

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT OF)
INFORMATION FILED WITH BELLSOUTH TELE-)
COMMUNICATIONS, INC.'S PROPOSED TARIFF) CASE NO. 96-090
FOR INTRODUCING A PER USE PRICING OPTION)
FOR TWO TOUCHSTAR FEATURES, CALL RETURN)
AND REPEAT DIALING)

O R D E R

This matter arising upon petition of petition of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth"), filed March 12, 1996, pursuant to 807 KAR 5:001, Section 7, for confidential protection of the cost data filed in support of the proposed tariff introducing a per use pricing option for two TouchStar Service Features, Call Return and Repeat Dialing, 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 filed a tariff which introduces a per use pricing option for two of the TouchStar Features, Call Return and Repeat Dialing. In support of the tariff, 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 act upon the information. BellSouth seeks to preserve and protect the confidentiality of the information through all appropriate means, including the maintenance of 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.

Competitors for TouchStar Service are providers of customer premises equipment and, with the advent of competition, will include other local exchange carriers. The switch-specific costs and demand data in the study would enable competitors to determine how much growth BellSouth expects in demand for the services, which they could use in determining when to begin offering their competing services. Also, the revenue and cost studies contained in the information sought to be protected would enable BellSouth's competitors to determine BellSouth's cost and contribution from the service which they could use when marketing their competing services. Therefore, disclosure of the information is likely to

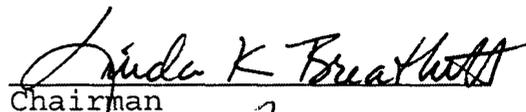
cause BellSouth competitive injury, and the information should be protected as confidential.

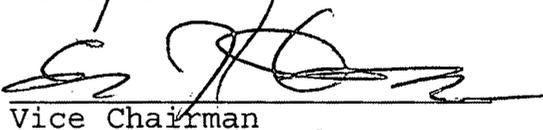
This Commission being otherwise sufficiently advised,

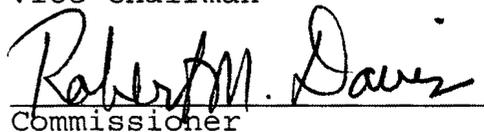
IT IS ORDERED that the cost information filed in support of BellSouth's proposed tariff introducing a per use pricing option for two Touch Star Service Features, Call Return and Repeat Dialing, which BellSouth has petitioned to be withheld from public disclosure, shall be held and retained by this Commission as confidential and shall not be open for public inspection.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 14th day of May, 1996.

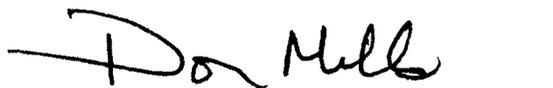
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chairman


Vice Chairman


Commissioner

ATTEST:


Executive Director