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*This tariff, FCC No. 3, cancels and replaces FCC No. 2 in its entirety.*

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TITLE PAGE

ACCESS SERVICES TARIFF

OF

**FIRST COMMUNICATIONS, LLC**

This tariff contains the descriptions, regulations, and rates applicable to the furnishing of service and facilities for telecommunications services provided by First Communications, LLC. This tariff is on file with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Copies may be inspected during normal business hours at the Company's principal place of business at 3340 West Market Street, Akron, Ohio 44333.

*This tariff, FCC No. 3, cancels and replaces FCC No. 2 in its entirety.*

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Effective: November 5, 2005

Issued by:

Joseph R. Morris, COO  
First Communications, LLC  
3340 West Market Street  
Akron, OH 44333

**CHECK SHEET**

Sheets of this tariff are effective as of the date shown at the bottom of the respective sheet(s). Original and revised sheets as named below comprise all changes from the original tariff and are currently in effect as of the date on the bottom of this page.

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6	Original	47	Original	85	Original
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8	Original	49	Original	87	First Revised
9	Original	50	Original	88	Original
10	Original	51	Original	88.1	First*
11	Original	52	Original	89	Original
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37	Original	75	First Revised		
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39	Original	77	Original		
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**SYMBOLS**

The following are the only symbols used for the purposes indicated below:

**D** - Delete or discontinue.

**I** - Change resulting in an increase to a Customer's bill.

**M** - Moved from another tariff location.

**N** - New.

**R** - Change resulting in a reduction to a Customer's bill.

**T** - Change in text or regulation but no change in rate or charge.

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**TARIFF FORMAT**

**A. Sheet Numbering** - Sheet numbers appear in the upper right corner of the page. Sheets are numbered sequentially. However, new sheets are occasionally added to the tariff. When a new sheet is added between sheets already in effect, a decimal is added. For example, a new sheet added between sheets 14 and 15 would be 14.1.

**B. Sheet Revision Numbers** - Revision numbers also appear in the upper right corner of each page. These numbers are used to determine the most current sheet version on file with the FCC. For example, the 4th revised Sheet 14 cancels the 3rd revised Sheet 14. Because of various suspension periods, deferrals, etc. the FCC follows in its tariff approval process, the most current sheet number on file with the FCC is not always the tariff page in effect. Consult the Check Sheet for the sheet currently in effect.

**C. Paragraph Numbering Sequence** - There are nine levels of paragraph coding. Each level of coding is subservient to the next higher level:

2.  
2.1  
2.1.1  
2.1.1.A.  
2.1.1.A.1.  
2.1.1.A.1.(a)  
2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.  
2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i).  
2.1.1.A.1.(a).I.(i).(1).

**D. Check Sheets** - When a tariff filing is made with the FCC, an updated Check Sheet accompanies the tariff filing. The Check Sheet lists the sheets contained in the tariff, with a cross-reference to the current revision number. When new pages are added, the Check Sheet is changed to reflect the revision. All revisions made in a given filing are designated by an asterisk (\*). There will be no other symbols used on this page if these are the only changes made to it (i.e., the format, etc. remain the same, just revised revision levels on some pages.) The tariff user should refer to the latest Check Sheet to find out if a particular sheet is the most current on file with the FCC.

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**SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS**

Certain terms used generally throughout this tariff for the Access Services of this Company are defined below.

**Access Code:** A uniform seven digit code assigned by the Company to an individual Customer. The seven digit code has the form 950-XXXX or 101XXXX.

**Access Service:** Switched Access to the network of an Interexchange Carrier for the purpose of originating or terminating communications.

**Access Service Request (ASR):** The industry service order format used by Access Service Customers and access providers as agreed to by the Ordering and Billing Forum.

**Access Tandem:** An Exchange Carrier's switching system that provides a concentration and distribution function for originating or terminating traffic between local switching centers and Customers' premises.

**Authorized User:** A person, firm, corporation or other entity that either is authorized by the Customer to use Access Services or is placed in a position by the Customer, either through acts or omissions, to use Access Services.

**Carrier or Common Carrier:** See Interexchange Carrier or Exchange Carrier.

**Co-Carrier:** Any other Telecommunications provider authorized by the Commission to provide local exchange service in the state.

**Common Channel Signaling (CCS):** A high-speed packet switched communications network which is separate (out of band) from the public packet switched and message networks. It is used to carry addressed signaling messages for individual trunk circuits and/or database related services between signaling points in the CCS network.

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**SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS (CONT' D)**

**Company:** Talk America Inc., unless otherwise clearly indicated in this Tariff.

**Customer:** The person, firm, corporation or other entity which orders Service and is responsible for the payment of charges and for compliance with the Company's tariff regulations. The Customer could be an interexchange carrier, a wireless provider, or any other carrier authorized to operate in the state.

**800 Data Base Access Service:** The term "800 Data Base Access Service" denotes a toll-free originating Trunkside Access Service when the 8XX Service Access Code (i.e., 800, 822, 833, 844, 855, 866, 877, or 888 as available) is used. The term 8XX is used interchangeably with 800 Data Base Service throughout this Tariff to describe this service.

**End User:** Any individual, association, corporation, governmental agency or any other entity other than an Interexchange Carrier which subscribes to intrastate service provided by an Exchange Carrier.

**Entrance Facility:** A trunk facility connecting the Customer's point of presence with the local switching center.

**Exchange Carrier:** Any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged in the provision of local exchange telephone service.

**Firm Order Confirmation (FOC):** Acknowledgment by the Company of receipt of an Access Service Request from the Customer and commitment by the Company of a Service Date.

**Individual Case Basis:** A service arrangement in which the regulations, rates and charges are developed based on the specific circumstances of the Customer's situation.

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**SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS (CONT' D)**

**Interexchange Carrier (IXC) or Interexchange Common Carrier:** Any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged in state or foreign communication for hire by wire or radio, between two or more exchanges.

**LATA:** A local access and transport area established pursuant to the Modification of Final Judgment entered by the United States District Court for the District of Columbia in Civil Action No. 82-0192 for the provision and administration of communications services.

**Line Information Data Base (LIDB):** The data base which contains base information such as telephone numbers, calling card numbers and associated billed number restriction data used in connection with the validation and billing of calls.

**Local Access:** The connection between a Customer's premises and a point of presence of the Exchange Carrier.

**Local Switching Center:** The switching center where telephone exchange service Customer station Channels are terminated for purposes of interconnection to each other and to interoffice Trunks.

**Meet Point:** A point of interconnection that is not an end office or tandem.

**Meet Point Billing:** The arrangement through which multiple Exchange Carriers involved in providing Access Services, divide the ordering, rating, and billing of such services on a proportional basis, so that each Exchange Carrier involved in providing a portion of the Access Service agrees to bill under its respective tariff.

**Mobile Telephone Switching Office:** Location where the wireless Customer maintains a facility for purposes of interconnecting to the Company's Network.

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**SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS (CONT' D)**

**Mutual Traffic Exchange:** A compensation arrangement between certified local exchange service providers where local exchange service providers pay each other "in kind" for terminating local exchange traffic on the other's network.

**Network Services:** The Company's telecommunications Access Services offered on the Company's Network.

**Non-Recurring Charges:** The one-time initial charges for services or facilities, including but not limited to charges for construction, installation, or special fees, for which the Customer becomes liable at the time the Service Order is executed.

**Off-Hook:** The active condition of Switched Access or a telephone exchange service line.

**On-Hook:** The idle condition of switched access or a telephone exchange service line.

**Out of Band Signaling:** An exchange access signaling feature which allows Customers to exchange call control and signaling information over a communications path which is separate from the message path.

**Point of Presence:** Location where the Customer maintains a facility for purposes of interconnecting to the Company's Network.

**Premises:** The space occupied by a Customer or Authorized User in a building or buildings or on contiguous property (except railroad rights-of-way, etc.).

**Presubscription:** An arrangement whereby an End User may select and designate to the Company an Interexchange Carrier (IXC) or Carriers it wishes to access, without an Access Code, for completing both intraLATA toll calls and/or interLATA calls. The selected IXC(s) are referred to as the End User's Primary Interexchange Carrier (PIC).

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**SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS (CONT' D)**

**Recurring Charges:** The monthly charges to the Customer for services, facilities and equipment, which continue for the agreed upon duration of the service.

**Service Order:** The written request for Network Services executed by the Customer and the Company in a format devised by the Company; or, in the alternative, the submission of an Access Service Request by the Customer in the manner specified in this tariff.

**Service(s):** The Company's telecommunications Access Services offered on the Company's Network.

**Signaling Point of Interface:** The Customer designated location where the SS7 signaling information is exchanged between the Company and the Customer.

**Signaling System 7 (SS7):** The common Channel Out of Band Signaling protocol developed by the Consultative Committee for International Telephone and Telegraph (CCITT) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

**Switched Access Service:** Access to the switched network of an Exchange Carrier for the purpose of originating or terminating communications. Switched Access is available to carriers, as defined in this tariff.

**Trunk:** A communications path connecting two switching systems in a network, used in the establishment of an end-to-end connection.

**Wireless Provider:** Any carrier authorized to operate as a provider of cellular, personal communications, paging or any other form of wireless transmission.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS****2.1 Undertaking of Company****2.1.1 Scope**

The Company's services offered pursuant to this Tariff are furnished for Switched Access Service. The Company may offer these services over its own or leased facilities.

The Company installs, operates, and maintains the communications services provided herein in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth under this Tariff. The Company may act as the Customer's agent for ordering access connection facilities provided by other carriers or entities as required in the Commission's rules and orders, when authorized by the Customer, to allow connection of a Customer's location to the Company network. The Customer shall be responsible for all charges due for such service agreement.

The Company's services and facilities are provided on a monthly basis unless otherwise indicated, and are available twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week.

**2.1.2 Shortage of Equipment or Facilities**

- A. The Company reserves the right to limit or to allocate the use of existing facilities, or of additional facilities offered by the Company when necessary because of lack of facilities or due to some other cause beyond the Company's control.
- B. The furnishing of service under this tariff is subject to the availability on a continuing basis of all the necessary facilities and is limited to the capacity of the Company's facilities as well as facilities the company may obtain from other Carriers from time to time, to furnish service as required at the sole discretion of the Company.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)**

**2.1 Undertaking of Company (cont' d)**

**2.1.2 Shortage of Equipment or Facilities (cont' d)**

- C. The provisioning and restoration of service in emergencies shall be in accordance with Part 64, Subpart D, Appendix A of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules and Regulations, which specifies the priority system for such activities.

**2.1.3 Terms and Conditions**

- A. Except as otherwise provided herein, service is provided and billed on the basis of a minimum period of at least one month, and shall continue to be provided until canceled by the Customer, in writing, on not less than 30 days notice. Unless otherwise specified herein, for the purpose of computing charges in this tariff, a month is considered to have 30 days.
- B. The Customer agrees to operate Company-provided equipment in accordance with instructions of the Company or the Company's agent. Failure to do so will void Company liability for interruption of service and may make the Customer responsible for damage to equipment pursuant to section 2.1.3.C below.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.1 Undertaking of Company (cont' d)****2.1.3 Terms and Conditions (cont' d)**

- C. The Customer agrees to return to the Company all Company-provided equipment delivered to Customer within five (5) days of termination of the service in connection with which the equipment was used. Said equipment shall be in the same condition as when delivered to Customer, normal wear and tear only excepted. Customer shall reimburse the Company, upon demand, for any costs incurred by the Company due to Customer's failure to comply with this provision.

