

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.'S)
REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT) CASE NO. 97-054
OF INFORMATION FILED IN SUPPORT OF ITS)
CONTRACT FOR GENERAL ELECTRIC, INC.)

O R D E R

This matter arising upon petition of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth"), filed February 7, 1997, pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 7, for confidential protection of the cost information filed in support of the service contract with General Electric, Inc. ("GE") on the grounds that disclosure of the information is likely to cause BellSouth competitive injury and it appearing to this Commission as follows:

BellSouth has entered into an agreement with GE to provide designated services over a nine state area at a discounted rate in exchange for an annual revenue commitment from GE. The services to be provided are basic business services (including area calling service, business local exchange service, various vertical services and private listings), MultiServSM and MultiServ PLUSSM Service, MegaLink[®] Service, Hunting, ESSX[®] and Digital Essx[®], ISDN, Network Access Registers, PBX trunks and Direct Inward Dialing Service ("DID"), and SynchroNet[®] Service. In support of the contract, BellSouth has provided cost information which it seeks to protect as confidential.

The information sought to be protected is not known outside of BellSouth and is not disseminated within BellSouth except to those employees who have a business need to

know and act upon the information. BellSouth seeks to preserve and protect the confidentiality of the information through all appropriate means.

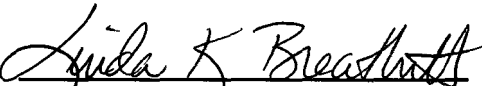
Basic business services, PBX trunks, DID Service, ISDN, Hunting, and Network Access Registers are primarily local exchange services. BellSouth's competitors for local service include alternate access providers and alternate local exchange carriers. BellSouth's competitors for MultiServ and MultiServ PLUS Service, and ESSX and Digital ESSX Service are providers of PBX and other customer premises equipment, as well as other local exchange carriers. Disclosure of the cost information would enable these competitors to determine BellSouth's costs and contributions from the service which they could use in formulating strategic plans for entry, pricing, and marketing and in developing overall business strategies concerning these services. Therefore, disclosure of the information is likely to cause BellSouth competitive injury and the information should be protected as confidential.

This Commission being otherwise sufficiently advised,

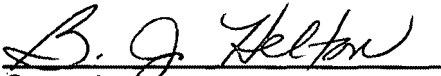
IT IS ORDERED that the cost information filed in support of the contract with GE, which BellSouth has petitioned to be withheld from public disclosure, shall be held and retained by this Commission as confidential and shall not be open for public inspection.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 11th day of March, 1997.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chairman


Vice Chairman


Commissioner

ATTEST:


Executive Director