

ACCESS SERVICES

RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING
THE PROVISION OF SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICES
FOR CONNECTION TO INTERSTATE COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES
FURNISHED BY
MADISON RIVER COMMUNICATIONS, LLC
d/b/a CenturyLink
AND ITS CONCURRING CARRIERS BETWEEN
POINTS IN THE UNITED STATES AS SPECIFIED HEREIN.

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Issue Date:
December 14, 2011

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CHECK SHEET

The title page and pages 1 through 5-8 inclusive of this tariff are effective as of the dates shown. Original and revised pages, as named below, comprise all changes from the original tariff in effect on the date indicated.

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EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS, REFERENCE MARKS, AND ABBREVIATIONS OF TECHNICAL TERMS USED IN THIS TARIFF

The following symbols shall be used in this Tariff for the purpose indicated below:

EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

- C - to signify a changed regulation
- D - to signify a discontinued rate or regulation
- I - to signify a rate increase
- M - to signify a matter moved or relocated without change
- N - to signify a new rate or regulation
- R - to signify a rate reduction
- S - to signify a reissued matter
- T - to signify a change in text but no change in rate, regulation or charge
- Z - to signify a correction

EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS

- PSTN - Public Switched Telephone Network
- TDM - Time Division Multiplexing
- VoIP - Voice over Internet Protocol

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Service Switching Point (SSP)

A Service Switching Point denotes an end office or tandem which, in addition to having SS7 and SP capabilities, is also equipped to query centralized data bases.

Service Wire Center

The term "Serving Wire Center" denotes the wire center from which the Customer designated premises would normally obtain dial tone.

Shared

A facility or equipment system or subsystem that can be used simultaneously by several Customers.

Signaling Point (SP)

The term "Signaling Point (SP)" denotes an SS7 network interface element capable of originating and terminating SS7 trunk signaling messages.

Signaling System 7 (SS7)

The term "Signaling System 7 (SS7)" denotes the layered protocol used for standardized common channel signaling in the United States and Puerto Rico.

Toll Free

A term to describe an inbound communications service which permits a call to be completed at a location without charge to the calling party. Access to the service is gained by dialing a ten (10) digit telephone number (e.g. NPA is 800, 888, etc.).

Universal Emergency Telephone Number (911) Service

Wherever feasible, the Company will provide a universal Central Office number "911" for the use of Public Safety Agencies having the responsibility to protect the safety and property of the general public. It is intended that use of 911 Service will provide the public with a means of simple and direct telephone access to a Public Safety Answering Point.

VoIP-PSTN Traffic

The term "VoIP-PSTN Traffic" shall have the meaning denoted in the Federal Communications Commission Report and Order in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, etc., FCC Release No. 11-161 (November 18, 2011). It is traffic exchanged over PSTN (Public Switched Telephone Network) facilities that originates and/or terminates in IP (Internet Protocol) format.

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Wire Center

A building in which one or more central offices, used for the provision of Exchange Services, are located.

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2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.3 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (Cont'd)

A) (Cont'd)

2) Feature Group D (Cont'd)

For originating access minutes, the projected interstate percentage will be developed on a monthly basis by end office where the Feature Group D Switched Access Service access minutes (the access minutes where the calling number is in one state and the called number is in the same state) by the total originating access minutes, when the call detail is adequate to determine the appropriate jurisdiction.

For terminating access minutes, the data used by the Telephone Company to develop the projected interstate percentage for originating access minutes will be used to develop the projected interstate percentage for such terminating access minutes.

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. This percentage shall be used by the Telephone Company as the projected interstate percentage for originating and terminating access minutes. The projected intrastate percentage of use will be obtained by subtracting the projected interstate percentage for originating and terminating minutes from 100 (intrastate percentage – 100 interstate percentage).

When the customer has both interstate and intrastate Operator Services traffic, the percentage interstate usage determined for the customer's FGD service will be applied to the customer's Operator Services charges.

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(x) Material omitted from this page now appears on Original Page 2-9.6.

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2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

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2.3.4 Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic(A) Scope

VoIP-PSTN Traffic is defined as traffic exchanged between a Telephone Company end user and the customer in Time Division Multiplexing ("TDM") format that originates and/or terminates in Internet Protocol ("IP") format. This section governs the identification of VoIP-PSTN Traffic that is required to be compensated at interstate access rates, unless the parties have agreed otherwise, by the Federal Communications Commission in its Report and Order in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, etc., FCC Release No. 11-161 (November 18, 2011)("FCC Order"). Specifically this section establishes the method of separating VoIP-PSTN Traffic from the customer's traditional intrastate access traffic, so that VoIP-PSTN Traffic can be billed in accordance with the FCC Order.

(B) VoIP-PSTN Traffic identified in accordance with this tariff section will be billed at rates equal to the Telephone Company's applicable tariffed interstate switched access rate as specified in Section 5 following.

(C) Calculation and Application of Percent-VoIP-Usage Factors

Telephone Company will determine the number of VoIP-PSTN Traffic minutes of use ("MOU") to which interstate rates will be applied under (B) preceding, by applying an originating Percent VoIP Usage ("PVU") factor to the total intrastate access MOU originated by a Telephone Company end user and delivered to the customer and by applying a terminating PVU factor to the total intrastate access MOU terminated by a customer to the Telephone Company's end user.

