

Hughes Reply Affidavit – Attachment C



News Media Report

K.C. Business Journal

9/25/01

Birch offers residential customers local, long-distance in Southeast

Kansas City-based Birch Telecom has announced that it now offers local and long-distance service to residential customers in the southeastern markets where it serves small to mid-sized businesses. Birch launched residential service in Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Texas earlier in the year.

New residential markets in BellSouth territory:

- Alabama -- Birmingham, Mobile and Montgomery
- Georgia -- Atlanta and Augusta
- North Carolina -- Charlotte/Gastonia and Greensboro/Winston-Salem
- South Carolina -- Charleston, Columbia and Greenville/Spartanburg
- Tennessee -- Chattanooga, Knoxville, Memphis and Nashville