

**IN THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY
AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

IN RE:)	
PETITION FOR REGULATORY)	
EXEMPTION PURSUANT TO T.C.A.)	DOCKET NO. 08-00192
§ 65-5-108(b) TO INCREASE REGULATORY)	
PARITY AND MODERNIZATION)	

PETITION TO INTERVENE

Robert E. Cooper, Jr., Attorney General and Reporter for the State of Tennessee, by and through the Consumer Advocate and Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General (“Consumer Advocate”), pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-118, respectfully petitions the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (“TRA” or “Authority”) to convene a contested case and grant the Consumer Advocate’s intervention into this proceeding on behalf of the public interest because consumers may be adversely affected by the petition of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. dba AT&T Tennessee (“AT&T”) for regulatory exemption of virtually all telecommunication services for many Tennesseans. For cause, Petitioner would show as follows:

1. The Consumer Advocate is authorized by Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-118 to represent the interests of Tennessee consumers of public utilities services by initiating and intervening as a party in proceedings before the Authority in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act and Authority rules.

2. AT&T is a public utility regulated by the Authority providing telephone and other services and products in Tennessee.

3. On October 9, 2008, AT&T filed in the Authority a Petition for Regulatory Exemption Pursuant to T.C.A. § 65-5-108(b) to Increase Regulatory Parity and Modernization. If the Authority were to approve the petition of AT&T in its present form, residential customers in rate groups 3, 4, and 5, which consist of the most populated and developed areas of Tennessee, would lose the protection of regulation by the TRA of virtually all telecommunication services. In addition, all business services across the state would be deregulated.

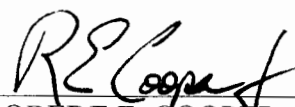
4. The Consumer Advocate alleges that the elimination of virtually all regulation for many Tennesseans may not be warranted and that there is no proof in the record of the benefits, if any, of such deregulation. If no proof beyond the unverified Petition as currently filed at the TRA is submitted, the TRA should deny the Petition.

5. Additional investigation and discovery will be needed to determine whether such deregulation is warranted and, if so, the appropriate extent of such deregulation.

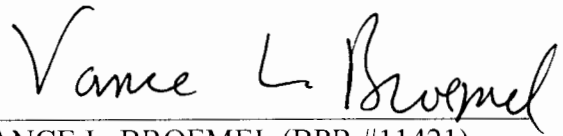
6. Only by participating in this proceeding can the Consumer Advocate work adequately to protect the interests of consumers.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully asks the Authority to convene a contested case proceeding and grant the Petition to Intervene.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



ROBERT E. COOPER, JR. (BPR #10934)
Attorney General and Reporter
State of Tennessee



VANCE L. BROEMEL (BPR #11421)
Assistant Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
Consumer Advocate and Protection Division
P.O. Box 20207
Nashville, Tennessee 37202-0207
(615) 741-8733

Dated: November 3rd, 2008.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Petition to Intervene was served via U.S. Mail or electronic mail upon:

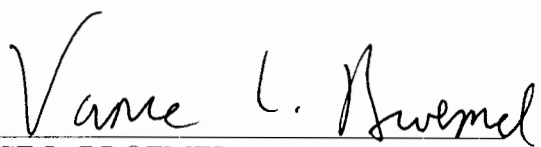
Guy M. Hicks
AT&T Tennessee
333 Commerce Street, Suite 2101
Nashville, Tennessee 37201

Paul F. Rice
Attorney for TISPA
P.O. Box 1692
Jackson, TN 38302-1692

Charles B. Welch, Jr.
Farris Mathews Bobango PLC
Attorney for TW Telecom of Tennessee, LLC
618 Church Street, Suite 300
Nashville, TN 37219

Henry Walker
Boult, Cummings, Conners & Berry
Attorney for CompSouth and NuVox
1600 Division Street, Suite 700
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

This the 3rd day of November, 2008.


VANCE L. BROEMEL