**2.1.4 Liability of the Company**

- A. The liability of the Company for damages arising out of the furnishing of its Services, including but not limited to mistakes, omissions, interruptions, delays, errors, other defects, or representations by the Company, or use of these services or damages arising out of the failure to furnish the service whether caused by act or omission, shall be limited to the extension of allowances for interruption as set forth in 2.6 below. The extension of such allowances for interruption shall be the sole remedy of the Customer and the sole liability of the Company. The Company will not be liable for any direct, indirect, incidental, special, consequential, exemplary or punitive damages to Customer as a result of any Company service, equipment or facilities, or the acts or omissions or negligence of the Company's employees or agents.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)**

**2.1 Undertaking of Company (cont' d)**

**2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont' d)**

- B. The Company's liability for willful misconduct, if established as a result of judicial or administrative proceedings, is not limited by this tariff. With respect to any other claim or suit, by a Customer or by any others, for damages associated with the ordering, installation (including delays thereof), provision, termination, maintenance, repair interruption or restoration of any service or facilities offered under this tariff, and subject to the provisions of the Company's liability, if any, shall be limited as provided herein.
  
- C. The Company shall not be liable for any delay or failure of performance or equipment due to causes beyond its control, including but not limited to: acts of God, fire, flood, explosion or other catastrophes; any law, order, regulation, direction action, or request of The United States government or of any other government, including state and local governments having or claiming jurisdiction over the Company, or of any department, agency, commission, bureau, corporation, or other instrumentality of any one or more of these federal, state, or local governments, or of any military authority; preemption of existing service in compliance with national emergencies; insurrections; riots; wars; unavailability of rights-of-way or materials; or strikes, lockouts work stoppages, or other labor difficulties.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)**

**2.1 Undertaking of Company (cont' d)**

**2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont' d)**

- D. The Company shall not be liable for (a) any act or omission of any entity furnishing the Company or the Company's Customers facilities or equipment used for the interconnection with Access Services; or (b) for the acts or omissions of other Common Carriers.
- E. The Company shall not be liable for any damages or losses due to the fault or negligence of the Customer or due to the failure or malfunction of Customer-provided equipment or facilities.
- F. The Customer shall indemnify and hold the Company harmless from any and all loss, claims, demands, suits, or other actions, or any liability whatsoever, whether suffered, made, instituted, or asserted by any other party or person(s), and for any loss, damage, or destruction of any property, whether owned by the Customer or others, caused or claimed to have been caused directly or indirectly by the installation, operation, failure to operate, maintenance, removal, condition, location, or use of any installation or equipment provided by the Company. The Company reserves the right to require each Customer to sign an agreement acknowledging acceptance of the provisions of this Section 2.1.4.F as a condition precedent to such installations.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.1 Undertaking of Company (cont' d)****2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont' d)**

- G. The Company shall not be liable for any defacement of or damage to Customers Premises resulting from the furnishing of services or equipment on such Premises or the installation or removal thereof, unless such defacement or damage is caused by the gross negligence or willful misconduct of the Company's agents or employees. No agents or employees of other participating Carriers shall be deemed to be agents or employees' of the Company.
- H. Notwithstanding the Customer's obligations as set forth in Section 2.3 below, the Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the Customer, or by others authorized by it to use the service, against any claim, loss or damage arising from Customer's use of services furnished under this tariff, including: claims for libel, slander, invasion of privacy or infringement of copyright arising from the material, data, information, or other content transmitted via the Company's service; and patent infringement claims arising from combining or connecting the service offered by the Company with apparatus and systems of the Customer or others; all other claims arising out of any act or omission of the Customer or others, in connection with any service provided by the Company pursuant to this tariff.
- I. The Company shall be indemnified and held harmless by the End User against any claim, loss or damage arising from the End User's use of services offered under this tariff including: claims for libel, slander, invasion of privacy or infringement of copyright arising from the End User's own communications; patent infringement claims arising.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)**

**2.1 Undertaking of Company (cont' d)**

**2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont' d)**

I. (cont' d)

from the End User's combining or connecting the service offered by the Company with facilities or equipment furnished by the End User of another Interexchange Carrier; or all other claims arising out of any act or omission of the End User in connection with any service provided pursuant to this tariff.

J. The entire liability of the Company for any claim, loss, damage or expense from any cause whatsoever shall in no event exceed sums actually paid to the Company by the Customer for the specific services giving rise to the claim, and no action or proceeding against the Company shall be commenced more than one year after the service is rendered.

K. The Company makes no warranties or representation, express or implied, including warranties or merchant's ability or fitness for a particular use, except those expressly set forth herein.

L. The Company does not guarantee nor make any warranty with respect to service installations at locations at which there is present an atmosphere that is explosive, prone to fire, dangerous or otherwise unsuitable for such installations.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.1 Undertaking of Company (cont' d)****2.1.4 Liability of the Company (cont' d)**

- M. The Company shall not be liable for the Customer's failure to fulfill its obligations to take all necessary steps including, without limitation, obtaining, installing and maintaining all necessary equipment, materials and supplies, for interconnecting the terminal equipment or communications system of the Customer, or any third party acting as its agent, to the Company's Network. The Customer shall secure all licenses, permits, rights-of-way, and other arrangements necessary for such interconnection. In addition, the Customer shall ensure that its equipment and/or system or that of its agent is properly interfaced with the Company's service, that the signals emitted into the Company's Network are of the proper mode, bandwidth, power, data speed, and signal level for the intended use of the Customer and in compliance with the criteria set forth in Section 2.1.6 following, and that the signals do not damage Company equipment, injure its personnel or degrade service to other Customers. If the Customer or its agent fails to maintain and operate its equipment and/or system or that of its agent properly, with resulting imminent harm to Company equipment, personnel, or the quality of service to other Customers, the Company, may, upon written notice, require the use of protective equipment at the Customer's expense. If this fails to produce satisfactory quality and safety, the Company may, upon written notice, terminate the Customer's service without liability.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.1 Undertaking of Company (cont' d)****2.1.5 Notification of Service-Affecting Activities**

The Company will provide the Customer reasonable notification of service-affecting activities that may occur in normal operation of its business. Such activities may include, but are not limited to, equipment or facilities additions, removals or rearrangements and routine preventative maintenance. Generally, such activities are not specific to an individual Customer but affect many Customers' services. No specific advance notification period is applicable to all service activities. The Company will work cooperatively with the Customer to determine the reasonable, notification requirements. With some emergency or unplanned service-affecting conditions, such as an outage resulting from cable damage, notification to the Customer may not be possible.

**2.1.6 Provisions of Equipment and Facilities**

- A. The Company shall use reasonable efforts to make available services to a Customer on or before a particular date, subject to the provisions of and compliance by the Customer with, the regulations contained in this tariff. The Company does not guarantee availability by any such date and shall not be liable for any delays in commencing service to any Customer.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)**

**2.1 Undertaking of Company (cont' d)**

**2.1.6 Provisions of Equipment and Facilities, (cont' d)**

- B. The Company shall use reasonable efforts to maintain facilities and equipment that it furnishes to the Customer. The Customer may not, nor may the Customer permit others to, rearrange, disconnect, remove, attempt to repair or otherwise interfere with any of the facilities or equipment installed by the Company, except upon the written consent of the Company.
- C. The Company may substitute, change or rearrange any equipment or facility at any time and from time to time, but shall not thereby alter the technical parameters of the service provided the Customer.
- D. Equipment the Company provides or installs at the Customer Premises for use in connection with the services the Company offers shall not be used for any purpose other than that for which the Company provided it.
- E. The Customer shall be responsible for the payment of service charges imposed on the Company by another entity, for visits to the Customer Premises when the service difficulty or trouble report results from the use of equipment or facilities provided by any party other than the Company, including but not limited to the Customer.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.1 Undertaking of Company (cont' d)****2.1.6 Provisions of Equipment and Facilities (cont' d)**

- F. The Company shall not be responsible for the installation, operation, or maintenance of any Customer provided communications equipment. Where such equipment is connected to the facilities furnished pursuant to this tariff, the responsibility of the Company shall be limited to the furnishing of facilities offered under this tariff and to the maintenance and operation of such facilities. Notwithstanding the above, the Company shall not be responsible for:
1. the transmission of signals by Customer-provided equipment or for the quality of, or defects in, such transmission;
  2. the reception of signals by Customer-provided equipment; or
  3. network control signaling where such signaling is performed by Customer provided network control signaling equipment.
- G. The Company intends to work cooperatively with the Customer to develop network contingency plans in order to maintain maximum network capability following natural or man-made disasters which affect telecommunications services.
- H. The Company reserves the reasonable right to assign, designate or change telephone numbers, any other call number designations associated with Access Services, or the Company serving central office prefixes associated with such numbers, when necessary in the conduct of its business.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.1 Undertaking of Company (cont' d)****2.1.7 Non-routine Installation**

At the Customer's request, installation and/or maintenance may be performed outside the Company's regular business hours or in unusual locations. In such cases, charges based on cost of the actual labor, material, or other costs incurred by or charged to the Company will apply. If installation is started during regular business hours but, at the Customer's request, extends beyond regular business hours into time periods including, but not limited to, weekends, holidays, and/or night hours, additional charges may apply.

**2.1.8 Special Construction**

Subject to the arrangement of the Company and to all of the regulations contained in this tariff, special construction of facilities may be undertaken on a reasonable efforts basis at the request of the Customer. Special construction is that construction undertaken and characterized by one or more of the following:

- A. where facilities are not presently available and there is no other requirement for the facilities so constructed;
- B. of a type other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its services;
- C. where facilities are to be installed over a route other than that which the Company would normally utilize in the furnishing of its services;
- D. where facilities are requested in a quantity greater than that which the Company would normally construct;
- E. where installation is on an expedited basis;

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)**

**2.1 Undertaking of Company (cont' d)**

**2.1.8 Special Construction (cont' d)**

- F. on a temporary basis until permanent facilities are available;
- G. installation involving abnormal costs; or
- H. in advance of its normal construction schedules.

Special construction charges for Switched Access Service will be determined on an individual use basis.

**2.1.9 Ownership of Facilities**

Title to all facilities provided in accordance with this tariff remains in the Company, its agents, contractors or suppliers.

