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REGULATORY AUTH.

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. 615 214-6301
Suite 2101 Fax 615 214-7406
333 Commerce Street
Nashville, Tennessee 37201-3300

Guy M. Hicks
General Counsel

'99 SEP 8 PM 1 15

OFFICE OF THE

September 8, 1999 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Mr. Gary Hotvedt, Hearing Officer
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Re: *Petition by ICG Telecom Group, Inc. for Arbitration of an Interconnection Agreement with BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. pursuant to Section 252(b) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996*
Docket No. 99-00377 ✓

Petition for Arbitration of ITC^DeltaCom Communications, Inc. with BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996
Docket No. 99-00430 ✓

Dear Mr. Hotvedt:

In response to your request yesterday, I have asked that our witnesses in the DeltaCom proceeding check their calendars to determine their availability for the hearing dates recently proposed by DeltaCom for September 27, 28, and 29. As soon as I hear back from our witnesses, I will let you and Mr. Baltimore know. Since many of our witnesses are traveling or appearing in other proceedings in other states, it may be a day or so before I hear back.

In response to the request which I understand Mr. Walker has made regarding the consolidation of the reciprocal compensation issue in these arbitrations, BellSouth would like to offer a proposal. While we do not believe that it makes sense to consolidate one issue on a piece-meal basis since two hearings will still be necessary under that scenario, BellSouth proposes that both arbitration hearings be consolidated in their entirety. Certain efficiencies would certainly be realized if the two arbitration hearings were consolidated.

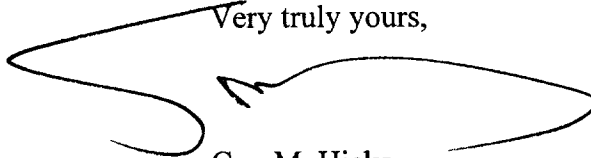
BellSouth also proposes that if the two arbitrations are consolidated in their entirety, that the parties enter into an agreement similar to the one reached in connection with the e.spire and Intermedia arbitrations which set forth procedural safeguards such as limiting cross-examination by a party to the issues raised by that party in its petition for arbitration.

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Thank you for your consideration of this request. Copies of this letter have been provided to both Mr. Walker and Mr. Baltimore, counsel for the petitioners.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Guy M. Hicks', written over a horizontal line.

Guy M. Hicks

GMH/jem

cc: Henry Walker, Esquire (via telecopier)
Don Baltimore, Esquire (via telecopier)
Tom Alexander, Esquire (via telecopier)
Langley Kitchings, Esquire (via telecopier)