COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

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REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT OF) INFORMATION FILED WITH THE PROPOSED) TARIFF OF SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TELEPHONE) CASE NO. 93-442 COMPANY TO RESTRUCTURE DIRECTORY) ASSISTANCE DATABASE SERVICE)

ORDER

This matter arising upon petition of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a South Central Bell Telephone Company ("South Central Bell"), filed November 22, 1993, pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 7, for confidential protection of the cost support information developed in connection with its proposed tariff for Directory Assistance Database Service on the grounds that disclosure of the information is likely to cause South Central Bell competitive injury and it appearing to this Commission as follows:

South Central Bell proposes to restructure its Directory Assistance Database Service which provides an extract of the white page listing information that will contain the listed name, address, and telephone number fields. The proposed modification will change the way that customers are charged for the service and report the usage to South Central Bell. Customers for this service are competitors of South Central Bell who utilize the database to provide competing directory assistance service. By this petition South Central Bell seeks to protect as confidential the cost data developed in support of the proposed service.

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The information sought to be protected is not known outside South Central Bell and is disseminated within South Central Bell to those employees who have a legitimate business need to know and act upon the information. South Central Bell seeks to preserve and protect the confidentiality of the information through all appropriate means.

KRS 61.872(1) requires information filed with the Commission to be available for public inspection unless specifically exempted by statute. Exemptions from this requirement are provided in KRS 61.878(1). That section of the statute exempts 11 categories of information. One category exempted in subparagraph (c) of that section is commercial information confidentially disclosed to the Commission. To qualify for that exemption, it must be established that disclosure of the information is likely to cause substantial competitive harm to the party from whom the information was obtained. To satisfy this test, the party claiming confidentiality must demonstrate actual competition and a likelihood of substantial competitive injury if the information is disclosed. Competitive injury occurs when disclosure of the information gives competitors an unfair business advantage.

Competitors of South Central Bell could use the information sought to be protected to determine revenues, cost, and contribution levels associated with the service. Competitors could use the information to analyze market potential. Therefore,

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disclosure of the information is likely to cause South Central Bell competitive injury and the information should be protected as confidential.

This Commission being otherwise sufficiently advised,

IT IS ORDERED that the cost information developed in connection with the proposed restructuring of Directory Assistance Database Service, which South Central Bell has petitioned to be withheld from public disclosure, shall be held and retained by this Commission as confidential and shall not be open for public inspection.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 16th day of December, 1993.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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ATTEST:

Executive Director

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