**2.2 Prohibited Uses**

- 2.2.1 The services the Company offers shall not be used for any unlawful purposes or for any use as to which the Customer has not obtained all required governmental approvals, authorizations, licenses, consents and permits.
- 2.2.2 The Company may require applicants for service who intend to use the Company's offerings for resale and/or for shared use to file a letter with the Company confirming their use of the Company's offerings complies with relevant laws and applicable state regulations, policies, orders, and decisions; and if the Reseller intends to provide intrastate services, is certified with the appropriate state entity.
- 2.2.3 The Company may require a Customer to immediately shut down its transmission of signals if said transmission is causing interference to others.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT' D)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer****2.3.1 The Customer shall be responsible for:**

- A. the payment of all applicable charges pursuant to this tariff;
- B. reimbursing the Company for damage to, or loss of, the Company's facilities or equipment caused by the acts or omissions of the Customer; or the noncompliance by the Customer with these regulations; or by fire or theft or other casualty on the Customer Premises, unless caused by the negligence or willful misconduct of the employees or agents of the Company. The Company will, upon reimbursement for damages to its facilities or equipment, cooperate with the Customer in prosecuting a claim against the person causing such damage and the Customer shall be subjugated in the Company's right of recovery of damages to the extent of such payment;
- C. providing at no charge, as specified from time to time by the Company, any needed personnel, equipment, space, and power to operate Company facilities and equipment installed on the Customer Premises, and the level of heating and air conditioning necessary to maintain the proper operating environment on such Premises;
- D. obtaining, maintaining, and otherwise having full responsibility for all rights-of-way and conduit necessary for installation of fiber optic cable and associated equipment used to provide Access Services to the Customer from the cable building entrance or property line to the location of the equipment space described in 2.3.1.C above. Any costs associated with obtaining and maintaining the rights-of-way described herein, including the costs of altering the structure to permit installation of the Company-provided facilities, shall be owned entirely by, or may be charged by the Company to, the Customer. The Company may require the Customer to demonstrate its compliance with this subsection prior to accepting an order for service;



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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT' D)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont' d)****2.3.1 The Customer shall be responsible for (cont' d):**

- E. providing a safe place to work and complying with all laws and regulations regarding the working conditions on the Premises at which Company employees and agents shall be installing or maintaining the Company's facilities and equipment. The Customer may be required to install and maintain Company facilities and equipment within a hazardous area if, in the Company's opinion, injury or damage to the Company employees or property might result from installation or maintenance by the Company. The Customer shall be responsible for identifying, monitoring, removing, and disposing of any hazardous material (e.g. asbestos) prior to any construction or installation work;
- F. complying with all laws and regulations applicable to, and obtaining all consents, approvals, licenses, and permits as may be required with respect to, the location of Company facilities and equipment in any Customer Premises or the rights-of-way for which Customer is responsible obtaining under Section 2.3.1.D above; and granting or obtaining permission for Company agents or employees to enter the Customer Premises at any time for the purpose of installing, inspecting, maintaining, repairing, or upon termination of service as stated herein, removing the facilities or equipment of the Company; and
- G. not creating or allowing to be placed or maintained any liens or other encumbrances on the Company's equipment or facilities.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)**

**2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont' d)**

**2.3.2 Claims**

With respect to any service or facility provided by the Company, Customer shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Company from all claims, actions, damages liabilities, costs, and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees for:

- A. any loss, destruction or damage to property of the Company or any third party, or the death of or injury to persons, including, but not limited to employees or invitees of either the Company or the Customer, to the extent caused by or resulting from the negligent or intentional act or omission of the Customer, its employees, agents, representatives or invitees;
- B. any claim, loss, damage, expense or liability for infringement of any copyright, patent, trade secret, or any proprietary or intellectual property right of any third party, arising from any act or omission by the Customer, including, without limitation, use of the Company's services and facilities in a manner not contemplated by the agreement between the Customer and the Company.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)**

**2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont' d)**

**2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements**

A. Jurisdictional Reports

1. Percent Interstate Usage (PIU)

(a) Pursuant to Federal Communications Commission Order FCC 85-145 adopted April 16, 1985, interstate usage is to be developed as though every call that enters a Customer network at a point within the same state as that in which the called station (as designated by the called station number) is situated is an intrastate communication and every call for which the point of entry is in a state other than that where the called station (as designated by the called number) is situated is an interstate communication.

(b) When a Customer initially orders Switched Access service, the Customer shall state in its order the Percentage Interstate Usage (PIU) on a statewide, LATA or billing account number level (at the option of the Customer) on a local exchange company specific basis, separately for each of the following:

FGA  
FGB  
FGD  
500  
700 Service Access  
8XX Toll Free  
900  
Entrance Facilities  
Dedicated Interoffice Channel  
Channelization Equipment

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont' d)****2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (cont' d)****A. Jurisdictional Reports (cont' d)****1. Percent Interstate Usage (PIU), (cont' d)****(b) (cont' d)**

For FGA, FGB, FGD, 500, 700, 8XX Toll Free, and 900, this PIU will be applicable to all flat and minute of use based rate elements, as applicable. In the event the Customer does not supply the projected PIU and the Telephone Company does not have sufficient call detail to determine the jurisdiction of the call, then a PIU of 50 percent will be applied.

The PIU factor provided for flat-rated services shall reflect the combination of all traffic types which transverse such facility category.

Additionally, upon employing the 700 Access Code over FGD, the Customer must provide the Telephone Company the PIU for the 700 calls. A PIU of less than 100 percent is not allowed in those LATAs where the service is not also available as an intrastate access service.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)**

**2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont' d)**

**2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (cont' d)**

A. Jurisdictional Reports (cont' d)

1. Percent Interstate Usage (PIU), (cont' d)

(b) (cont' d)

Each quarter the Customer shall furnish to the Telephone Company a report of the PIU on a statewide, LATA or billing account number level (at the option of the Customer) on a local exchange company specific basis, separately for each of the following:

- FGA
- FGB
- FGD Terminating
- 500
- 700 Service Access
- 8XX Toll Free
- 900
- Entrance Facilities
- Dedicated Interoffice Channel
- Channelization Equipment

The Customer shall compute the PIU using the following formula (rounded to a whole percentage).

Total Interstate Originating Minutes	+	Total Interstate Terminating Minutes	
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Total	+	Total	
Originating Minutes		Terminating Minutes	

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont' d)****2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (cont' d)****A. Jurisdictional Reports (cont' d)**

1. Percent Interstate Usage (PIU) (cont' d)
  - (c) When the Customer computes the PIU it shall subtract the developed percentage from 100 and the difference is the percent intrastate usage. The sum of the interstate and intrastate percentages shall equal 100 percent.
2. For multiline hunt group or trunk group arrangements where either the interstate or the intrastate charges are based on measured usage, the interstate FGA and/or FGB information reported as set forth in 1 preceding will be used to determine the charges as follows:
  - (a) For all groups, the number of access minutes (either the measured minutes or the assumed minutes) for a group will be multiplied by the projected interstate percentage to develop the interstate access minutes. The number of access minutes for the group minus the projected interstate access minutes for the group will be the developed intrastate access minutes.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont' d)****2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (cont' d)****A. Jurisdictional Reports (cont' d)**

3. When a Customer initially orders FGD, the Customer shall state in its order the Percentage Interstate Usage (PIU). When a Customer orders FGD, 500, 8XX Toll Free or 900, the Telephone Company, where the jurisdiction can be determined from the call detail, will determine the interstate percentage as follows. For originating access minutes, the interstate percentage will be developed on a monthly basis by end office when the FGD, 500, 8XX Toll Free or 900 access minutes are measured by dividing the measured interstate originating access minutes (the access minutes where the calling number is in one state and the called number is in another state) by the total originating access minutes when the call detail is adequate to determine the appropriate jurisdiction. When originating call details are insufficient to determine the jurisdiction for the call, the Customer shall supply the projected interstate percentage or authorize the Telephone Company to use the Telephone Company developed percentage. In the event the Customer does not supply the projected PIU and the Telephone Company does not have the sufficient call detail to develop a PIU, than a PIU of 50 percent shall be used by the Telephone Company as the interstate percentage for such call detail.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont' d)****2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (cont' d)****A. Jurisdictional Reports (cont' d)****3. (cont' d.)**

As indicated herein, the Customer must supply the interstate PIU on a statewide, LATA or billing account number level for terminating FGD service. The PIU supplied shall be on a local exchange company specific basis. All Customers must supply the interstate PIU for terminating FGD service following the criteria set forth in this tariff. The Telephone Company will designate the number obtained by subtracting the interstate percentage for originating and terminating access minutes calculated by the Telephone Company from 100 (100 - Telephone Company calculated projected interstate percentage = intrastate percentage) as the projected intrastate percentage of use. A PIU of less than 100 percent is not allowed in those LATAs where the interstate service is not also available in the appropriate intrastate access tariff.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont' d)****2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (cont' d)****A. Jurisdictional Reports, (cont' d)**

4. For usage originating from or terminating to an end office that is located in a state that is part of a LATA of a different state (cross boundary), the Customer shall provide a statewide PIU per service type for the state where the end office is physically located. The Telephone Company will apply this state level PIU when the call detail is insufficient to determine the appropriate jurisdiction of the call. In the event the Customer does not supply the projected state level PIU and the Telephone Company does not have the sufficient call detail to develop a PIU, than a PIU of 50 percent shall be used by the Telephone Company as the interstate percentage for such call detail.
5. For Billing Name and Address for ANI service, the Customer shall state in its initial order the projected PIU factor. PIU information shall also be furnished quarterly to the Telephone Company thereafter. The Billing Name and Address for ANI PIU factor shall be reported as required herein.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont' d)****2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (cont' d)****A. Jurisdictional Reports (cont' d)**

6. Effective on the first of January, April, July and October of each year the Customer shall update the interstate and intrastate jurisdictional report, except where Telephone Company Measured Access minutes are used as set forth in 3. preceding. The Customer shall forward to the Telephone Company, to be received no later than 30 days after the first of each such month, a revised report or letter for all services showing the interstate and intrastate percentage of use for the past three months ending the last day of December, March, June and September, respectively, for each service arranged for interstate use. The revised report or letter will serve as the basis for the next three months' billing and will be effective on the bill date for that service. If the Customer does not supply an updated quarterly report or letter, the Telephone Company will assume percentages to be the same as those provided in the last quarterly report or letter accepted by the Telephone Company. If an audit has been completed and an updated quarterly report or letter has not been submitted subsequent to the audit, the Telephone Company will assume the PIU factors to be the most recent audited results. For those cases in which a quarterly report or letter has never been received from the Customer, the Telephone Company will assume the PIU factors to be the most recent audit results, to be the same as provided in the order for service if no audit has been performed, or 50 percent.
7. The Customer may also report Percent Intrastate InterLATA (PIL) and Percent Common Line (PCL) factors. In the event the Customer does not supply the projected PIL, and the Telephone Company does not have sufficient call detail to determine the jurisdiction of the call, then a PIL of 75 percent will be applied. In the event the Customer does not supply the projected PCL, then a PCL of 100 percent will be applied.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont' d)****2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (cont' d)****B. Jurisdictional Report Verification**

1. When a Customer provides a projected interstate usage percent as set forth preceding, or when a billing dispute arises or a regulatory commission questions the projected interstate percentage for Access, the Telephone Company may, by written request, require the Customer to provide the data the Customer used to determine the projected interstate percentage. This written request will be considered the initiation of the audit. The Customer shall supply the data to an independent auditor or the Telephone Company within 30 days of the Telephone Company request. The Customer shall keep records of call detail from which the percentage of interstate and intrastate use can be ascertained as set forth following and upon request of the Telephone Company make the records available for inspections at an agreed upon location during normal business hours as reasonably necessary for purposes of verification of the percentages. The Telephone Company will audit data from one quarter unless a longer period is requested by the Customer and agreed to by the Telephone Company.

Changes to the reported PIU will not be made for the test period. If the Customer does not provide the requested data to the Telephone Company or independent auditor within thirty (30) days of the notice of audit, the Customer will be in violation of this Tariff and subject to the remedies described herein.

