

access to the signaling transfer point linked to the unbundled database; and (3) Service Management Systems.

17. *Checklist Item 11—Number Portability.* BellSouth does not satisfy the requirements of checklist item (xi). Number portability enables consumers to take their phone number with them when they change local telephone companies. BellSouth does not sufficiently demonstrate that it provides number portability to competing carriers in a reasonable timeframe. A failure to provide timely number portability prevents a customer from receiving incoming calls for a period of time after switching from BellSouth to a competing carrier.

18. *Checklist Item 12—Local Dialing Parity.* BellSouth satisfies the requirements of checklist item (xii). Local dialing parity permits customers to make local calls in the same manner regardless of the identity of their carrier. To fulfill the nondiscrimination obligation in checklist item (xii), BellSouth must establish that customers of another carrier are able to dial the same number of digits to make a local telephone call. In addition, the dialing delay experienced by the customers of another carrier should not be greater than that experienced by customers of BellSouth. This checklist item ensures that consumers are not inconvenienced in how they make calls simply because they subscribe to a carrier other than BellSouth for local telephone service. BellSouth demonstrates that customers of other carriers are able to dial the same number of digits that BellSouth's customers dial to complete a local telephone call, and that these customers do not otherwise suffer inferior quality such as unreasonable dialing delays compared to BellSouth customers.

19. *Checklist Item 13—Reciprocal Compensation.* BellSouth satisfies the requirements of checklist item (xiii). Pursuant to this checklist item, BellSouth must compensate other carriers for the cost of transporting and terminating a local call from BellSouth. Alternatively, BellSouth and the other carrier may enter into an arrangement whereby neither of the two carriers charges the other for terminating local traffic that originates on the other carrier's network. This checklist item is important to ensuring that all carriers that originate calls bear the cost of terminating such calls. BellSouth demonstrates that it has reciprocal compensation arrangements in accordance with section 252(d)(2) in place, and that it is making all required payments in a timely fashion. Louisiana has not reached a final determination on the issue of a BOC's obligation to pay

reciprocal compensation for traffic delivered to Internet service providers (ISPs). We do not, at this time, consider BellSouth's unwillingness to pay reciprocal compensation for traffic that is delivered to ISPs located within the same local calling area as the originating BellSouth end user in assessing whether BellSouth satisfies this checklist item. Any future grant of in-region interLATA authority under section 271 will be conditioned on compliance with decisions relating to Internet traffic in Louisiana.

20. *Checklist Item 14—Resale.* BellSouth does not satisfy the requirements of checklist item (xiv). This checklist item requires BellSouth to offer other carriers all of its retail services at wholesale rates without unreasonable or discriminatory conditions or limitations such that other carriers may resell those services to an end user. This checklist item ensures a mode of entry into the local market for carriers that have not deployed their own facilities. BellSouth demonstrates that it offers all of its retail services for resale at wholesale rates without unreasonable or discriminatory conditions or limitations. BellSouth, however, does not show that it provides nondiscriminatory access to operations support systems for the resale of its retail telecommunications services.

21. *Section 272 Compliance.* Although BellSouth has undertaken significant efforts to institute policies and procedures to ensure compliance with section 272, it does not meet all section 272 requirements. In particular, it does not disclose all transactions with its section 272 affiliate, which means its affiliate has superior access to information about these transactions than unaffiliated entities. In addition, it does not provide nondiscriminatory access to its operations support systems, and thereby discriminates in its provision of information to unaffiliated entities.

22. *Public Interest Standard.* We reaffirm the Commission's prior conclusion that it has broad discretion to identify and to weigh all relevant factors in determining whether BOC entry into a particular in-region, interLATA market is consistent with the public interest. We reaffirm the Commission's prior conclusion that we consider as part of our public interest inquiry whether approval of a section 271 application will foster competition in all relevant markets, including the local exchange market, not just the in-region, interLATA market.

23. In assessing whether the public interest will be served by granting a reciprocal application, we will consider

and balance a variety of factors in each case. For example, we would consider a BOC's agreement to submit to enforcement mechanisms in the event it falls out of compliance with agreed upon performance standards.

Federal Communications Commission.

Magalie Roman Salas,
Secretary.

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY: Federal Election Commission.

DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, October 27, 1998 at 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: 999 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

STATUS: This meeting will be closed to the public.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Compliance matters pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 437g.

Audits conducted pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 437g, 438(b), and Title 26, U.S.C.

Matters concerning participation in civil actions or proceedings or arbitration.

Internal personnel rules and procedures or matters affecting a particular employee.

DATE AND TIME: Thursday, October 29, 1998 at 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: 999 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (Ninth Floor).

STATUS: This meeting will be open to the public.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Correction and Approval of Minutes. Advisory Opinion 1998-20: Dr.

Lenora B. Fulani and Lenora B. Fulani for President by counsel, Arthur R. Block.

Advisory Opinion 1998-21: National Republican Senatorial Committee by counsel, Craig M. Engle.

Advisory Opinion 1998-24: American Heritage Party by counsel, William J. Olson (tentative).

Public Financing of Presidential Primary and General Election Candidates: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

Administrative Matters.

PERSON TO CONTACT FOR INFORMATION: Ron Harris, Press Officer, Telephone: (202) 694-1220.

Marjorie W. Emmons,
Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 98-28518 Filed 10-20-98; 3:51 pm]

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