

On May 1, 2001 the Commission voted to adopt a Procedural and Scheduling Order to initiate a review of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. compliance with section 271 of the 1996 Federal Telecommunications Act. The Order approved by the Commission provided all interested parties with the opportunity to file initial comments on June 30, 2001; and reply comment were due on July 16, 2001. In response to the Commission's directive, BellSouth and Competing Local Exchange Companies submitted exhaustive comments.

After conducting an extensive review of the comments filed and application of the review standards established by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the Staff finds that BellSouth has meet the competitive checklist set forth in section 271 of the Act. The Staff bases it's finding on the totality of the evidence submitted by the parties. Since the passage of the 1995 State Telecommunication and Competition Development Act and the 1996 Federal Telecommunications Act, the Commission has conducted critically important proceedings concerning BellSouth's section 271 compliance open to participation by all interested parties. The Commission has provided for third-party testing of BellSouth's operations support systems (OSS) offerings. In addition, the Commission has adopted a broad range of performance measures and standards and initiated a Performance Assurance Plan designed to create a financial incentive for both, pre-entry and post-entry compliance with section 271.

As a result of the Commission's directives, BellSouth has undertaken the necessary steps to open its local exchange market to competition in Georgia. The FCC has repeatedly stated in its' previous Orders that the most probative evidence to demonstrate that local markets are irreversibly open is commercial usage. The Staff finds that as of July, 2001, competitive local exchange carriers (CLECs) served over 815,000 local lines in BellSouth's Georgia service area. This total includes over 715,000 facilities-based access lines. BellSouth is providing more than 261,000 interconnection trunks and 700 collocation nodes to CLECs. In addition BellSouth is providing more than 228,000 unbundled local loops, including more than 84,000 stand-alone unbundled local loops and more than 144,000 unbundled loops provided as part of an unbundled network element platform (UNE-P). There is also an active resale market in Georgia. BellSouth provides more than 100,000 resold local exchange lines, including 27,000 business lines and 73,000 residential lines. These results bear out the fact that BellSouth has made extensive efforts to open its local markets in compliance with the requirements of the Act.

## STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **Adopt Staff recommendation that BellSouth has met Track A and the 14-point checklist items as prescribed by Section 271 of the Federal Telecom Act of 1996.**
2. **Approve BellSouth's Statement of Generally Available Terms and Conditions ("SGAT").**
3. **Adopt the Third Party Test Final Report findings.**
4. **Staff recommends that BellSouth implement the following OSS upgrades:**
  - a. **Implement by January 5, 2002 a "C" order by which N and D orders complete together in sequence to prevent loss of dial tone. Implement by.**
  - b. **Implement by November 3, 2001 migration by Telephone Number and name.**
  - c. **Implement fully fielded parsed CSRs by January 5, 2002.**
  - d. **Increase reject correction time limit from 10 days to 30 days by November 3, 2001.**
  - e. **Implement by January 5, 2002 electronic ordering for line splitting.**

**For the OSS upgrades listed above, Staff recommends that the Commission assess penalties of \$10,000 per day for every day pass the implementation schedules as spelled out in Staff recommendation.**