2. Verification audits may be conducted no more frequently than once per year except in extreme circumstances. The Telephone Company and Customer will attempt to limit the audit to a reasonable time to effectively complete the audit. The Telephone Company and Customer shall respond promptly to requests generated during the audit to ensure timely completion of the audit.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont' d)****2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (cont' d)****B. Jurisdictional Report Verification (cont' d)**

3. Audits may be conducted by: (a) an independent auditor under contract to the Telephone Company; (b) a mutually agreed upon independent auditor; or (c) an independent auditor selected and paid for by the Customer. If the Customer selects option (c), where it pays for its own independent audit, the selected auditor must certify that the audit was performed following F.C.C. procedures for measuring interstate traffic as established by Commission Order, and provide to the Telephone Company a report with supporting documentation to verify such procedures.
4. If a billing dispute arises or a regulatory commission questions the projected interstate percentage, the Telephone Company will ask the Customer to provide the data the Customer used to determine the projected interstate percentage. The Customer shall supply the data within 30 days of the Telephone Company request. The Customer shall keep records from which the percentage was determined and upon request of the Telephone Company make the records available for inspection as reasonably necessary for purposes of verification of the percentages.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)**

**2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont' d)**

**2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (cont' d)**

C. Maintenance of PIU Records

1. The Customer shall retain for a minimum of six (6) months call detail records that substantiate the interstate percent provided to the Telephone Company as set forth preceding. Such records shall consist of (a) and (b), if applicable, following:
  - (a) All call detail records such as workpapers and/or backup documentation including paper, magnetic tapes or any other form of records for billed Customer traffic, call information including call terminating address (i.e., called number), the call duration, all originating and terminating trunk groups or access lines over which the call is routed, and the point at which the call enters the Customer's network and;
  - (b) If the Customer has a mechanized system in place that calculated the PIU, then a description of that system and the methodology used to calculate the PIU must be furnished and any other pertinent information (such as but not limited to flowcharts, source code, etc.) relating to such system must also be made available.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont' d)****2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (cont' d)****D. PIU Audit Results**

1. Audit results will be furnished to the Customer via Certified U.S. Mail (return receipt requested). The Telephone Company will adjust the Customer's PIU based upon the audit results. The PIU resulting from the audit shall be applied to the usage for the quarter the audit is completed, the usage for the quarter prior to completion of the audit, and the usage for the two (2) quarters following the completion of the audit. After that time, the Customer may report a revised PIU pursuant to A. preceding. If the revised PIU submitted by the Customer represents a deviation of 5 percentage points or more, from the audited PIU, and that deviation is not due to identifiable reasons, the provisions in B. preceding may be applied.
2. Both credit and debit adjustments will be made to the Customer's interstate access charges for the specified period to accurately reflect the interstate usage for the Customer's account consistent with the provisions set forth herein.
3. If, as a result of an audit conducted by an independent auditor, a Customer is found to have over-stated the PIU by 20 percentage points or more, the Telephone Company shall require reimbursement from the Customer for the cost of the audit. Such bill (s) shall be due and paid in immediately available funds 30 days from receipt and shall carry a late payment penalty as set forth herein if not paid within the 30 days.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont' d)****2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (cont' d)****E. Contested Audits**

1. When a PIU audit is conducted by an independent auditor selected by the Telephone Company, the audit results will be furnished to the Customer by Certified U.S. Mail (return receipt requested). The Customer may contest the audit results based on substantive cause by providing written notification, by Certified U.S. Mail (return receipt requested), to the Telephone Company within thirty (30) calendar days from the date the audit report is furnished to the Customer. When a PIU audit is conducted by an independent auditor selected by the Customer, the audit results will be furnished to the Telephone Company by Certified U.S. Mail (return receipt requested). The Telephone Company may contest the audit results by providing written notification, by Certified U.S. Mail (return receipt requested), to the Customer within thirty (30) calendar days from the date the audit report is furnished to the Telephone Company.
2. Contested audits may be resolved by a neutral arbitrator mutually agreed upon by the Telephone Company and the Customer. Arbitration is an option provided in addition to the Customer's existing right to file a complaint or legal action in a court of law or at the FCC for resolution of the dispute. The arbitration hearing will be conducted in a state or location within the Telephone Company operating territory where the Customer maintains a principle or significant presence or a state and location within the Telephone Company operating territory that is mutually agreed upon by both parties. The arbitration proceeding shall be governed by the law (both statutory and case) of the state in which the arbitration hearing is held, including, but not limited to, the Uniform Arbitration Act, as adopted in that state. The arbitrator shall determine the Customer's PIU based on A. preceding.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.3 Obligations of the Customer (cont' d)****2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (cont' d)**

## E. Contested Audits, (cont' d)

3. Prior to the arbitration hearing, each party shall notify the arbitrator of the PIU percentage which that party believes to be correct. The arbitrator, in deciding, may adopt the PIU percentage of either party or may adopt a PIU percentage different from those proposed by the parties. If the arbitrator adopts a PIU percentage proposed by one of the parties, the other party (whose PIU percentage was not adopted) shall pay all costs of the arbitration. If the arbitrator adopts a PIU percentage higher than either of the PIU percentages proposed by the parties, then the party proposing the lower PIU percentage shall pay all costs of the arbitration. If the arbitrator adopts a PIU percentage lower than either of the PIU percentages proposed by the parties, then the party proposing the higher PIU percentage shall pay all costs of the arbitration. If the arbitrator adopts a PIU percentage which falls between the two percentages adopted by the parties, then the parties shall each pay one-half of the arbitration costs.
4. Absent written notification, within the time frame noted above, the Customer must comply with the provisions set forth herein. If the Customer fails to comply with these provisions, the Telephone Company may refuse additional applications for service and/or refuse to complete any and all pending orders for service or may discontinue the provision of the services to the Customer as specified herein.



**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)**

**2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels**

**2.4.1 General**

A Customer may transmit or receive information or signals via the facilities of the Company.

**2.4.2 Station Equipment**

A The Customer is responsible for providing and maintaining any terminal equipment on the Customer Premises. The electric power consumed by such equipment shall be provided by, and maintained at the expense of, the Customer. All such terminal equipment must be registered with the FCC under 47 C.F.R., Part 68 and all wiring must be installed and maintained in compliance with those regulations. The Company will, where practicable, notify the Customer that temporary discontinuance of the use of a service may be required; however, where prior notice is not practicable, nothing contained herein shall be deemed to impair the Company's right to discontinue forthwith the use of a service temporarily if such action is reasonable under the circumstances.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT' D)****2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels (cont' d)****2.4.2 Station Equipment (cont' d)****A. (cont' d)**

In case of such temporary discontinuance, the Customer will be promptly notified and afforded the opportunity to correct the condition which gave rise to the temporary discontinuance. During such period of temporary discontinuance, credit allowance for service interruptions as set forth in Section 2.6 following is not applicable.

- B.** The Customer is responsible for ensuring that Customer-provided equipment connected to Company equipment and facilities is compatible with such equipment and facilities. The magnitude and character of the voltages and currents impressed on Company provided equipment and wiring by the connection, operation, or maintenance of such equipment and wiring shall be such as not to cause damage to the Company-provided equipment and wiring or injury to the Company's employees or other persons. Any additional protective equipment required to prevent such damage or injury shall be provided by the Company at the Customer's expense.

**2.4.3 Interconnection of Facilities**

- A.** Any special interface equipment necessary to achieve compatibility between the facilities and equipment of the Company used for furnishing Access Services and the Channels, facilities, or equipment of others shall be provided at the Customer's expense.
- B.** Access Services may be connected to the services or facilities of other communications carriers only when authorized by, and in accordance with, the terms and conditions of the tariffs of the other communications carriers which are applicable to such connections.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels, (cont' d)****2.4.4 Inspections**

- A. Upon reasonable notification of the Customer, and at reasonable times, the Company may make such tests and inspections as may be necessary to determine that the Customer is complying with the requirements set forth in Section 2.4.2.B for the installation, operation, and wiring in the connection of Customer-provided facilities and equipment to Company-owned facilities and equipment. No credit will be allowed for any interruptions occurring during such inspections.
  
- B. If the protective requirements for Customer-provided equipment are not being complied with, the Company may take such action as it deems necessary to protect its facilities, equipment, and personnel. The Company will notify the Customer promptly if there is any need for further corrective action. Within ten days of receiving this notice, the Customer must take this corrective action and notify the Company of the action taken. If the Customer fails to do this, the Company may take whatever additional action is deemed necessary, including the suspension of service, to protect its facilities, equipment, and personnel from harm. The Company will, upon request 24 hours in advance, provide the Customer with a statement of technical parameters that the Customer's equipment must meet.

**2.5 Payment Arrangements****2.5.1 Payment for Service**

The Customer is responsible for payment of all charges for services and facilities furnished by the Company to the Customer or its Joint or Authorized Users.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.5 Payment Arrangements (cont' d)****2.5.1 Payment for Service (cont' d)****A. Taxes**

The Customer is responsible for the payment of any sales, use, gross receipts, excise, access or other local, state and federal taxes, charges or surcharges (however designated) excluding taxes on the Company's net income imposed on or based upon the provision, sale or use of Access Services. All such taxes shall be separately designated on the Company's invoices.

**B. Universal Connectivity Charge**

In connection with the FCC's Universal Service Orders, the Company will pay a percentage of its retail revenues to support the Universal Service Fund (USF). The Company will pass-through the USF assessment to its customers by assessing a charge applicable against all retail interstate and international charges, including usage and nonusage charges. This surcharge is in addition to standard usage charges and any applicable service charges and surcharges associated with the Company's service. The Company's Universal Service Fee factor will match the relevant quarterly Universal Service Contribution Factor approved by the FCC rounded up to the nearest tenth of a percent. Universal Service Contribution Factors are available at [www.fcc.gov/ccb/universal\\_service/quarter.html](http://www.fcc.gov/ccb/universal_service/quarter.html).

1. The Company will waive the Universal Connectivity Charge with respect to specifically identified Company charges to the extent that the Customer demonstrates to the Company's reasonable satisfaction that:

- (a) The customer has filed a Universal Worksheet with the Universal Service Administrator covering the twelfth month prior to the month for which the Customer seeks the waiver (i.e., to be eligible for a waiver in February 1998, the Customer must have filed a Universal Service worksheet with the Universal Service Administrator covering February 1997);

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)**

**2.5 Payment Arrangements (cont' d)**

**2.5.1 Payment for Service (cont' d)**

**B. Universal Connectivity Charge (cont' d)**

1. (cont' d)

- (b) The charges with respect to which the waiver is sought are for services purchased by the Customer for resale; and
- (c) The Customer will file a Universal Service Worksheet with the Universal Service Administrator in which the reported billed revenues will include all billed revenues associated with the Customer's resale of services purchased from the Company.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)**

**2.5 Payment Arrangements (cont' d)**

**2.5.1 Payment for Service (cont' d)**

**B. Universal Connectivity Charge, (cont' d)**

- (3) The Universal Connectivity Charge will not be waived with respect to:
  - (a) Charges for services purchased by the Customer for its own use and an end user; or
  - (b) Charges for which the bill date is on, prior to, or within fifteen days after, the date on which the Customer applies for a waiver with respect to those charges.
- (4) The Company may waive the Universal Connectivity Charge under the specific conditions listed in the product descriptions in this Tariff.

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS, (CONT' D)**

**2.5 Payment Arrangements, (cont' d)**

**2.5.2 Billing and Collection of Charges**

Unless otherwise specified herein, bills are due and payable upon receipt.

