

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

INVESTIGATION CONCERNING THE)
PROPRIETY OF PROVISION OF)
INTERLATA SERVICES BY) CASE NO. 96-608
BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS,)
INC. PURSUANT TO THE)
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996)

O R D E R

Section 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("the Act") provides for applications to provide interLATA services by Bell Operating Companies to be filed on a state-by-state basis. The applications are to be filed with the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") and must include a list of the specific agreements on which the applicant bases its application. Before a Bell Operating Company may provide in-region interLATA services, it must show that it has entered into one or more binding agreements that have been approved under Section 252 specifying the terms and conditions under which the company provides access and interconnection to competitors. See Section 271(c)(1)(A). In the alternative, the Bell Operating Company may provide interLATA services if, ten months after the enactment of the Act, request for interconnection has not been made. BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") has received interconnection requests in Kentucky. Consequently, in order to provide in-region interLATA services in Kentucky, BellSouth must comply with Section 271(c)(1)(A) and demonstrate that the requirements of the fourteen-point competitive checklist at Section 271(c)(2)(B) (the "Competitive Checklist") have been met. Before

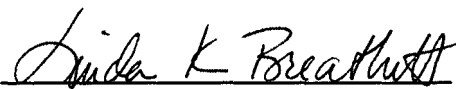
the FCC determines whether these requirements have been met it must, pursuant to Section 271(d)(2)(B) of the Act, consult with the commission of the state for which the application has been filed.

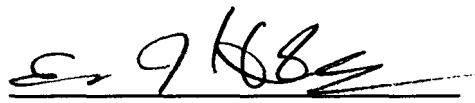
Consequently, this Commission on its own motion hereby initiates this proceeding to compile a record which will enable it to assist the FCC in determining whether BellSouth should be permitted to provide in-region, interLATA services in Kentucky and to ensure that all interested parties will have sufficient time to file any documents or information relevant to BellSouth's compliance with the Competitive Checklist.

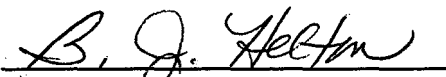
The Commission, being sufficiently advised, HEREBY ORDERS that, not later than 30 days from the date of this Order, BellSouth shall submit a status report with a detailed explanation of the manner in which it believes it has complied with each of the fourteen requirements on the Competitive Checklist.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 20th day of December, 1996.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION


Chairman


Vice Chairman


Commissioner

ATTEST:


Executive Director