

Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. --  
CLEC Division

TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 1  
1st Revised Title Page  
Cancels Original Title Page

ACCESS SERVICE

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Regulations, Rates and Charges  
applying to the provision of Access Service  
for connection to Interstate communications  
facilities for Interstate Customers within  
the operating territory of

**Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. -- CLEC Division**

in the State of Montana.

All material contained herein is new.

Access Services are provided by means of wire, fiber optics, radio,  
or any other suitable technology or combination thereof.

Transmittal No. 3

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Circle, MT 59215

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ACCESS SERVICE -- CARRIER TO CARRIER  
CHECK SHEET

Title Page and Pages 1 to 154 inclusive of this tariff are effective as of the date shown. Original and revised pages as named below contain all changes from the original tariff that are in effect on the date hereof.

<u>Page</u>	<u>Revision</u>								
Title									
Page	1st*	38	Original	69	Original	107	Original	145	Original
1	2nd*	39	1st*	70	Original	108	Original	146	Original
2	1st*	39.1	Original*	71	Original	109	Original	147	Original
3	Original	40	Original	72	Original	110	Original	148	Original
4	1st*	41	Original	73	Original	111	Original	149	Original
5	Original	42	Original	74	Original	112	Original	150	Original
6	Original	43	Original	75	Original	113	Original	151	Original
7	Original	44	Original	76	1st	114	Original	152	Original
8	Original	45	Original	77	Original	115	Original	153	Original
9	Original	46	Original	78	Original	116	Original	154	Original
10	1st*	47	Original	79	Original	117	Original		
11	1st*	48	Original	80	Original	118	Original		
12	Original	49	Original	81	1st*	119	Original		
13	Original	50	Original	81.1	Original*	120	1st		
14	Original	51	Original	82	Original	121	Original		
15	Original	52	Original	83	Original	122	Original		
16	Original	53	Original	84	Original	123	1st		
17	Original	54	Original	85	Original	124	1st		
18	Original	55	Original	86	Original	125	Original		
19	Original	56	Original	87	Original	126	1st		
20	Original	57	Original	88	Original	127	Original		
21	Original	58	Original	89	Original	128	Original		
22	Original	59	Original	90	Original	129	Original		
23	Original	60	Original	91	Original	130	Original		
24	Original	61	Original	92	Original	131	Original		
25	Original	62	Original	93	Original	132	Original		
26	Original	63	Original	94	Original	133	Original		
27	Original	64	Original	95	Original	134	Original		
28	Original	64.1	1st*	96	Original	135	Original		
29	Original	64.2	1st*	97	Original	136	Original		
30	Original	64.3	Original	98	Original	137	Original		
31	Original	64.4	1st*	99	Original	138	Original		
32	Original	64.5	Original	101	Original	139	Original		
33	Original	64.6	1st*	102	Original	140	Original		
34	Original	65	Original	103	Original	141	Original		
35	Original	66	Original	104	Original	142	Original		
36	Original	67	Original	105	Original	143	Original		
37	Original	68	Original	106	Original	144	Original		

\*New or Revised Page  
Issued: January 30, 2012

Transmittal No. 3

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904 C Avenue  
Circle, MT 59215

(T)

ACCESS SERVICE -- CARRIER TO CARRIER

---

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ISSUING CARRIER - TITLE PAGE	
CHECK SHEET	1
TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
LIST OF CONCURRING, CONNECTING AND OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS	8
EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS	9
EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS	10
EXPLANATION OF DEFINITIONS	12
REFERENCE TO OTHER TARIFFS AND/OR PUBLICATIONS	18
1. APPLICATION OF TARIFF	20
2. GENERAL REGULATIONS	21
2.1 Undertaking of the Company	21
2.1.1 Scope	21
2.1.2 Terms and Conditions	20
2.1.3 Limitations	23
2.1.3.1 Assignment or Transfer of Services	23
2.1.3.2 Provisioning Sequence	24
2.1.3.3 Ownership of Facilities	24
2.1.3.4 Liability	25
2.1.4 Provision of Equipment and Facilities	30
2.1.5 Equipment or Facilities	32
2.1.6 Notification of Service-Affecting Activities	33
2.1.7 Non-routine Installation	34
2.1.8 Special Construction/Special Arrangements	34
2.2 Obligations of the Customer	36
2.2.1 Claims	39
2.2.2 Call Signaling	39.1 (N)
2.3 Customer Equipment and Channels	39
2.3.1 General	39
2.3.2 Terminal Equipment	40
2.3.3 Interconnection of Facilities	40
2.3.4 Inspections	41
2.3.5 Prohibited Uses	42