The Company shall bill on a current basis all charges incurred by, and credits due to, the Customer under this tariff attributable to services established, provided, or discontinued during the preceding billing period.

Non-Recurring Charges are due and payable within 30 days after the invoice date.

The Company shall present invoices for all Charges monthly to the Customer.

Amounts not paid within 30 days after the date of invoice will be considered past due. The Company will assess a late payment charge equal to 1.5% per month for any past due balance that exceeds 30 days. If the Company becomes concerned at any time about the ability of a Customer to pay its bills, the Company may require that the Customer pay its bills within a specified number of days and make such payments in cash or the equivalent of cash.

If a service is disconnected by the Company in accordance with Section 2.5.3 following and later restored, restoration of service will be subject to all applicable installation charges.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.5 Payment Arrangements (cont' d)****2.5.2 Billing and Collection of Charges (cont' d)**

The Customer shall notify the Company of any disputed items on an invoice within 90 days of receipt of the invoice. If the Customer and the Company are unable to resolve the dispute to their mutual satisfaction, the Customer may file a complaint with the Commission in accordance with the Commission's rules of procedures.

**2.5.3 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service**

- A. Upon nonpayment of any amounts owing to the Company, the Company may, by giving requisite prior written notice to the Customer discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.
- B. Upon violation of any of the other material terms or conditions for furnishing service the Company may, by giving 30 days' prior notice in writing to the Customer, discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability if such violation continues during that period.
- C. Upon condemnation of any material portion of the facilities used by the Company to provide service to a Customer or if a casualty renders all or any material portion of such facilities inoperable beyond feasible repair, the Company, by notice to the Customer, may discontinue or suspend service without incurring any liability.
- D. Upon any governmental prohibition, or required alteration of the services to be provided or any violation of an applicable law or regulation, the Company may immediately discontinue service without incurring any Liability.



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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.5 Payment Arrangements (cont' d)****2.5.3 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service (cont' d)**

- E. Upon the Company's discontinuance of service to the Customer under Section 2.5.3.A or 2.5.3.B above, the Company, in addition to all other remedies that may be available to the Company at law or in equity or under any other provision of this tariff, may declare all future monthly and other charges which would have been payable by the Customer during the remainder of the term for which such services would have otherwise been provided to the Customer to be immediately due and payable.
- F. The Company may discontinue the furnishings of any and/or all service(s) to Customer, without incurring any liability:
1. Immediately and without notice if the Company deems that such action is necessary to prevent or to protect against fraud or to otherwise protect its personnel, agents, facilities or services. The Company may discontinue service pursuant to this sub-section 2.5.3.F.1.(a-f), if
    - (a) The Customer refuses to furnish information to the Company regarding the Customer's credit-worthiness, its past or current use of Common Carrier communications services or its planned use of service(s); or
    - (b) The Customer provides false information to the Company regarding the Customer's identity, address, credit-worthiness, past or current use of Common Carrier communications services, or its planned use of the Company's service(s); or

**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)**

**2.5 Payment Arrangements (cont' d)**

**2.5.3 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service (cont' d)**

F. (cont' d)

1. (cont' d)

(c) The Customer states that it will not comply with a request of the Company for security for the payment for service(s) in accordance with Section 2.5.3.A above; or

(d) The Customer has been given written notice by the Company of any past due amount (which remains unpaid in whole or in part) for any of the Company's other Common Carrier communications services to which the Customer either subscribes or had subscribed or used; or

(e) The Customer uses, or attempts or use, service with the intent to void the payment, either in whole or in part, of the tariff charges for the service by:

I. Using or attempting to use service by rearranging, tampering with, or making connections to the Company's service not authorized by this tariff, or

II. Using tricks, schemes, false or invalid numbers, false credit devices, electronic devices: or

III. Any other Fraudulent means or devices; or

2. Upon ten (10) days' written notice to the Customer of any sum thirty (30) days past due;

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.5 Payment Arrangements (cont' d)****2.5.3 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service (cont' d)**

F. (cont' d)

3. Upon ten (10) days' written notice to the Customer, after failure of the Customer to comply with a request made by the Company for security for the payment of service in accordance with Section 2.5.3.A, above; or
4. Seven (7) days after sending the Customer written notice of noncompliance with any provision of this tariff if the noncompliance is not corrected within that seven (7) day period. The discontinuance of service(s) by the Company pursuant to this Section does not relieve the Customer of any obligation to pay the Company for charges due and owing for service(s) furnished up to the time of discontinuance.

G. In the event the Company incurs fees or expenses, including attorney's fees, in collecting, or attempting to collect, any charges owed the Company, the Customer will be liable to the Company for the payment of all such fees and expenses reasonably incurred.

**2.5.4 Cancellation of Application for Service**

Where, prior to cancellation by the Customer, the Company incurs any expenses in installing the service or in preparing to install the service that it otherwise would not have incurred, a charge equal to the costs the Company incurred, less net salvage, shall apply, but in no case shall this charge exceed the sum of the charge for the minimum period of services ordered, including installation charges, and all charges others levy against the company that would have been chargeable to the Customer had service begun.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.5 Payment Arrangements (cont' d)****2.5.4 Cancellation of Application for Service (cont' d)**

The special charges described will be calculated and applied on a case-by-case basis.

**2.6 Allowances for Interruptions in Service**

Interruptions in service which are not due to the negligence of or noncompliance with the provisions of this tariff by, the Customer or the operation or malfunction of the facilities, power, or equipment provided by the Customer, will be credited to the Customer as set forth in 2.6.1 for the part of the service that the interruption affects.

The credit allowance will be calculated by the Company after the Customer notifies the Company of service interruption. The amount of the allowance will depend on the length of the outage and the service impacted. Service Outage conditions are defined as complete loss of call origination and/or receipt capability. Credit Allowances, if any, will be deducted from the charges payable by the IXC and will be expressly indicated on the next invoice. A Service Outage begins when the IXC reports the outage to the Company. A Service Outage ends when the affected circuit and/or associated Company equipment is fully operational in accordance with the technical specifications.

Credit allowances do not apply to outages (i) caused by the IXC; (ii) due to failure of equipment provided by the IXC; (iii) during any period in which the Company is not given access to the service premises; (iv) failures of LEC facilities or equipment which are carrying the failures resulting from the activities or negligence of LEC employees; (v) inability to gain access to the IXC's equipment; and (vii) due to mutually agreed upon maintenance and repair.

Credit Allowances received by the Company from the LEC for Off-Net facility outages which affects the IXC's Switched Services will be passed through to the IXC in the form of a credit on the next invoice.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.6 Allowances for Interruptions in Service (cont' d)****2.6.1 Limitations on Allowances**

No credit allowance will be made for:

- A. interruptions due to the negligence of, or noncompliance with the provisions of this tariff by, the Customer, Authorized User, Joint-User, or other Common Carrier providing service connected to the service of Company;
- B. interruptions due to the negligence of any person other than the Company, including, but not limited to, the Customer or other Common Carriers connected to the Company's facilities;
- C. interruptions due to the failure or malfunction of non-Company equipment;
- D. interruptions of service during any period in which the Company is not given full and free access to its facilities and equipment for the purpose of investigating and correcting interruptions;
- E. interruptions of service during a period in which the Customer continues to use the service on an impaired basis;
- F. interruptions of service during any period when the Customer has released service to the Company for maintenance purposes or for implementation of a Customer order for a change in service arrangements;
- G. interruption of service due to circumstances or causes beyond the control of the Company.
- H. interruption of switched services less than 24 hours in duration.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)****2.7 Transfers and Assignments**

Neither the Company nor the Customer may assign or transfer its rights or duties in connection with the services and facilities provided by the Company without the written consent of the other party, except that the Company may assign its rights and duties (a) to any subsidiary, parent Company or affiliate of the Company (b) pursuant to any sale or transfer of substantially all the assets of the Company; or pursuant to any financing, merger or reorganization of the Company.

**2.8 Notices and Communications**

- 2.8.1 The Customer shall designate on the Service Order, or equivalent, an address to which the Company shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that the Customer may also designate a separate address to which the Company's bills for service shall be mailed.
- 2.8.2 The Company shall designate on the Service Order, or equivalent, an address to which the Customer shall mail or deliver all notices and other communications, except that the Company may designate a separate address, on each bill for service, to which the Customer shall mail payment on that bill.
- 2.8.3 All notices or other communications required to be given pursuant to this tariff shall be in writing. Notices and other communications of either party, and all bills mailed by the Company, shall be presumed to have been delivered to the other party on the third business day following deposit of the notice, communication, or bill with the U.S. Mail or a private delivery service, prepaid and properly addressed, or when actually received or refused by the addressee, whichever occurs first.
- 2.8.4 The Company or the Customer shall advise the other party of any changes to the addresses designated for notices, other communications or billing, by following the procedures for giving notice set forth herein.

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**SECTION 2 - RULES AND REGULATIONS (CONT' D)**

**2.9 Meet Point Billing**

Meet Point Billing applies when more than one Exchange Telephone Company is involved in the provision of Access Service. All recurring and nonrecurring charges for services provided by each Exchange Telephone Company are billed, as set forth below, under each company's applicable rates.

The Company accepts and adheres to the Ordering and Billing Forum guidelines, Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing (MECAB) and Multiple Exchange Carrier Ordering and Design (MECOD).

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**SECTION 3 - ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE****3.1 General**

This section sets forth the regulations and order related charges for Access Service Requests (ASR) for Switched Access Service, as defined in this tariff. These charges are in addition to other applicable charges set forth in other sections of this tariff.

**3.1.1 Ordering Conditions**

Unless otherwise specified herein, all services offered under this tariff shall be ordered using an ASR. The format and terms of the ASR will be as specified in the industry Access Service Order Guidelines, unless otherwise specified herein. A Customer may order any number of services of the same type and between the same premises on a single ASR. All details for services for a particular order must be identical.

The Customer shall provide all information necessary for the Company to provide and bill for the requested service. When placing an order for Access Service, the Customer shall provide the following minimum information:

- A. Customer name and Premise(s) address(es);
- B. Billing name and address (when different from Customer name and address); and
- C. Customer contact name(s) and telephone number(s) for the following provisioning activities: order negotiation, order confirmation, interactive design, installation and billing.

**3.1.2 Provision of Other Services**

Unless otherwise specified herein, all services offered under this tariff shall be ordered with an ASR.



**SECTION 3 - ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE (CONT' D)****3.1 General (cont' d)****3.1.2 Provision of Other Services (cont' d.)**

With the agreement of the Company, other services may subsequently be added to the ASR at any time, up to and including the service date for the Access Service.

**3.2 Access Order**

When a Customer requests new or additional Switched Access Service, one or more ASR's may be required. The number of orders required is dependent on the type of services and/or facilities being requested.

**3.2.1 Access Service Date Intervals**

Access Service is provided with one of the following Service Date intervals:

- Standard Interval
- Negotiated Interval

The Company will specify a FOC and the Service Commencement Date contingent on the ASR being complete as received. To the extent the Access Service can be made available with reasonable effort, the Company will provide the Access Service in accordance with the Customer's requested interval, subject to the following conditions:

**A. Standard Interval**

The Standard Interval for Switched Service will be 10 business days from the Application Date. This interval only applies to standard service offerings for a Customer which is On-Net and at locations where there are pre-existing facilities to the Customer Premises. Access Services provided under the Standard Interval will be installed during Company business hours.

