

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.'S)
REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT)
OF INFORMATION FILED IN SUPPORT OF ITS) CASE NO. 97-131
PROPOSED CONTRACT WITH COMPUSERVE)
INCORPORATED FOR CRISISLINKSM SERVICE)

O R D E R

This matter arising upon petition of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth"), filed March 19, 1997, pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 7, for confidential protection of the cost data filed in support of its proposed contract with CompuServ Incorporated ("CompuServe") for CrisisLinkSM Service 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 contracted with CompuServe to provide CrisisLinkSM Service. CrisisLinkSM is a service that is currently tariffed, but is only available in certain digital central offices. Although this customer's location is served by a digital DMS switch, the switch is not equipped for routing calls to an 800 number, a feature CompuServe needs. In support of its application for the approval of the contract, BellSouth has filed 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 legitimate business

need to know and to act upon the information. BellSouth seeks to preserve and protect the confidentiality of the information through all appropriate means, including the maintenance of appropriate security at its offices.

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 subsection of the statute exempts several categories of information. One category exempted in paragraph (c)1 of that subsection is commercial information confidentially disclosed to the Commission which if made public would permit an unfair commercial advantage to competitors of the party from whom the information was obtained. To qualify for the exemption, 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.

BellSouth's competitors for this service are providers of single number service, including interexchange carriers and other vendors. Disclosure of the information would enable competitors to determine BellSouth's cost and contribution from the service, which they could use in marketing their competing services to the detriment of BellSouth. 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,

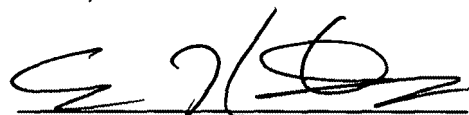
IT IS ORDERED that the cost information filed in support of the proposed contract with CompuServe for CrisisLinkSM Service, which BellSouth has petitioned to be withheld

from public disclosure, shall be held and retained by this Commission as confidential and shall not be opened for public inspection.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 6th day of May, 1997.

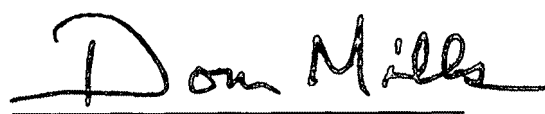
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chairman


Vice Chairman


Commissioner

ATTEST:


Executive Director