

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.'S)
REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT) CASE NO. 97-142
OF INFORMATION FILED IN SUPPORT OF ITS)
CONTRACT FOR ALLIANT HEALTH SYSTEM)

O R D E R

This matter arising upon petition of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth"), filed March 21, 1997, pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 7, for confidential protection of the cost and contribution data filed in support of the Premier Customer Agreement with Alliant Health System ("Alliant") 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 a Premier Customer Agreement with Alliant which will provide designated services at a discounted rate. The services to be provided are basic business services (including Area PLUS® Service, Business local exchange service, Prestige Communications Service, inside wire, and various vertical services), Frame Relay Service, MegaLink® Service, PulseLink® Public Packet Switching Network Service, SynchroNet Service®, ISDN, Business Service, Network Access Registers, PBX trunks, Direct Inward Dialing Service, and Hunting. 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 to act upon the information. BellSouth seeks to preserve and protect the confidentiality of the information through all appropriate means.

BellSouth's competitors for basic business services, PBX trunks, Direct Inward Dialing Service, Hunting, and Network Access Registers are primarily alternate local exchange carriers. MegaLink® Service and SynchroNet Service® are private line services. BellSouth's competitors for private line services are interexchange carriers, competitive access providers, and providers of microwave service, digital radio, and fiber networks. ISDN Business Service is an alternative to other local exchange offerings, private line/data services, and dedicated private line networks. Frame Relay Service competes with similar services offered by providers of competitive private line networks. PulseLink® Service competes with other packet switching services such as SprintNet, AccuNet and CompuServ. Disclosure of the cost information would enable these competitors to determine BellSouth's costs and contribution from the services which they could use in formulating strategic plans for entry, pricing, and marketing, and developing 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 Premier Customer Agreement with Alliant, 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 9th day of May, 1997.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Linda K. Breathitt
Chairman

Edna J. Hines
Vice Chairman

B. J. Helton
Commissioner

ATTEST:

Don Mills
Executive Director