**SECTION 3 - ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE (CONT' D)****3.2 Access Order (cont' d)****3.2.1 Access Service Date Intervals (cont' d)**

- B. Negotiated Interval: The Company will negotiate a Service Date interval with the Customer when:
1. The Customer requests a Service Date before or beyond the applicable Standard Interval Service Date; or
  2. There is no existing facility connecting the Customer Premises with the Company; or
  3. The Customer requests a service that is not considered by the Company to be a standard service offering (for example, if Additional Engineering is required to complete the order); or
  4. The Company determines that Access Service cannot be installed within the Standard Interval.

The Company will offer a Service Date based on the type and quantity of Access Services the Customer has requested. The Negotiated Interval may not exceed by more than six months the Standard Interval Service Date, or, when there is no Standard Interval, the Company offered Service Date.

All services for which rates are applied on an Individual Case Basis are provided with a Negotiated Interval.

**SECTION 3 - ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE (CONT' D)****3.2 Access Order (cont' d)****3.2.2 Access Service Request Modifications**

The Customer may request a modification of its ASR prior to the Service Commencement Date. All modifications must be in writing using the industry ASR process. The Company, in its sole discretion, may accept a verbal modification from the Customer. The Company will make every effort to accommodate a requested modification when it is able to do so with the normal work force assigned to complete such an order within normal business hours.

**3.2.3 Minimum Period of Service**

The minimum period for which Access Service is provided and for which charges are applicable is one month.

A. The following changes will be treated as a discontinuance of the existing service and a request for installation of a new service. All associated Non-Recurring Charges will apply for the new service, and a new minimum period will be established:

1. A change in the identity of the Customer of record; or
2. A move by the Customer to a different building.

B. When Access Service is disconnected prior to the expiration of the minimum period, charges are applicable for the balance of the minimum period. The Minimum Period Charge for monthly billed services will be determined as follows:

For Switched Access Service, the charge for a month or fraction thereof is equivalent to 50,000 billed minutes of use for the applicable service.

All applicable Non-Recurring Charges for the service will be billed in addition to the Minimum Period Charge.

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**SECTION 3 - ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE (CONT' D)****3.3 Supplementary Charges**

Customer Requested Due Date Change <sup>1,2</sup>	\$50, per order
Customer Requested Expedite <sup>2</sup>	\$250, per location, per order
Cancellation (after 3 business days from order placement) <sup>2</sup>	Full NRCs + \$250, per order
Design Change, DS0/DS1 <sup>2</sup>	\$150, per circuit
Design Change, DS3 and higher <sup>2</sup>	\$300, per circuit
Administrative Processing <sup>2</sup>	\$25, per order

- 1 Company Due Date Change Policy - No due date change accepted at or after four (4) days prior to the current due date. If a Customer request is received during that time period, the supplemental charge will apply and, in addition, the billing will start on the current due date without exception.
- 2 For services involving facilities leased from other telecommunications providers, Supplementary Charges will be priced on an Individual Case Basis, and will be based upon a pass-through of all charges assessed by other providers, and the Company's administrative costs.

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**SECTION 4 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE****4.1 General**

Switched Access Service, which is available to Customers for their use in furnishing their services to end users, provides a two-point communications path between a Customer's Premises and an End User's Premises. It provides for the use of common terminating, switching and transport facilities. Switched Access Service provides the ability to originate calls from an End User's Premises to a Customer's Premises, and to terminate calls from a Customer's Premises to an End User's Premises.

Switched Access Service is available when originating or terminating calls from or to an end user which subscribes to the Company's Local Exchange Services.

Rates and charges are set forth in Section 5. The application of rates for Switched Access Service is described in Section 5.

**4.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements****4.2.1 Feature Group Access**

FG Access is provisioned at the DS-1 level and provides trunk-side access to Local Switching Center switches, for the Customer's use in originating and terminating communications. Basic FG Access service will be provided with Multi-Frequency in Band Signaling (SS7 is also available, where capabilities exist).

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**SECTION 4 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (CONT' D)**

**4.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements (cont' d.)**

**4.2.1 Feature Group Access, (cont' d.)**

Two types of Feature Group Access are available:

- A. Tandem Connect Access: This option applies when the customer has no direct facilities to the End Office. Traffic is routed to and from the End Office via the Access Tandem. Delivery of calls to, or acceptance of calls from, the Customer's End User location(s) via Company-provided Tandem Connect Access services shall constitute a Constructive Order and an agreement by the Customer to purchase the Company's switched access services as described and priced herein.
  
- B. Direct Connect Access: This option applies when the Company or another service provider provides dedicated facilities between the Customer's premises and the End Office. This transmission path is dedicated to the use of a single Customer. The Company requires the Customer to submit an ASR or comparable documentation for the dedicated portion of Direct Connect Access. The dedicated portion of Direct Connect Access is provided on an Individual Case Basis.

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**SECTION 4 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (CONT' D)****4.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements (cont' d)****4.2.2 Manner of Provision**

Trunks used for Switched Access Service may be configured for one-way (either originating only or terminating only) or for two-way directionality. It is the Customer's responsibility to provide the Company with a usage demand estimate for the first 3 months of service. This demand estimate should be included with the access order information.

**4.2.3 Call Types**

The following Switched Access Service call types are available:<sup>1</sup>

- A. Originating 101XXXX FG Access
- B. Originating 800 FG Access
- C. Terminating FG Access

**4.2.4 Originating 101XXXX FG Access**

The access code for FG Access switching is a uniform access code of the form 101XXXX. A single access code will be the assigned number of all FG Access provided to the Customer by the Company. When the access code is used, FG Access switching also provides for dialing the digit 0 for access to the Customer's operator service, 911 for access to emergency service, and/or the end of dialing digit (#) for cut-through access to the Customer's premises. Originating service may also be available on a presubscription basis whereby the access code is not required (i.e., A1+@ dialing).

<sup>1</sup>Other supported call types may include FGA, FGB, and 500/700/900 access.

**SECTION 4 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (CONT' D)****4.2 Provision and Description of Switched Access Service Arrangements (cont' d)**

## 4.2.5 Originating 800 FG Access

800 Data Base Access Service is a service offering utilizing originating Trunk side Switched Access Service. When an 8XX + NXX + XXXX call is originated by an End User, the Company will perform Customer identification based on screening of the full ten-digits of the 8XX number to determine the Customer location to which the call is to be routed.

## 4.2.6 Terminating FG Access

FG Access, when used in the terminating direction, may only be used to access end users who are subscribing to the Company's Local Exchange Services. Calls in the terminating direction will not be completed to 950-0XXX or 950-1XXX access codes, local operator assistance (0-and 0+), Directory Assistance, (411 or 555-1212) service codes 611 and 911 and 101XXXX access codes.

**4.3 Reports and Testing**

4.3.1 Design Layout Report: At the request of the Customer, the Company will provide to the Customer the makeup of the facilities and services provided from the Customer's Premises to the first point of switching. This information will be provided in the form of a Design Layout Report. The Design Layout Report will be provided to the Customer at no charge.

4.3.2 Acceptance Testing: At no additional charge, the Company will, at the Customer's request, cooperatively test, at the time of installation, the following parameters: loss, C-notched noise, C-message noise, 3-tone slope, d.c. continuity and operational signaling.



**SECTION 4 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (CONT' D)**

**4.4 Voice Over Internet Protocol – Public Switched Telephone Network  
("VoIP – PSTN") Traffic**

4.4.1 This section governs the identification and treatment of VoIP-PSTN Traffic that is required to be compensated at interstate access rates unless the parties have agreed otherwise in a written agreement. Specifically, this section establishes the method of separating such traffic (referred to in this tariff as "Relevant VOIP-PSTN Traffic") from a Customer's traditional intrastate access Tariff, so that such Relevant VOIP-PSTN traffic can be billed in accordance with the FCC Order.

Company will bill and collect the full Access Reciprocal Compensation on traffic exchanged with Customers when such traffic originates and/or terminates in Internet Protocol format, as set forth in Section 51.913 of the Federal Communications Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 51.913, regardless of whether the Company itself delivers such traffic to the called party's premises or delivers the call to the called party's premises via contractual or other arrangements with an affiliated or unaffiliated provider of interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol service or a non-interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol service that does not itself seek to collect Access Reciprocal Compensation charges for this traffic.

Intrastate VoIP – PSTN traffic is subject to the Company's applicable interstate switched access rate per minute, as set forth in this Tariff.

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**SECTION 4 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (CONT' D)****4.4 Voice Over Internet Protocol – Public Switched Telephone Network  
("VoIP – PSTN") Traffic, (cont'd)****4.4.2 Calculations and Application of Percent-VoIP-PSTN Usage**

Company will determine the number of Relevant VoIP-PSTN Traffic minutes of use ("MOU") to which interstate rates will be applied under subsection 3.2.A, above, by applying a Percent VoIP Usage ("PVU") factor to the total intrastate access MOU exchanged between a Company End User and the Customer. The PVU will be derived and applied as follows.

- A. The Customer will calculate and furnish to Company a factor (the "PVU-A") representing the percentage of the total terminating intrastate and interstate access MOU that the Customer exchanges with Company in the State, that (a) is sent to Company and that originated in IP format; or (b) is received from Company and terminated in IP format. This PVU-A shall be based on information such as the number of the Customer's retail VoIP subscriptions in the state (e.g., as reported on FCC Form 477), traffic studies, actual call detail, or other relevant and verifiable information.
- B. Company will similarly calculate a factor (the "PVU-B") representing the percentage of Company's total terminating intrastate and interstate access MOU in the State that Company originates or terminates on its network in IP format. This PVU-B shall be based on information such as the number of Company's retail VoIP subscriptions in the state (e.g., as reported on FCC Form 477), traffic studies, actual call detail, or other relevant and verifiable information

**SECTION 4 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE (CONT'D)**

**4.4 Voice Over Internet Protocol – Public Switched Telephone Network  
("VoIP – PSTN") Traffic, (cont'd)**

4.4.3. Initial PVU-A Factor.

If the Customer does not furnish the Company with a PVU factor, the Company will utilize a PVU factor of zero.

4.4.4. PVU Factor Updates

The Customer may update the PVU-A factor quarterly. The Customer shall submit such update no later than the 15th day of January, April, July, and October of each year. Revised PVU factors must be based on the data for the prior three months ending the last day of December, March, June, and September respectively. The Company will use the revised PVU-A factor to calculate a revised PVU. The revised PVU will be used for future billing and will be effective on the bill date of each month and will be used for subsequent monthly billing until superseded by a new PVU factor. No prorating or back billing will be done based on the updated PVU factors.

4.4.5. PVU Factor Verification

Not more than twice in any year, Company may ask the Customer to verify the PVU-A factor furnished to Company and a Customer may ask Company to verify the PVU-B factor and the calculation of the PVU factor. The party so requested shall comply, and shall reasonably provide the records and other information used to determine the respective PVU-A and PVU-B factors.

**SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES**

**5.1 General**

This section contains the specific regulations governing the rates and charges that apply for Switched Access Services:

There are three types of rates and charges that apply to Switched Access Service:

- Non-Recurring Charges: One-time charges that apply for a specific work activity.
- Recurring Charges: Fixed charges apply each month and depend on the number and type of facilities in place.
- Usage Charges: Charges that are applied on a per access minute basis. Usage rates are accumulated over a monthly period.

