

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.'S)	
REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT)	CASE NO. 97-166
OF INFORMATION FILED IN SUPPORT OF ITS)	
CONTRACT FOR GRIDNET INTERNATIONAL)	

O R D E R

This matter arising upon petition of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth"), filed March 28, 1997, pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 7, for confidential protection of the cost and contribution data filed in support of the Volume and Term Agreement with GridNet International ("GridNet") 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 Volume and Term Agreement with GridNet which will provide designated services at a discounted rate in the nine state BellSouth region. The services to be provided are MegaLink® Channel 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 PBX trunks, Direct Inward Dialing Service, Hunting, and Network Access Registers are primarily alternate local exchange carriers. MegaLink® Channel Service is a private line service. BellSouth's competitors for private line services are interexchange carriers, competitive access providers, and providers of microwave service, digital radio, and fiber networks. 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 Volume and Term Agreement with GridNet, 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 6th day of May, 1997.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Linda K. Breathitt
Chairman

Elmer J. Glass
Vice Chairman

B. J. Helton
Commissioner

ATTEST:

Don Mills
Executive Director