

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.

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VIA HAND DELIVERY

Hon. Monica Smith-Ashford, Hearing Officer
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37238

Re: *Enforcement of Interconnection Agreement between BellSouth
Telecommunications, Inc. and ITC^DeltaCom Communications, Inc.*
Docket No. 02-01203

Dear Hearing Officer Smith-Ashford:

DeltaCom and BellSouth have recently agreed to various extensions of the filing deadlines in this matter to afford the parties time to work toward a negotiated resolution of the claims in this docket. Currently, DeltaCom is scheduled to respond to BellSouth's most recent filing on November 3. Given the developments discussed, below, BellSouth proposes, and DeltaCom agrees, that the docket be held in abeyance.

On October 13, 2006, the FCC published a Notice seeking comment on a letter that AT&T had filed with the FCC earlier that day. AT&T's letter "set[s] forth proposals made by [AT&T and BellSouth Corporation] at the request of members of the [FCC]" regarding the proposed merger. One of the "potential conditions" to the proposed merger that are discussed in AT&T's letter is: "AT&T/BellSouth shall terminate all pending audits of compliance with the [FCC's] EELs eligibility criteria and shall not initiate any new audits."

In light of this development, BellSouth respectfully requests that these proceedings be held in abeyance while the FCC considers the proposed merger between BellSouth Corporation and AT&T. BellSouth further suggests that after the FCC reaches a decision on the proposed merger, the parties confer with one

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another and report back to the Authority regarding the status of this matters. As noted above, DeltaCom has agreed to this request.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joelle Phillips', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above the printed name 'Joelle Phillips'.

Joelle Phillips

JP:ch

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on November 1, 2006, a copy of the foregoing document was served on the following, via the method indicated:

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