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August 1, 2001

RECEIVED

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Ex Parte in CC Docket 96-98

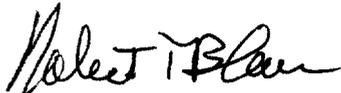
Dear Ms. Salas:

On July 31, 2001 Duane Ackerman, Chairman and CEO of BellSouth, Herschel Abbott and I met with Commissioner Susan Abernathy and her Legal Advisor, Matthew Brill, to discuss the Common Carrier Bureau's commingling proposal. Mr. Ackerman also reviewed the status of BellSouth's various 271 applications.

With regard to the commingling proposal, BellSouth argued that any action that would increase the ability of CLECs to convert special access circuits to unbundled loop/transport combinations would be contrary to the law and sound public policy in large measure because the market for high capacity circuits is highly competitive and, thus, should be deregulated.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(a)(1) of the Commission's rules, we are filing two copies of this notice and that ex parte presentation. Please associate this notification with the record of CC Docket 96-98. Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Attachment

cc: Commissioner Susan Abernathy
Matthew Brill

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