyle, Director H. Lynn Greer, Jr., and Director Melvin J. Malone. The Authority has jurisdiction over public utilities pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-104 *et seq*. Based upon the Petition, the record in this matter, and the standards for review set forth in 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252, the Directors unanimously approved the Agreement and made the following findings and conclusions:

- 1) The Agreement is in the public interest as it provides consumers with alternative sources of telecommunications services within the BellSouth service area;
- 2) The Agreement is not discriminatory to telecommunications service providers that are not parties thereto;
 - 3) No party has sought intervention in this docket;
- 4) The Agreement satisfies the standards for approval of negotiated interconnection agreements set forth in 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252; and
- 5) The Agreement is reviewable by the Authority pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252 and Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-104 et seq.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

The Interconnection Agreement negotiated by and between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and the Electric Power Board of Chattanooga is approved and is subject to the review of the Authority as provided herein.

Sara Kyle, Chairman

H. John Greer, Jr., Director

Melvin J. Malone, Director

ATTEST:

K. David Waddell, Executive Secretary