

**BONA FIDE REQUEST PROCESS**

- 1.0 Bona Fide Requests are to be used when a CLEC requests a change to any Services and Elements, including any new features, capabilities or functionalities.
- 1.1 A Bona Fide Request shall be submitted in writing by a CLEC and shall specifically identify the required service date, technical requirements, space requirements and/or such specifications that clearly define the request such that BellSouth has sufficient information to analyze and prepare a response. Such a request also shall include a CLEC's designation of the request as being (i) pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996 or (ii) pursuant to the needs of the business.
- 1.2 Although not expected to do so, a CLEC may cancel, without penalty, a Bona Fide Request in writing within three business days of the request. BellSouth will then cease analysis of the request.
- 1.3 Within two (2) business days of its receipt, BellSouth shall acknowledge in writing, the receipt of the Bona Fide Request and identify a single point of contact and any additional information needed to process the request.
- 1.4 Except under extraordinary circumstances, within thirty (30) days of its receipt of a Bona Fide Request, BellSouth shall provide to a CLEC a preliminary analysis of the Bona Fide Request. The preliminary analysis will include BellSouth's proposed price (plus or minus 25 percent) and state whether BellSouth can meet a CLEC's requirements, the requested availability date, or, if BellSouth cannot meet such date, provide an alternative proposed date together with a detailed explanation as to why BellSouth is not able to meet a CLEC's requested availability date. BellSouth also shall indicate in this analysis its agreement or disagreement with a CLEC's designation of the request as being pursuant to the Act or pursuant to the needs of the business. In no event shall any such disagreement delay BellSouth's processing of the request. If BellSouth determines that it is not able to provide a CLEC with a preliminary analysis with thirty (30) days of BellSouth's receipt of a Bona Fide Need request, BellSouth will inform a CLEC as soon as practicable. A CLEC and BellSouth will then determine a mutually agreeable date for receipt of the preliminary analysis.
- 1.5 As soon as possible, but in not event more than ninety (90) days after receipt of the request, BellSouth shall provide a CLEC with a firm Bona Fide Request quote which will include, at a minimum, the firm availability

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date, the applicable rates and the installation intervals, and a binding price quote.

- 1.6 Unless a CLEC agrees otherwise, all proposed prices shall be in accordance with the pricing principles of the Act, and any applicable FCC and Commission rules and regulations.
- 1.7 Within thirty (30) days after receiving the firm Bona Fide Request quote from BellSouth, a CLEC will notify BellSouth in writing of its acceptance or rejection of BellSouth's proposal.

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