---

Transmittal No. 3

Issued: January 30, 2012

Effective: January 31, 2012

Issued by: Board President  
904 C Avenue  
Circle, MT 59215

(T)

ACCESS SERVICE -- CARRIER TO CARRIER

---

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Cont'd)

3.3	Access Ordering Charges	71
3.3.1	Access Order Charge	71
3.3.2	Access Order Change Charge	72
3.3.3	Service Date Change Charge	72
3.3.4	Design Change Charge	73
3.3.5	Miscellaneous Service Order Charge	73
3.3.6	Cancellation of Access Order Charge	74
4.	SWITCHED ACCESS - CARRIER COMMON LINE ACCESS SERVICE	75
4.1	General	75
4.1.1	Rate Categories	75
5.	SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE - Feature Group D Switched Service	76
5.1	General	76
5.1.1	Rate Categories	76
5.2	Feature Group D - Digital Switched 56 Service	79
5.2.1	General	79
5.2.1.1	Rate Categories	79
5.3	Feature Group D - Common Channel Signaling Network Connection (SS-7)	80
5.3.1	General	80
5.3.1.1	Rate Categories	81
5.4	Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic	81.1 (N)(T)
5.4.1	General	81.1 (N)

---

Transmittal No. 3

Issued: January 30, 2012

Effective: January 31, 2012

Issued by: Board President  
904 C Avenue  
Circle, MT 59215

(T)

ACCESS SERVICE -- CARRIER TO CARRIER

---

EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS

ANI	Automatic Number Identification	
BHMC	Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity	
CABS	Carrier Access Billing	
CDP	Customer Designated Premises	
CI	Channel Interface	
CIR	Committed Information Rate	
CN	Charge Number	(N)
CO	Central Office	
CL	Common Line	
CPN	Calling Party Number	(N)
DA	Directory Assistance	
DDD	Direct Distance Dialing	
DS	Digital Standard	
EF	Entrance Facility	
EPVC	Extended Permanent Virtual Connection	
ESS	Electronic Switching System	
EU	End User	
EUP	End User Port	
FCC	Federal Communications Commission	
FG	Feature Group	
FRAC	Frame Relay Access Connection	

---

Transmittal No. 3

Issued: January 30, 2012

Effective: January 31, 2012

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904 C Avenue  
Circle, MT 59215

(T)

ACCESS SERVICE -- CARRIER TO CARRIER

---

EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS (Cont'd)

FRIC	Frame Relay Inter-network Connection	
IC	Interexchange Carrier	
ICP	Inter-Network Customer Port	
LATA	Local Access & Transport Area	
LA	Lifeline Assistance	
MPB	Meet Point Billing	
MTS	Message Toll Service	
NEC	New Exchange Carrier	
NRC	Nonrecurring Charge	
POT	Point of Termination	
PSTN	Public Switched Telephone Network	(N)
PVC	Permanent Virtual Connection	
RCC	Rural Health Care Corp.	
SLC	Schools & Libraries Corp.	
SPVC	Standard Permanent Virtual Connection	
TDM	Time Division Multiplexing	(N)
USF	Universal Service Fund	
USAC	Universal Service Administrative Co.	
VG	Voice Grade	
WATS	Wide Area Telephone Service	
WSO	WATS Service Office	

---

Transmittal No. 3

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Effective: January 31, 2012

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904 C Avenue  
Circle, MT 59215

(T)

ACCESS SERVICE -- CARRIER TO CARRIER

---

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

2.2 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.2.1 Claims

With respect to any Service or facility provided by the Company, Customer shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Company from and against all claims, actions, damages, liabilities, costs, and expenses for:

- (a) any loss, destruction, or damage to property of the Company or any third party, or the death or injury to persons, including, but not limited to, employees, or invitees of either party, to the extent caused by or resulting from the negligent or intentional act or omission of the Customer, its employees, agents, representatives, or invitees; or
- (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 Service(s) and facilities in a manner not contemplated by the agreement between Customer and Company.

