



*Erik Cecil, Regulatory Counsel
Level 3 Communications, LLC
1025 Eldorado Boulevard
Broomfield, CO 80021
(720) 888-1319
(720) 888-5134 (Fax)*

July 6, 2004

Legal Department

Nicola Erbe, Esq.
SBC Telecommunications, Inc.
140 New Montgomery Street
Room 1530A
San Francisco, CA 94105

RE: Level 3 Communications, LLC Request for Interconnection Negotiations Pursuant to Section 252(a)(1) of the Act for commencement of interconnection negotiations under Section 251 of the Act.

Dear Ms. Erbe:

On June 30, 2004, Level 3 Communications, LLC ("Level 3") voluntarily withdrew its Petition for Arbitration Pursuant to Section 252(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, to establish an Interconnection Agreement with the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, L.P. d/b/a SBC Missouri after having been advised by the Missouri Public Service Commission that it would follow earlier precedents dismissing Petitions for Arbitration based upon a theory that the Commission somehow lacks "subject matter jurisdiction" over a Section 252(b) arbitration if the parties have voluntarily extended the negotiation period and the 135-160 day "window" for requesting arbitration provided for in the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the "Act") and dismiss Level 3's petition.

Accordingly, Level 3 provides this notice and formally requests that SBC Communications, Inc. begin good faith negotiations under Sections 251 and 252 of the Act directed toward reaching a mutually agreeable interconnection arrangement in the State of Missouri. Level 3 specifically makes this request pursuant to Section 252(a)(1) of the Act.

Level 3 notes that, pursuant to Section 5 of the General Terms and Conditions of its current interconnection agreement with SBC Missouri, the terms of that agreement continue in effect until such time as the Parties have negotiated a new agreement (and received Commission approval), or the Commission has acted upon a request for arbitration, and the arbitrated agreement is filed and approved by the Commission. As such, Level 3 expects that both Level 3 and SBC Missouri will continue to honor the terms of the current interconnection agreement according to those terms.

The main company contact is:

Mr. Rick Thayer, Director – Intercarrier Policy
Level 3 Communications, LLC
1025 Eldorado Boulevard
Broomfield CO 80021
(720) 888-2620.

Please initiate the internal process within SBC that will facilitate this request. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Please respond to this letter with your acknowledgement of receipt so that we may establish a date upon which negotiations have begun.

Sincerely,

Erik Cecil