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**Georgia Public Service Commission**

G.P.S.C.

**DOCKET # 14361**

244 WASHINGTON STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334-5701  
Docket No. 14361-U

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**PROCEDURAL AND SCHEDULING ORDER**

**In Re: Generic Proceeding to Review Cost Studies, Methodologies, Pricing Policies and Cost Based Rates for Interconnection and Unbundling of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s Network**

**BY THE COMMISSION:**

On December 16, 2001, the Georgia Public Service Commission ("Commission") issued its Order in Docket No. 7061-U establishing cost-based rates applicable to BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s ("BellSouth") interconnection and unbundling including the unbundled network elements, nonrecurring charges, collocation, and access to poles, ducts, conduits and rights-of-way. On February 1, 2000, the Commission issued its Order in Docket No. 10692-U establishing long-term pricing policies for combinations of Unbundled Network Elements (UNEs) and establishing recurring and nonrecurring rates for particular combinations of UNEs.

The February 1, 2000 Order directed BellSouth to file a revised Statement of Generally Available Terms and Conditions (SGAT) reflecting and implementing the rates and policies established by the Order and reflecting the unbundling requirements of the FCC's Third Report and Order. The Commission also ordered BellSouth to file additional cost studies for those loop/port and loop/transport combinations that were not in place at the time of the Commission Order in Docket No. 10692-U.

On March 2, 2000 and March 17, 2000, BellSouth filed the required cost studies and revised SGAT. On May 4, 2000, BellSouth filed with the Commission modifications to these cost studies, along with a new SGAT to reflect these modifications and to incorporate additional filings in other Commission proceedings. The revised SGAT was permitted to take effect pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(f)(3).

In Docket Nos. 11853-U, the Commission established interim rates subject to true up for certain UNEs and UNE combinations. In this generic proceeding, the Commission will examine the cost of each UNE and interconnection service offered by BellSouth, including those for which rates were established in Docket Nos. 7061-U and 10692-U. The following procedural schedule is hereby adopted for this new generic cost proceeding:

**Docket No. 14361-U**

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**October 1, 2001**

BellSouth and other interested parties may file cost studies and Direct Testimony regarding issues in this docket. Accompanied therewith shall be an electronic version of the party's testimony, which shall be made on a 3.5" diskette using Microsoft Word® format for text documents and Excel® for spread sheets or other comparable electronic format. Under no circumstances should an electronic filing consist of more than four (4) files, including attachments. Cost studies may be filed on CD Rom. This filing shall be made at the office of the Executive Secretary, Georgia Public Service Commission, 244 Washington Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30334-5701.

**October 30, 2001**

The Commission will conduct a technical workshop at which time BellSouth and other interested parties that filed cost studies can present an overview of the Cost Models relied upon to generate forward-looking costs.

**November 9, 2001**

BellSouth and other interested parties file Rebuttal Testimony in response to issues raised in the Direct Testimony. Accompanied therewith shall be an electronic version of the party's filing, which shall be made on a 3.5" diskette using Microsoft Word® format for text documents and Excel® for spread sheets. Under no circumstances should an electronic filing consist of more than four (4) files, including attachments. This filing shall be made at the office of the Executive Secretary, Georgia Public Service Commission, 244 Washington Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30334-5701.

**November 29, 2001**

BellSouth and other interested parties file Surrebuttal Testimony in response to issues raised in the Rebuttal Testimony. Accompanied therewith shall be an electronic version of the party's filing, which shall be made on a 3.5" diskette using Microsoft Word® format for text documents and Excel® for spread sheets. Under no circumstances should an electronic filing consist of more than four (4) files, including attachments. This filing shall be made at the office of the Executive Secretary, Georgia Public Service Commission, 244 Washington Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30334-5701.

**December 10-12, 2001**

At 10:00 a.m., the Commission will commence hearings for Docket No. 14361-U beginning with the testimony of any public witnesses pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 46-2-59(g), and the hearing of any appropriate motions. After these preliminary matters, the Commission will conduct hearings on the testimony filed by BellSouth and the intervenors.

January 11, 2002

All parties are to file an original and fifteen (15) copies of closing briefs, orders or recommendations. Accompanied therewith shall be an electronic version of a party's filing, which shall be made on a 3½ inch diskette using Microsoft Word® format for text documents and Excel® for spread sheets.