2.2.2 Call Signaling

Depending on the signaling system used by the Customer in its network, the Customer's facilities shall transmit the following call signaling information to the Company on traffic the Customer's end users originate which is handed off for termination on the Company's network.

(a) Signaling System 7 (SS7) Signaling

When the Customer uses SS7 signaling, it will transmit the Calling Party Number (CPN) or, if different from the CPN, the Charge Number (CN) information in the SS7 signaling stream.

(N)

(N)

(M)

(M) Certain regulations previously found on this page can now be found on page 39.1  
Transmittal No. 3

Issued: January 30, 2012

Effective: January 31, 2012

Issued by: Board President  
904 C Avenue  
Circle, MT 59215

(T)

ACCESS SERVICE -- CARRIER TO CARRIER

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2. GENERAL REGULATIONS (Cont'd) (N)
- 2.2 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)
- 2.2.2 Call Signaling (Cont'd)
- (b) Multi – Frequency (MF) Signaling
- When the Customer uses MF signaling, it will transmit the number of the calling party or, if different from the number of the calling party, the Charge Number (CN) information in the MF Automatic Number Identification (ANI) field.
- (c) Internet Protocol (IP) Signaling
- When the Customer uses IP signaling, it will transmit the telephone number of the calling party or, if different from the telephone number, the billing number of the calling party. (N)
- 2.3 Customer Equipment and Channels (M)
- 2.3.1 General
- A Customer may transmit or receive information or signals via the facilities of the Company. The Company's Services are designed primarily, but not exclusively, for the transmission of voice grade telephonic signals, except as otherwise stated in this tariff. The Company does not guarantee that its Service(s) will be suitable for purposes other than voice grade telephonic communication except as specifically stated in this tariff. (M)

(M) Certain regulations found on this page formerly appeared on page 39.

---

Transmittal No. 3

Issued: January 30, 2012

Effective: January 31, 2012

Issued by: Board President  
904 C Avenue  
Circle, MT 59215

(T)

ACCESS SERVICE -- CARRIER TO CARRIER

---

2.6 Definitions

Access: The ability to enter or exit a local exchange network in order to complete an interstate communication. A connection between a Customer Premises and the Customer Designated Premises of an interexchange carrier for the transmission of communication information.

Access Charge: Charges assessed to the Customer through which the provider of the switch or facilities is compensated for use of the network components.

Access Service Request (ASR): The order placed with a Local Access Provider (Company) for Access.

Advance Payment: Part or all of a payment required before the start of service.

Automatic Number Identification (ANI): The term "Automatic Number Identification" denotes the Multi-Frequency (MF) signaling parameter that identified the billing number of the calling party

(N)

Calling Party Number (CPN): The term "Calling Party Number" denotes the SS7 signaling parameter that identifies the subscriber line number or directory number of the calling party.

(N)

Carrier Common Line Charge: A charge to recover the non-traffic sensitive portion of the local loop, drop and associated equipment between the end office switch and the end user customer.

Charge Number (CN): The term "Charge Number" denotes the SS7 signaling parameter that identifies the billing telephone number of the calling party.

(N)

(N)

Committed Information Rate (CIR):

Company: Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. --, the issuer of this tariff, a competitive local exchange carrier.

Conditioning: Action taken or equipment provided to ensure appropriate transmission characteristics for specific circuits.

(M)

(M) Certain regulations previously on this page can now be found on page 64.2.

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Transmittal No. 3

Issued: January 30, 2012

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Circle, MT 59215

(T)

ACCESS SERVICE -- CARRIER TO CARRIER

---

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Customer: The person, firm or corporation which orders service and is responsible for the payment of charges and compliance with the Company's regulations.

Customer Designated Premises (CDP): Premises designed by the customer for the provision of access service.

Customer Node: The equipment located at a customer designated premises that terminates a high speed optical channel and converts the signal from an optical to an electrical format.

Customer Serving Wire Center: The end office or wire center from which a customer normally receives a dial tone. The point for a circuit's first point of trunking or switching.

Dedicated Facility: A facility, circuit or equipment system or subsystem set aside for the sole use of a specific customer.

Dial Tone Office: The local switching center where dial tone is provided for service.

Duplex Service: Service which provides for simultaneous transmission in both directions.

End User: Users of local telecommunications carrier's services who are not carriers.