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2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

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2.3.4 Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic (Cont'd)(C) Calculation and Application of Percent-VoIP-Usage Factors (Cont'd)

- (1) The customer will calculate and furnish to the Telephone Company an originating PVU factor representing the whole number percentage of the customer's total originating intrastate access MOU that the customer exchanges with the Telephone Company in the state that is received from the Telephone Company and that is terminated in IP format and that would be billed by the Telephone Company as intrastate access MOU.
- (2) The customer will calculate and furnish to the Telephone Company a terminating PVU factor representing the whole number percentage of the customer's total terminating intrastate access MOU that the customer exchanges with the Telephone Company in the state that is sent to the Telephone Company and which originated in IP format and that would be billed by the Telephone Company as intrastate access MOU.
- (3) The customer shall not modify their reported PIU factor to account for VoIP-PSTN traffic.
- (4) Both the customer provided originating PVU and the terminating PVU 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 which will be provided to Telephone Company upon request.
- (5) The customer shall retain the call detail, work papers and information used to develop the PVU factors for a minimum of one year.
- (6) If the customer does not furnish the Telephone Company with a PVU factor, the Telephone Company will utilize a PVU equal to zero.

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2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

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2.3.4 Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic (Cont'd)(D) Initial Implementation of PVU Factors

- (1) If the PVU factors cannot be implemented in the Telephone Company's billing systems by December 29, 2011, once the factors can be implemented, the Telephone Company will adjust the customer's bills to reflect the PVU factors prospectively in the next bill period, if the PVU factors are provided by the customer to the Telephone Company prior to April 15, 2012.
- (2) The Telephone Company may choose to provide credits based on the reported PVU factors on a quarterly basis until such time as the billing system modifications can be implemented.

(E) PVU Factor Updates

The customer may update the PVU factors quarterly using the method set forth in (C)(1) and (2) preceding. If the customer chooses to submit such updates, it shall forward to the Telephone Company, no later than 15 days after the first of January, April, July and/or October of each year, revised PVU factors based on data for the prior three months, ending the last day of December, March, June and September, respectively. The revised PVU factors will serve as the basis for future billing and will be effective on the next bill date, and shall serve as the basis for subsequent monthly billing until superseded by new PVU factors. No prorating or backbilling will be done based on the updated PVU factors.

(F) PVU Factor Verification

- (1) Not more than twice in any year, the Telephone Company may request from the customer an overview of the process used to determine the PVU factors, the call detail records, description of the method for determining how the end user originates or terminates calls in IP format, and other information used to determine the customer's PVU factors furnished to the Telephone Company in order to validate the PVU factors supplied. The customer shall comply, and shall reasonably supply the requested data and information within 15 days of the Telephone Company's request.

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2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)2.3.4 Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic (Cont'd)(F) PVU Factor Verification (Cont'd)

- (2) The Telephone Company may dispute the customer's PVU factor based upon:
- (a) A review of the requested data and information provided by the customer.
 - (b) The Telephone Company's reasonable review of other market information, FCC reports on VoIP lines, such as FCC Form 477 or state level results based on FCC Local Competition Report or other relevant data.
 - (c) A change in the reported PVU factor by more than five percentage points from the preceding quarter.
- (3) If after review of the data and information, the customer and the Telephone Company establishes revised PVU factors, the customer and the Telephone Company will begin using those revised PVU factors with the next bill period.
- (4) If the dispute is unresolved, the Telephone Company may initiate an audit. The Telephone Company shall limit audits of the customer's PVU factor to no more than twice per year. The customer may request that the audit be conducted by an independent auditor. In such cases, the associated auditing expenses will be paid by the customer.
- (a) In the event that the customer fails to provide adequate records to enable the Telephone Company or an independent auditor to conduct an audit verifying the customer's PVU factors, the Telephone Company will bill the usage for all contested periods using the most recent undisputed PVU factors reported by the customer. These PVU factors will remain in effect until the audit can be completed.

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2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.4 Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic (Cont'd)

(F) PVU Factor Verification (Cont'd)

(4) (Cont'd)

- (b) During the audit, the undisputed PVU factors from the previous reporting period will be used by the Telephone Company.
- (c) The Telephone Company will adjust the customer's PVU factors based on the results of the audit and implement the revised PVU in the next billing period or quarterly report date, whichever is first. The revised PVU factors will apply for the next two quarters before new factors can be submitted by the customer.
- (d) If the audit supports the customer's PVU factors, the usage for the contested periods will be adjusted to reflect the customer's audited PVU factors.

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2.4 Customer Equipment and Channels

2.4.1 Interconnection of Facilities

- A) In order to protect the Company's facilities and personnel and the services furnished to other Customers by the Company from potentially harmful effects, the signals applied to the Company's service shall be such as not to cause damage to the facilities of the Company. Any special interface equipment necessary to achieve the compatibility between facilities of the Company and the channels or facilities of others shall be provided at the Customer's expense.

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Certain material found on this page formerly appeared on Original Page 2-9.

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