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May 9, 2002

Via Electronic Mail

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. Transmittal No. 629

Dear Ms. Dortch:

AT&T Corp. ("AT&T") submits this letter to provide the facts underlying the delayed facsimile receipt of its petition opposing BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s ("BellSouth") Transmittal No. 629. AT&T sincerely regrets any inconvenience the delayed receipt caused Mr. Richard Sbaratta. After investigation, AT&T determined a typographical error in Mr. Sbaratta's fax number on the fax cover sheet caused the delay. (See BellSouth Reply Attachment 1 p.1) AT&T assures the Commission and Mr. Sbaratta that this was an inadvertent mistake.

AT&T attempted to fax its petition to both Mr. Sbaratta and Mr. Whit Jordan at 5:59 PM on May 3, 2002, and was successful at that time in transmitting the petition via fax to Mr. Jordan. However, because of the typographical error, AT&T's fax machine could not establish contact with Mr. Sbaratta's receiving fax machine. AT&T's fax machine made several subsequent attempts over a period exceeding forty-five minutes to connect. AT&T's fax machine ultimately exhausted its allowable attempts and deemed the transmission undeliverable. Unfortunately, the fax machine was no longer attended when the transmission attempts were terminated. On Monday morning, May 6th 2002, upon discovery of the aborted transmission, AT&T facsimile operators identified the error and successfully completed the transmission.

AT&T would like to point out, Mr. Sbaratta's colleague timely received the faxed petition and BellSouth cites no prejudice or other adverse effect from Mr. Sbaratta's late receipt of AT&T's facsimile transmission. BellSouth also timely received WorldCom's petition. The Commission's rules require "[p]etitions seeking investigation, suspension, or rejection of a new or revised tariff filed on 15 days or less notice [to] be served either personally or by facsimile on the filing carrier." 47 C.F.R. § 1.773(a)(4). AT&T did in fact serve the petition "on the filing carrier" by simultaneously faxing the petition to Mr. Jordan. Given these considerations, AT&T submits striking its petition would not be in the public interest. Under the present circumstances, AT&T offers its apologies and requests that the Commission accept its petition.

Respectfully submitted,

James Walter Grudus

CC: Deena Shetler
Judith Nitsche
Tamara Preiss