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**SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES (CONT' D)****5.2 Rate Categories**

There are five rate categories which apply to Switched Access Service:

- Common Line
- Transport
- End Office
- Toll-Free 8XX Data Base Access Service
- Optional Features

**5.2.1 Common Line**

The Common Line rate category establishes the charges related to the use of Company-provided end user common lines by Customers and end users for interstate access.

**5.2.2 Transport**

The Transport rate category establishes the charges related to the transmission and tandem switching facilities between the Customer designated premises and the end office switch(es) where the Customer's traffic is switched to originate or terminate the Customer's communications.

**5.2.3 End Office**

The End Office rate category establishes the charges related to the use of end office switching equipment, the terminations in the end office of end user lines, the terminations of calls at Company Intercept Operators or recordings, the Signaling Transfer Point (STP) costs, and the SS7 signaling function between the end office and the STP. The End Office rate category also includes transport between an end office which serves as host for a remote switching system or module (RSS or RSM) and the RSS or RSM.

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**SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES (CONT' D)****5.2 Rate Categories (cont' d)****5.2.4 Toll-Free 8XX Data Base Query**

The Toll-Free 8XX Data Base Query Charge, will apply for each Toll-Free 8XX call query received at the Company's (or its provider's) Toll-Free 8XX data base.

**5.2.5 Switched Access Optional Features**

Following are the various optional features that are available, where the technical capability exists:

- (a) Supervisory Signaling
- (b) Alternate Traffic Routing
- (c) Cut-Through
- (d) Service Class Routing
- (e) FGD with 950 Access
- (f) Signaling System Seven (SS7)
- (g) Basic Initial Address Message Delivery
- (h) Called Directory Number Delivery
- (i) Flexible Automatic Number Identification Delivery

Other optional features may be available on an Individual Case Basis (ICB).

**SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES (CONT' D)****5.3 Billing of Access Minutes**

When recording originating calls over FG Access with multi-frequency address signaling, usage measurement begins when the first wink supervisory signal is forwarded from the Customer's facilities. The measurement of originating call usage over FG Access ends when the originating FG Access entry switch receives disconnect supervision from either the originating End User's Local Switching Center (indicating that the originating End User has disconnected), or the Customer's facilities, whichever is recognized first by the entry switch.

For terminating calls over FG Access with multi-frequency address signaling, the measurement of access minutes begins when a seizure signal is received from the Carrier's trunk group at the Point of Presence within the LATA. The measurement of terminating call usage over FG Access ends when a disconnect signal is received, indicating that either the originating or terminating user has disconnected.

When recording originating calls over FG Access with SS7 signaling, usage measurement begins with the transmission of the initial address message by the switch for direct trunk groups and with the receipt of an exit message by the switch for tandem trunk groups. The measurement of originating FG Access usage ends when the entry switch receives or sends a release message, whichever occurs first.

For terminating calls over FG Access with SS7 signaling, the measurement of access minutes begins when the terminating recording switch receives the initial address message from the terminating End User. On directly routed trunk groups or on tandem routed trunk groups, the Company switch receives the initial address message and sends the indication to the Customer in the form of an answer message. The measurement of terminating FG Access call usage ends when the entry switch receives or sends a release message, whichever occurs first.

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**SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES (CONT' D)**

**5.4 Rates and Charges**

**5.4.1 Common Line**

- A. Carrier Common Line Charge -- Originating, per Minute \$ \* (T)
- B. Carrier Common Line Charge -- Terminating, per Minute \$ \* (T)

\* Pursuant to 47 CFR § 61.26(b), the Company adopts as its own the corresponding recurring originating and terminating per minute switched exchange access rates contained in the incumbent local exchange carrier tariffs on file with the Commission in whose serving area the Company is providing service.

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**SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES (CONT' D)**

**5.4 Rates and Charges (cont' d)**

**5.4.2 Transport**

A.	Entrance Facility		<u>Nonrecurring</u>	<u>Monthly Recurring</u>
	First DS1		ICB	ICB
	Additional DS1s		ICB	ICB
B.	Dedicated Transport		<u>Nonrecurring</u>	<u>Monthly Recurring</u>
1.	Direct Transport			
	Per DS1		ICB	ICB
	Per DS1, per Mile		ICB	ICB
2.	Dedicated Trunk Port			
	Per DS1 Port		ICB	ICB

**SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES (CONT' D)**

**5.4 Rates and Charges (cont' d)**

**5.4.2 Transport (cont'd)**

C. Switched Transport

ILEC Region	State/Zone	Tandem Switched Transport - Termination, per Minute	Tandem Switched Transport --Facility, per Minute, per Mile	Tandem Switching, per Minute
Ameritech	All/All	\$ *	\$ *	\$ *
BellSouth	All/All	\$ *	\$ *	\$ *
Frontier	All/All	\$ *	\$ *	\$ *
PacBell	All/All	\$ *	\$ *	\$ *
Qwest	All/All	\$ *	\$ *	\$ *
SWB	All/All	\$ *	\$ *	\$ *
Verizon	All/All	\$ *	\$ *	\$ *

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\* Pursuant to 47 CFR § 61.26(b), the Company adopts as its own the corresponding recurring originating and terminating per minute switched exchange access rates contained in the incumbent local exchange carrier tariffs on file with the Commission in whose serving area the Company is providing service.

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 (N)

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 Issued by:

Mary Cegelski  
 Manager of Regulatory Affairs  
 First Communications, LLC  
 3340 West Market Street  
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**SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES (CONT' D)**

**5.4 Rates and Charges (cont' d)**

**5.4.2 Switched Transport, (cont' d)**

D.	Network Blocking Charge	
	Per Blocked Call	\$0.012400

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**SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES (CONT' D)**

**5.4 Rates and Charges (cont' d)**

**5.4.3 End Office Switching**

<b>ILEC Region</b>	<b>State/Zone</b>	<b>Interconnection Charge per minute</b>	<b>End Office Trunk Port Per minute</b>	<b>Local Switching</b>
Ameritech	All/All	\$ *	\$ *	\$ *
BellSouth	All/All	\$ *	\$ *	\$ *
Frontier	All/All	\$ *	\$ *	\$ *
PacBell	CA/All	\$ *	\$ *	\$ *
Qwest	All/All	\$ *	\$ *	\$ *
SWB	All/All	\$ *	\$ *	\$ *
Verizon	All/All	\$ *	\$ *	\$ *

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\* Pursuant to 47 CFR § 61.26(b), the Company adopts as its own the corresponding recurring originating and terminating per minute switched exchange access rates contained in the incumbent local exchange carrier tariffs on file with the Commission in whose serving area the Company is providing service.

(N)  
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**SECTION 5 - SWITCHED ACCESS RATES, (CONT' D)**

**5.4 Rates and Charges (cont' d)**

**5.4.4 Toll-Free 8XX Data Base Query**

Per Query \$0.005500

**5.4.5 Switched Access Optional Features**

*All Optional Features are offered on an Individual Case Basis (ICB).*

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**SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES**

**6.1 End User Common Line Charge**

The End User Common Line (EUCL) Charge is a monthly, flat-rated charge assessed to end users for each local exchange service line or trunk.

ISDN BRI lines will be charged the non-primary residential line rate, and ISDN PRI lines will be charged 5 times the multiline business rate.

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**SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES (CONT' D)**

**6.1 End User Common Line Charge (cont' d)**

State	Primary Residential Line	Additional Residential Line(s)	Primary Business Line	Additional Business Line(s)
California	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.84 (N)
Colorado	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$9.33 (N)
Florida	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.84 (N)
Illinois	\$8.00 (I)	\$8.00 (I)	\$8.00 (I)	\$5.50 (I)
Indiana	\$8.00 (I)	\$8.00 (I)	\$8.00 (I)	\$6.52 (I)
Iowa	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$5.92 (N)
Kansas	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$6.28 (N)
Massachusetts	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$7.44 (N)
Michigan	\$9.63 (I)	\$9.63 (I)	\$7.56 (I)	\$7.56 (I)
Minnesota	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$6.05 (N)
Montana	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$10.20 (N)
Nebraska	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$6.90 (N)
New Jersey	\$8.00 (I)	\$8.29 (I)	\$8.00 (I)	\$8.29 (I)
New York	\$8.00 (I)	\$8.00 (I)	\$8.00 (I)	\$7.44 (I)
North Dakota	\$6.50 (N)	\$7.00 (N)	\$6.50 (N)	\$7.98 (N)
Ohio	\$8.00 (I)	\$8.00 (I)	\$8.00 (I)	\$6.94 (I)
Oregon	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$7.96 (N)
Pennsylvania	\$8.00 (I)	\$8.08 (I)	\$8.00 (I)	\$8.08 (I)
Texas	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$6.28 (N)
Washington	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$8.00 (N)	\$7.11 (N)
Wisconsin	\$8.00 (I)	\$8.00 (I)	\$8.00 (I)	\$6.06 (I)

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**SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES, (CONT'D)**

**6.2 End User Port Charge**

The End User Port (EUP) Charge is a monthly, flat-rated charge assessed to end users for each local exchange service line or trunk.

<b>ISDN BRI:</b>	\$ 2.44
<b>ISDN PRI:</b>	\$14.00

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**SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES (CONT'D)**

**6.3 Presubscribed Interexchange Carrier Charge**

The Presubscribed Interexchange Carrier Charge (PICC) is a monthly, flat-rated charge assessed to the interexchange carrier for each presubscribed local exchange service line or trunk. The PICC will be based on a monthly snapshot of end user accounts. No fractional debits or credits will be created. Additionally PICCs will be assessed to end user Customers on Ano-PIC@ lines.

Centrex lines will be billed 1/9<sup>th</sup> of the multiline business rate. For Centrex groups with fewer than 9 lines, the per line charge will be the multiline business rate divided by the number of lines in the Centrex group.

ISDN BRI lines will be charged the non-primary residential line rate, and ISDN PRI lines will be charged 5 times the multiline business rate.

<b><u>Primary Residential or Single Line Business</u></b> per line or trunk	<b><u>Non-Primary Residential</u></b> per line or trunk	<b><u>Multiline Business</u></b> per line or trunk
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4.31

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**SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES, (CONT'D)**

**6.4 PIC Change Charge**

Nonrecurring Charge per Change: \$5.00

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**SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES (CONT'D)****6.6 Billing Name and Address****6.6.1 Service Description**

Billing Name and Address (BNA) service provides account detail of the Company's Customers to interexchange carriers, operator service providers, enhanced service providers, and any other provider of interstate telecommunications services.

**6.6.2 General**

- A. Upon acceptance of an order for BNA service, the Company will furnish account detail for each working number submitted. Account detail consists of current data base information including the end user's billing name and billing address.
- B. Only current information which resides in the Company's data base will be provided. Customers ordering BNA service must accept BNA account detail on an As is@ basis.
- C. The Company will specify the location where requests for BNA service are to be received, and the format in which the requests are to be provided.
- D. The subscribing Customer must agree that BNA information will not be resold or otherwise provided to any other person, corporation, partnership or entity, other than Customer's authorized billing agent, and that Billing Name and Address shall be used by Customer or Customer's authorized billing agent solely for:
  - 1. Billing its Customers for using Customer's telecommunications services.
  - 2. Any purpose associated with the equal access requirement of United States v. AT&T, 552 F. Supp. 131 (D.D.C. 1982).
  - 3. Verification of service orders of new Customers, identification of Customers who have moved to a new address, fraud prevention, and similar nonmarketing purposes.