### Additional Information

For each cost study, the party submitting the cost study shall provide comprehensive and complete work papers that fully disclose and document the process underlying the development of each of its economic costs, including the documentation of all judgments and methods used to establish every specific assumption employed in each cost study. The work papers must clearly and logically represent all data used in developing each cost estimate, and must be so comprehensive as to allow others initially unfamiliar with the studies to replicate the methodology and calculate equivalent or alternative results using equivalent or alternative assumptions. The work papers must be organized in such a manner as to clearly identify and document all source data and assumptions, including investment, expense, and demand data assumptions.

### Discovery

The nature of the information likely to be brought forward in this proceeding, such as cost study and methodology information, is highly technical and detailed in nature. Therefore, this is an appropriate proceeding in which the Commission may exercise its discretion to allow the parties to use discovery to obtain and exchange information. This is an exception to the usual practice and procedure in Commission proceedings. Allowing discovery in this docket should also assist the parties in negotiating the complex issues and in preparing and presenting unresolved issues for Commission resolution in this docket. In addition, the Commission Staff is hereby appointed agents of the Commission for discovery purposes pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 46-2-57. In that capacity, the Commission Staff has the authority to conduct discovery using any methods, including but not limited to informal discovery workshops.

The Commission finds and concludes that it is appropriate to permit the parties to conduct discovery in this proceeding, subject to the following procedures. Parties should endeavor to keep their discovery requests focused on the issues in this docket, and to use written data requests in the first instance to obtain the data, information, or admissions they may seek. Discovery requests shall be served electronically, and all discovery requests must be served prior to November 2, 2001. Objections to discovery shall be filed within 10 days after receipt of the discovery. Responses to discovery requests are to be provided to the requesting party as soon as possible, and shall be provided no later than 14 days after receipt of the request. Two copies of each response to discovery requests shall be filed with the Commission, but shall not be considered part of the evidence of record (unless and until explicitly brought into the evidence of record as part of the formal hearing process). Written discovery shall be limited to 50 requests,

additional written discovery or additional depositions are necessary, the party shall file a motion with the Commission, explaining in detail the facts upon which additional discovery is required and why such facts could not be discovered through other means.

**Copies of Pleadings, Filings and Correspondence**

Parties shall file the original plus 15 copies, as well as an electronic version (Word format for text documents), of all documents with the Commission's Executive Secretary no later than 4:00 p.m. on the date due. However, only two copies need to be filed for discovery responses. In addition, copies of all pleadings, filing, correspondence, and any other documents related to, and submitted in the course of this docketed matter (except for discovery requests and responses) shall be served upon the other parties as well as upon the following individuals in their capacities as indicated below:

Daniel S. Walsh  
Assistant Attorney General  
Department of Law  
State of Georgia  
40 Capitol Square SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
(404) 657-2204

Kristy Holley, Director  
Consumers' Utility Counsel Division  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive  
Plaza Level East  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
(404) 656-3982

**Record**

The parties shall be responsible for bringing before the Commission all evidence that they wish to have considered in this proceeding. The Commission may also require the parties to provide any additional information that the Commission considers useful and necessary in order to reach a decision. Any party filing documents or presenting evidence that is considered by the source of the information to be a "trade secret" under Georgia law, O.C.G.A. § 10-1-761(4), must comply with the rules of the Commission governing such information. See GPSC Rule 515-3-1-.11 Trade Secrets (containing rules for asserting trade secret status, filing both under seal and with public disclosure versions, use of protective agreements, petitioning for access, and procedures for challenging trade secret designations). Responses to discovery will not be considered part of the record unless formally introduced and admitted as exhibits.

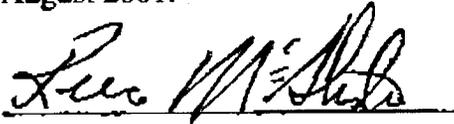
**WHEREFORE, it is**

**ORDERED**, that the Commission hereby adopts the procedures, schedule, and statements regarding the issues set forth within the Procedural and Scheduling Order.

**ORDERED FURTHER**, that a motion for reconsideration, rehearing, oral argument, or any other motion shall not stay the effective date of this Order, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

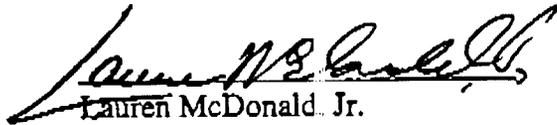
**ORDERED FURTHER**, that jurisdiction over this matter is expressly retained for the purpose of entering such further Order(s) as this Commission may deem just and proper.

The above by action of the Commission in Administrative Session on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of August 2001.



Reece McAlister  
Executive Secretary

8-23-01  
DATE



Lauren McDonald, Jr.  
Chairman

08-23-01  
DATE