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**BELLSOUTH**

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November 3, 1999

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EX PARTE

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals  
445 12<sup>th</sup> S.W., Room TWB-204  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED  
NOV - 3 1999  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: CC Docket No. 98-147

Dear Ms. Salas:

On September 8, 1999, Bill Stacy, Steve Earnest, and I, representing BellSouth Corporation, met with Commissioner Susan Ness and her legal advisor Linda Kinney to discuss issues related to line sharing and spectrum management. Also attending the meeting and presenting their companies' positions on these issues were representatives of Rhythms Net Connections and BlueStar Communications.

During the meeting we stated BellSouth's position that because it did not meet the impairment standard of Section 251(d)(2), line sharing should not become an unbundled network element, or UNE. Assuming that it would nonetheless be classified as a UNE, we discussed the importance of the Commission's resolving technical issues prior to requiring unbundling of line sharing. We also explained the need for reasonable time to complete modifications to operation support systems (OSS) required for BellSouth to be able to provide such a UNE and presented an estimate of the time and cost required to accomplish this. In particular we explained why provision of ADSL was different from provision of a line sharing UNE. We also noted that Section 252 of the Act vests the states with responsibility for pricing UNEs and expressed concern that if it must provide line sharing as a UNE, BellSouth have an opportunity to recover the costs it would incur to satisfy this mandate.

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In compliance with the Commission's rules, I am filing two copies of this notice and ask that you associate this notification with the proceeding identified above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen B. Levitz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K' and a distinct 'L'.

Kathleen B. Levitz

cc: Commissioner Susan Ness  
Linda Kinney