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**SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES (CONT' D)****6.6 Billing Name and Address (cont' d)****6.6.2 General (cont' d)**

For calling card calls and collect and third party billed calls, Billing Name and Address for ANI service is not available on accounts of nonpublished/unlisted end users who, by request to the Company (which request may be submitted at any time), have specified that such information not be released.

**E. Manual Request**

1. At the Customer's option, the Company will provide BNA via manual request procedures.
2. BNA service information will be provided by the Company in standard paper format via facsimile or first class U.S. mail.
3. Wherever possible, the Company will provide Billing Name and Address for ANI data no later than ten (10) business days from the date of receipt of the Customer's request. Availability of data may be delayed if errors exist in the request received from the Customer.
4. In situations where the Customer requests more than forty (40) BNA records on a single order, the Company will provide the requested BNA information in a time frame mutually agreed to by the Customer and the Company.

**F. Mechanized Request**

1. At the Customer's option, the Company will provide BNA, subject to procedures established for Customer Account Record Exchange (CARE).
2. The Customer will submit its requests through proper CARE procedures, as revised or amended.

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**SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES (CONT' D)**

**6.6 Billing Name and Address (cont' d)**

**6.6.3 Rate Regulations**

The number of BNA records for which charges apply will be accumulated by the Company, and billed to the Customer on a monthly basis at the rates set forth in 6.6.4 following.

**6.6.4 Rates and Charges**

	BNA Request <u>Manual</u>	BNA Request <u>Mechanized</u>
Billing Name and Address for ANI - Per ANI Requested	\$1.00	ICB

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**SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES (CONT' D)****6.7 Local Number Portability (LNP)**

Local Number Portability (LNP) allows, where facilities permit: (1) a local exchange telephone service Customer to maintain the same Directory Number (DN) when changing from one telecommunications service provider to another while remaining at the same location; and (2) callers to complete calls to numbers that have been ported. This capability has been activated on a switch specific basis as specified in the Local Exchange Routing Guide (LERG) and/or the National Exchange Carrier Association Inc., F.C.C. No. 4. Tariff.

**6.7.1 Local Number Portability Query Description**

- A. LNP Query (LNPQ) is an advanced intelligent network capability which utilizes the common channel signaling network to query a database to secure network routing instructions before completion of a call. This database contains the Location Routing Number (LRN) that identifies the switch of the Local Service Provider that serves a Customer with a ported DN. The LRN is used to direct the call to the correct network switching element for completion to the end user Customer. Where more than one network is involved in completing the call, the network prior to the termination (i.e., the N-1 Network) is normally responsible for querying a LNP database to secure the LRN which is then used in routing the call. In some network arrangements, a third-party's tandem may be interposed between the N-1 carrier and the terminating network.
- B. Where the carrier does not perform a database query, and delivers a call directly to a switch in the Company's network for a NXX designated as a number portable code in the Local Exchange Routing Guide and National Exchange Carrier Association Inc. F.C.C. No. 4, the Company may perform a query for the carrier delivering the call to the Company and bill that carrier a LNP Query charge as described herein.
- C. When the Company is the first point of switching for terminating traffic to another local exchange carrier (e.g., a Company tandem switch), the Company will perform the query on behalf of the carrier delivering the call to the Company and bill that carrier a LNP Query charge as shown herein.

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**SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES (CONT' D)****6.7 Local Number Portability (LNP) (cont' d)****6.7.2 Local Number Portability Query Arrangements**

- A. There are two arrangements of LNPQ available through the Company's network:
- LNP Query-Tandem
  - LNP Query-End Office
- B. Following is a detailed description of the available service application.
1. When the Company performs a query on behalf of a carrier delivering the call to the Company, the Company's end office or tandem switch will suspend call processing, formulate and launch a query via the common channel signaling network to a LNP database to obtain information necessary to route calls to numbers in portable NXX codes. When the necessary routing information has been returned from the LNP database to the switch originating the query, call processing is resumed and the call is routed to the correct network switching element for completion to the called party.
  2. When a Company tandem switch performs the query on behalf of a carrier, a LNP Query-Tandem charge is applied whenever the call is to a NXX designated as a number portable code in the Local Exchange Routing Guide and/or National Exchange Carrier Association Inc. F.C.C. No. 4. Tariff.
  3. When a Company end office switch performs the query on behalf of a carrier, a LNP Query-End Office charge will apply when the called Directory Number has ported out of the Company switch.

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**SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES (CONT' D)****6.7 Local Number Portability (LNP) (cont' d)****6.7.3 Limitations**

LNP is used on a call-by-call basis only for routing calls to number portable NXX codes, and cannot be used for purposes other than those described herein unless expressly authorized in writing by the Company.

**6.7.4 Local Number Portability Network Management**

The Company will administer its network to ensure the provision of acceptable service levels to all telecommunications users of the Company's network services. The Company maintains the right to apply automated or manual protective controls which would generally be applied as a result of occurrences such as failure or overload of Company facilities, Customer facilities, or other networks, natural disasters, mass calling, or national security demands.

**6.7.5 LNPQ Rate Regulations**

The rates and charges associated with LNPQ will be billed monthly, based on recorded usage. For billing purposes, each month is considered to have thirty (30) days.

**A. LNPQ Rate Elements**

The LNP Query rate element provides for the identification of the Location Routing Number information associated with the directory number including transport of the query to and from the database. This charge is assessed, regardless of the outcome of the query, at either a Tandem or End Office rate depending on where the query was launched.

1. LNP Query-Tandem query charges are assessed for each non-queried call delivered by a carrier to the Company Tandem to for any NXX designated as a number portable code in the Local Exchange Routing Guide and/or National Exchange Carrier Association F.C.C. No. 4. Tariff. This charge is also assessed when a carrier delivers calls to other LECs through a Company Tandem.



**SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES (CONT' D)**

**6.7 Local Number Portability (LNP) (cont' d)**

**6.7.5 LNPQ Rate Regulations (cont' d)**

A. LNPQ Rate Elements (cont' d)

2. LNP Query-End Office query charges are assessed to each non-queried call delivered to the Company by a carrier destined to a Directory Number that has been ported out of a Company end office switch, and the end office switch performs the query.

B. LNPQ Rates

LNP Query-Tandem (per query)	\$0.012
LNP Query-End Office (per query)	\$0.012

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**SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES (CONT' D)**

**6.7 Local Number Portability (LNP) (cont' d)**

**6.7.6 LNP End User Surcharge**

- A. The Company will assess a monthly number-portability charge to end users served by LNP-capable switches. The charge applies to Company's end users served by LNP capable switches effective with this tariff section, and for a period no longer than five years. The Company will assess the charge in each end office at such time as the end office becomes LNP capable.
- B. The monthly charge is assessed, as determined by the Company, to all end users or resellers of local exchange service. The LNP End User Surcharge is assessed on a per line basis except as set forth following:
  - 1. When a Customer is provided Integrated Services Digital Network-Primary Rate Interface (ISDN-PRI) that permits the provision of up to 24 voice-grade equivalent channels over a single T-1 facility, the LNP End User Surcharge for ISDN-PRI is assessed per T-1 facility;
  - 2. When a Customer is provided PBX Service, the LNP End User Surcharge is assessed per PBX trunk;
  - 3. The LNP End User Surcharge is not assessed to Lifeline Customers.
- C. LNP End User Surcharge Rates

The rates and charges associated with LNP End User Surcharge will be billed monthly.

Basic, per line <u>per month</u>	ISDN-PRI, per T-1 <u>per month</u>	PBX, per trunk <u>per month</u>
\$0.35	\$1.75	\$3.15

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**SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES (CONT' D)**

**6.7 Local Number Portability (LNP) (cont' d)**

**6.7.6 LNP End User Surcharge (cont' d)**

C. Reserved for future use

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**SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES (CONT'D)****6.8 Operator Transfer Service**

Operator Transfer Service is an arrangement in which Company operators transfer 0- and End User dialed calls, i.e., the End User dials 0 with no additional digits, to the Customer designated by the End User.

The operator answers the End User 0- dialed call and determines that the End User wants to place an interLATA call. Initially, the operator will direct the End User to dial the Customer on a 0+ or 1+ basis. If the End User insists that the operator complete the call:

- If the End User identifies a Customer who subscribes to Operator Transfer Service, the operator will transfer the call to the identified Customer.
- If the End User has no preference or the identified Customer does not subscribe to Operator Transfer Service, the End User will be asked to select from a list of Customers who subscribe to Operator Transfer Service. The operator will transfer the call to the identified Customer.

The list of available Operator Transfer Service Customers will be updated monthly. The order in which Customers will be read to End Users will be initially determined by lottery. For each subsequent monthly update, following the initial order selection, the Customer in the first position on the list will be moved to the last position on the list. All other Customers on the list will be moved up one position, e.g., 3rd to 2nd, 2nd to 1st, etc. New Operator Transfer Service Customers will be placed at the bottom of the list of Customers pending the next monthly update.

All rates and charges normally applicable to switched access service, i.e., nonrecurring, monthly recurring, and usage sensitive, apply to Operator Transfer Service.

Per 0- Call Transferred: \$0.4588

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**SECTION 6 - MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES (CONT'D)**

**6.9 Federal Access Recovery Assessment (Federal ARA):**

Customers will be assessed a monthly Federal Access Recovery Assessment ("Federal ARA"). Federal Communication Commission allows Carriers to recover costs associated with interstate access charges and is applied each month in which a Local Customer has interstate or international calling charges. The charge is applied in full whether or not the Customer's billing period covers an entire month. Customers with Toll Bundles will be assessed the Federal ARA. The Federal ARA rates are as follows:

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Residential and Single Line Business accounts: \$2.50 per month per line\*

(T)(I)

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\* Not applicable to Life Line Customers

Multi-Line Business accounts: \$5.00 per month per line\*\*

(T)(I)

(T)

\*\* For Local Centrex, PRI and T-1 service, a maximum of 5 line charges per month.

**SECTION 7 - DEDICATED ACCESS SERVICE**

The Company provides interstate Dedicated Access Service for use as a stand-alone service, or in connection with other Company services. Dedicated Access Services are offered on a point-to-point basis. Each Dedicated Access Service is dedicated to the Customer and the entire usable bandwidth for each service is available to the Customer for their exclusive use.

Pricing for all Dedicated Access Services is on an Individual Case Basis (ICB).

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**SECTION 8 - SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS****8.1 Individual Case Basis (ICB) Arrangements**

Arrangements will be developed on an Individual Case Basis (ICB) in response to a bona fide special request from a Customer or prospective Customer to develop a competitive bid for a service, or to establish rates for services for which the Company has not yet established generically tariffed rates. ICB rates will be offered to the Customer in writing and on a non-discriminatory basis.

**8.2 Contracts**

The Company may provide any of the services offered under this tariff, or combinations of services, to Customers on a contractual basis. The terms and conditions of each contract offering are subject to the agreement of both the Customer and Company. Such contract offerings will be made available to similarly situated Customers in substantially similar circumstances. Rates in other sections of this tariff do not apply to Customers who agree to contract arrangements, with respect to services within the scope of the contract.

Services provided under contract are not eligible for any promotional offerings which may be offered by the Company from time to time.

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