
BellSouth Interconnection Services

675 West Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30375

Carrier Notification**SN91082723**

Date: February 12, 2003

To: Competitive Local Exchange Carriers (CLEC)

Subject: CLECs – **REVISED** – Announcement of Billing Initiatives for Operational Support System (OSS) Charges; and Announcement of a BellSouth Web Site Link for Viewing Bill Detail Associated with these Initiatives (Latest revision dated December 20, 2002)

On November 13, 2001, BellSouth advised that it planned to proceed with the initial billing of OSS charges in two separate circumstances. The billing of these charges was scheduled initially to complete in January 2002. The initial billing of charges for item number 2 below completed in January 2002. However, the billing for item number 1 was delayed and has since been completed during the fourth quarter of 2002. **Subsequently, BellSouth has identified billing inaccuracies with item number 1, “Billing Initiative B”, which warrants adjustments as appropriate.** Similarly, a third and fourth circumstance had arisen meriting the need for respective initial billing efforts. Item numbers 3 and 4 below are now completed and have been processed in the fourth quarter of 2002.

The billing of initiatives numbered 1, 3 and 4 will only apply to those CLECs for which OSS charges were not applied previously or were not applied in full to a CLEC’s bill either due to system needs or renegotiations of a CLEC’s Interconnection Agreement. OSS charges will only be applied in accordance with the terms of the CLEC’s Interconnection Agreement with BellSouth and in accordance with the statute of limitations applicable within each state.

1. “Incremental Manual Service Order Charges - Unbundled Network Elements (UNE)”: Billing will apply to any CLEC for which a state commission has ordered OSS cost recovery for manually submitted orders on a per element basis and where the CLEC’s Interconnection Agreement stipulates that OSS charges are to be billed at the per element rates. This means that if a CLEC ordered multiple elements on a single service order, “First” and “Additional” manual service order charges would be applicable according to the total number of elements ordered by the CLEC. (Example: For the manual OSS Uniform Service Ordering Charge (USOC) of “SOMAN”, a service order with three loops would have one “First” SOMAN charge and two “Additional” SOMAN charges.) CLECs’ Interconnection Agreements that contain or have contained the “per element” structure for manual service order charges are potentially subject to this billing. This item is **“Billing Initiative B”** per the announcement below of a BellSouth Web Link for viewing bill detail.

2. “Canceled Local Service Requests (LSR)”: Where appropriate contract language exists, BellSouth bills CLECs for OSS charges for ordering activity that results in a canceled LSR. This phase was implemented in January 2002, for non-CABS (Carrier Access Billing System) customers. This item is **“Billing Initiative A”**.

3. "Reqtype-C UNE Orders": Billing will apply to any CLEC who has submitted orders for retype C, **local number portability (LNP) without loops** wherein OSS charges had not previously been applied. BellSouth had not applied the OSS charge during the ordering process for LSRs submitted for reqtype-C orders. This item is "**Billing Initiative C**".

4. "Canceled Local Service Requests (LSR)": Where appropriate contract language exists, BellSouth will bill CLECs for OSS charges for ordering activity that results in a canceled LSR where such LSRs were not previously billed for non-CABS customers. This item is "**Billing Initiative E**".

For any of the above billing initiatives, a review of past LSR submission activity and the resulting charges related to such activity of any of the initiatives has been conducted retroactive to June 2000, contingent upon state statute of limitations. Where appropriate contract language exists, for those CLECs affected, BellSouth will show these charges in the Other Charges and Credits (OC&C) section of the bill. Charges appeared on the bills of those affected CLECs during the fourth quarter of 2002. No interest will be applied to these charges.

Announcement of a BellSouth Web Link for Viewing Bill Detail Associated with these Billing Initiatives

Given that the charges related to the above-described billing initiatives will generally appear as summed charges in the CLEC's OC&C of its bill, BellSouth has created a new link within the BellSouth Interconnection Services' Web site that will enable affected CLECs to obtain the billing detail behind the summed charges for each respective billing initiative. Additionally, this Web site link will be useful for viewing bill detail for other special billing initiatives for UNE products and for Resale. The link will be available as of Tuesday, October 1, 2002, in the BellSouth Interconnection Services' Billing Section located at:

<http://www.interconnection.bellsouth.com/products/html/billing.html>

Once in the Billing Section, select "Special Billing Initiatives." CLEC specific bill detail is only accessible through this link by entering the CLEC's username and password. Only CLECs who are impacted by the above-mentioned billing initiatives will be able to obtain the username and password for this Web site link as of October 1, 2002, by contacting the BellSouth Electronic Commerce (EC) Support Group at 1-888-462-8030, Monday through Friday, from 7:00 AM until 6:00 PM Central Time. Only one username and password will be available per CLEC contract. At the time of deployment of this Web site link, the link will be set up to provide access to bill detail for five special billing initiatives. Not all CLECs will be affected by each of these initiatives. An initiative will be populated with an excel file of bill detail only if the CLEC is affected by that particular initiative. The five initiatives available for viewing bill detail are:

- Initiative A: OSS – Cancelled LSR (Non-CABS Monthly Billing)
- Initiative B: OSS – Per Element
- Initiative C: OSS – Reqtype C (LNP)
- Initiative D: UNEP – Market Rate Billing
- Initiative E: OSS – Cancelled LSR (Non-CABS Billing)

For any disputes related to billing charges appearing on a CLEC's bill or the associated backup bill detail via the Web site link, CLECs should contact BellSouth Billing & Collections and follow

the standard process for handling billing disputes per the terms of the CLEC's interconnection agreement.

Please contact BellSouth Billing & Collections with any questions.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY JERRY HENDRIX

Jerry Hendrix – Assistant Vice President
BellSouth Interconnection Services