



MCI Telecommunications Corporation

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Karen T. Reidy
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JUL 21 1998

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

July 21, 1998

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

ORIGINAL

Re: Ex Parte Submission in CC Docket No. 97-121; CC Docket No. 97-137; CC Docket No. 97-231; CC Docket No. 97-208; CC Docket No. 98-121

Dear Ms. Salas:

On July 21, 1998, MCI submitted the attached cover letter, in addition to the attached letter address to Mr. Scott Schaefer of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., to Jake Jennings of the Common Carrier Bureau.

Two copies of this Notice are being submitted to the Secretary of the FCC in accordance with Section 1.1206(a)(2) of the Commission's rules.

Sincerely,

Karen T. Reidy

Attachments

cc: Jake Jennings



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Jake E. Jennings
Common Carrier Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Jake:

Attached is the letter that I referred to in our previous meeting. It is the letter that CLECs sent BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. regarding the need for BellSouth to support multiple platform versions as it introduces different versions of OSS electronic interfaces.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Reidy".

Karen T. Reidy

Attachment

Monday, April 13, 1998

Scott Schaefer
President – Interconnection Services
BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.
675 West Peachtree Street
Suite 4511
Atlanta, GA 30375

Dear Mr. Schaefer:

BellSouth and representatives from Competitive Local Exchange Carriers (CLECs) continue to meet to establish a joint electronic interface change control process. This CLEC group includes representatives from MCI, Sprint, AT&T, and LCI. There is one component of change control that is beyond the charter of the existing CLEC team that has been examining the change control process. The existing change control process does not address the need for BellSouth to support multiple platforms as it introduces different versions of OSS electronic interfaces.

BellSouth's representatives have stated that BellSouth's position is that it will support multiple platform versions for 90 days following a new version release. MCI, Sprint, AT&T, and LCI do not agree with the current BellSouth position. The transition to new versions of electronic interfaces requires a more formal agreement to govern the necessary support for earlier versions, and is critical to the success of the new joint BellSouth/CLEC change management control process.

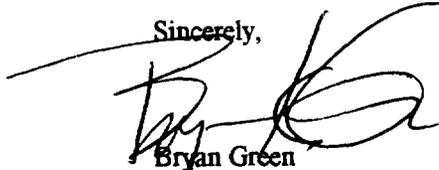
MCI, Sprint, AT&T, and LCI jointly recommend two options in support of the joint change management process when a new electronic interface version is released.

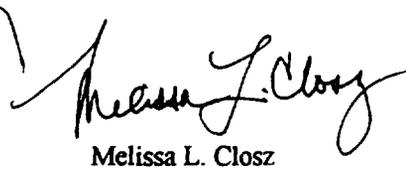
- BellSouth should support the current version and two earlier versions, without an increase in cost to CLECs. As an example, EDI 6.2 and 7.0 would be supported until EDI 8.0 is fully implemented. When 8.0 is fully implemented, support for 6.2 could be withdrawn in 90 days and BellSouth would then support versions 7.0 and 8.0. In the alternative;
- BellSouth would support two current versions of an interface until the last CLEC completes testing of the new version release.

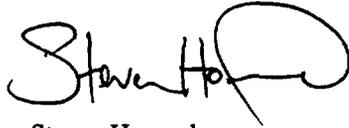
Both recommendations identify the need for flexibility in implementing new versions of electronic interfaces. The change control process, currently under development, addresses how changes are initiated and agreed upon. It does not address the multitude of issues all CLECs encounter when required to implement electronic interface changes. The support of multiple versions provides the flexibility needed to manage the transition to a new version of electronic interfaces.

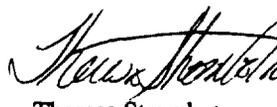
We look forward to your written response by April 30, 1998, specifying how BellSouth plans to address these concerns. We feel that management support for earlier versions are critical to the success of the joint BellSouth/CLEC change control process.

Sincerely,


Bryan Green
Senior Manager - MCI
Southern Financial Operations


Melissa L. Cloz
Director - Sprint
Local MKT DEV/INTRGTN


Steven Howard
District Manager - AT&T
Local Services Division


Theresa Strombotne
Senior Manger - LCI
Local Services