



AT&T Kentucky  
601 W. Chestnut Street  
Room 407  
Louisville, KY 40203

T: 502.582.8219  
F: 502.582.1573  
mary.keyer@att.com

March 31, 2008

**RECEIVED**

**MAR 31 2008**

**PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION**

**VIA HAND-DELIVERY**

Ms. Stephanie L. Stumbo  
Executive Director  
Public Service Commission  
211 Sower Boulevard  
P. O. Box 615  
Frankfort, KY 40602

Re: Petition of the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
To Expand the Funding Base for the Kentucky Telecommunications  
Access Program (TAP)  
PSC 2007-00464

Dear Ms. Stumbo:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned case are the original and ten (10) copies of Comments of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Kentucky and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC, and Cincinnati SMSA Limited Partnership d/b/a AT&T Mobility f/k/a Cingular Wireless.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Mary K. Keyer  
General Counsel-KY

cc: Parties of Record

Enclosures

708126

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

RECEIVED

MAR 31 2008

PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

PETITION OF THE KENTUCKY COMMISSION	)	
ON THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING TO	)	CASE NO.
EXPAND THE FUNDING BASE FOR THE	)	2007-00464
KENTUCKY TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACCESS	)	
PROGRAM (TAP)	)	

COMMENTS OF BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.  
D/B/A AT&T KENTUCKY, AND NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC,  
AND CINCINNATI SMSA LIMITED PARTNERSHIP D/B/A AT&T  
MOBILITY F/K/A CINGULAR WIRELESS

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., d/b/a AT&T Kentucky ("AT&T Kentucky"), and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC, and Cincinnati SMSA Limited Partnership d/b/a AT&T Mobility f/k/a Cingular Wireless ("AT&T Mobility") (collectively, "AT&T"), by counsel, submits its comments pursuant to the Kentucky Public Service Commission's ("Commission") Informal Conference schedule for comments in this docket.

**INTRODUCTION**

On March 17, 2008, the Parties, Commission staff and counsel met for an Informal Conference to discuss the petition of the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing ("KCDHH"). The Parties and Commission staff discussed whether promulgation of an administrative regulation, pursuant to KRS Chapter 13A, would be necessary prior to application of any Telecommunications Relay Service ("TRS") funding mechanism to wireless providers. As part of the discussion of requiring wireless providers to participate in the TRS funding program, the issue arose whether TRS and the Telecommunications Access Program ("TAP") surcharges should be addressed in

one proceeding or in bifurcated proceedings given the possible application of KRS Chapter 13A. The Parties were invited to submit comments concerning both the competitive advantages and disadvantages of assessing the TRS and the TAP surcharges only upon wireline customers and whether the TRS and TAP proceedings should be bifurcated.

## **DISCUSSION**

As presently administered, only incumbent local exchange carriers (“ILECs”) and competitive local exchange carriers (“CLECs”) within the Commission’s jurisdiction are required to collect both surcharges from their retail customers and remit to the Commission the surcharge collections on either a monthly or quarterly basis depending on the number of customers served by each carrier.

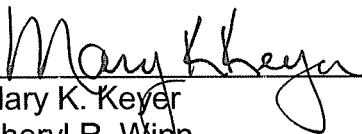
AT&T not only serves wireline customers in Kentucky, but it also has affiliates that serve wireless customers in this Commonwealth. AT&T believes that all telecommunications providers should support both the TRS and TAP programs on an equitable basis that is both competitively and technologically non-discriminatory.

With respect to the bifurcation of the proceedings issue, AT&T does not believe separate proceedings will serve the best interest of the consuming public, the servicing utilities or this Commission. Currently, wireline telecommunications companies bill TRS and TAP surcharges as a single line-item surcharge per access line. Any modification to consumer bills on the TRS/TAP line item may require customer notification and likely result in consumer questions to both the servicing utility and the Commission staff concerning the bill changes. Making piecemeal changes to the TRS/TAP surcharge line item on a customer’s bill creates opportunities for consumer irritation and/or confusion.

Additionally, the servicing utilities will have duplicative, unnecessary administrative expenses in changing the line item twice potentially within a relatively short timeframe. Finally, concurrent or consecutive proceedings on the closely related issues of TRS and TAP funding fails to serve the public's interest in administrative economy and places unnecessary burdens on the budgets of the Commonwealth, interested citizens and the corporate entities involved in the proceedings. AT&T believes one proceeding would better serve the interests of the Parties, the Commission and the public.

AT&T respectfully submits these comments for consideration by the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,



---

Mary K. Keyer  
Cheryl R. Winn  
601 W. Chestnut Street, Room 407  
P. O. Box 32410  
Louisville, KY 40232  
Telephone: 502-582-8219  
[mary.keyer@att.com](mailto:mary.keyer@att.com)  
[cheryl.winn@att.com](mailto:cheryl.winn@att.com)

COUNSEL FOR BELLSOUTH  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.  
d/b/a AT&T KENTUCKY, AND NEW  
CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC, AND  
CINCINNATI SMSA LIMITED  
PARTNERSHIP d/b/a AT&T MOBILITY  
f/k/a CINGULAR WIRELESS

707665

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

It is hereby certified that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served on the following individuals by mailing a copy thereof, this 31st day of March, 2008.

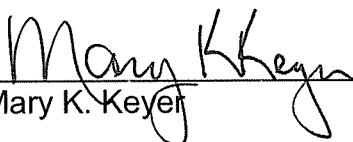
Lawrence W. Cook  
Assistant Attorney General  
Office of the Attorney General  
1024 Capital Center Drive  
Suite 200  
Frankfort, KY 40601-8204

Virginia L. Moore  
Interim Executive Director  
Kentucky Commission on the Deaf  
and Hard of Hearing  
632 Versailles Road  
Frankfort, KY 40601

Douglas F. Brent  
W. Duncan Crosby III  
Stoll Keenon Ogden, PLLC  
2000 PNC Plaza  
500 W. Jefferson Street  
Louisville, KY 40202

Howard Kent Cooper  
Cooper & Associates  
404 Monument Square  
P.O. Box 410  
Jamestown, KY 42629

Bridget L. Dunaway  
Taylor, Keller, Dunaway & Tooms  
1306 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
P. O. Box 905  
London, KY 40743-0905

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary K. Keyer