End User Common Line Charge: A recurring flat monthly charge per line to residential and business end users. This charge covers a portion of the local loop costs.

Equal Access: The service which provides trunk connection to switched network services that is equal in type, quality and price to the same service provided to AT&T.

Exchange: The geographic area established by the Company and approved by the regulatory commission for the provision of local telecommunications services.

Fiber Optic Line: A thin filament of glass with a protective outer coating through which a light beam carrying communications signals may be transmitted by means of multiple internal reflections to a receiver which translates the message.

Frame: A group of data bits in a specific format, which enables network equipment to recognize the meaning and purpose of the specific bits for Packet Data Network purposes.

(M) Certain regulations on this page formerly appeared on page 64.1

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Circle, MT 59215

(T)

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ACCESS SERVICE -- CARRIER TO CARRIER

---

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Interexchange Carrier: A carrier engaged in the provision of intrastate, interstate or international telecommunications services.

Internet Protocol (IP) Signaling: The term "Internet Protocol (IP) Signaling" denotes a packet data-oriented protocol used for communicating call signaling information.

(N)  
(N)

Kbps: Kilobits, denotes one thousand bits per second.

Local Access and Transport Area: Geographic areas established for defining the territory within which a Bell Operating Company may offer its exchange telecommunications and exchange access services. Other communications entities may be associated with a BOC LATA or Independent Exchange Carriers' Market Service Area.

Mbps: Megabits, denotes millions of bits per second.

Market Service Area: The geographic area established by an Independent Exchange Carrier not associated with a Bell Operating Company LATA within which they may offer exchange or exchange access telecommunications service.

Meet Point: A point designated by two Exchange Carriers for billing purposes.

Mixed Use: The use of Switched Access and Special Access services over the same wideband and high capacity facilities through a common interface.

Multi-Frequency (MF) Signaling: The term "Multi-Frequency (MF) Signaling" denotes an in-band signaling method in which call signaling information is transmitted between network switches using the same voiceband channel used for voice.

(N)  
|  
(N)

Multiplexing: The process of combining multiple parallel circuits into a single communications channel.

Network: The Company's fiber optics based facilities and/or purchased facilities as part of an interconnection agreement.

Nonrecurring Charge: A one-time charge, generally applied to activities associated with the establishment of service, construction, rearrangements, and/or optional features and functions.

Optical Carrier Channel: The high speed optical communications path for transporting information utilizing a Synchronous Optical Channel platform.

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(T)

ACCESS SERVICE -- CARRIER TO CARRIER

---

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

RMS Jitter: Short-term variations of the significant instants of a digital signal, peak to peak, from their ideal positions in time.

Service Order: A written request for Access Services initiated by the Customer to the Company in the format devised by the Company. It is sometimes referred to as an Access Service request (ASR). The signing of a Service Order by the Customer and acceptance by the Company initiates the respective obligations of the parties set forth herein pursuant to this tariff, but the duration of service is calculated from the Service Commencement Date.

Service Commencement Date: The first day following the date on which the Company notifies the Customer that the requested service or facility is available for use, unless extended by the Customer's refusal to accept service which does not conform to standards set forth in the Service Order or this tariff. In the latter case, the Service Commencement Date is the date of the Customer's acceptance. The parties may mutually agree on a substitute Service Commencement Date.

Special Access Service: Generally dedicated (private line) facilities between two or more Customer Designated Premises.

Standard Permanent Virtual Connection (SPVC): The connection of ports within the same frame relay network or switch. A software connection sometimes referred to as Permanent Virtual Connection (PVC).

Switched Access Service: Access to the Company's local switch network by an interexchange carrier for the purposes of originating and/or terminating jurisdictional communications.

Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic: The term "Toll Vo-IP-PSTN Traffic" denotes a customer's interexchange voice traffic exchanged with the Telephone Company in Time Division Multiplexing format over PSTN facilities, which originates and/or terminates in Internet Protocol (IP) format. "Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic" originates and/or terminates in IP format when it originates from and/or terminates to an end user customer of a service that requires IP-compatible customer premises equipment.

(N)  
|  
(N)

Transport Interconnection Charge: A per-access minute charge applicable to transport per FCC CC Docket No. 91-213, Report and Order, March 5, 1998.

Wire Center: A building in which the Company's switching center is located for the purpose of providing service.

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ACCESS SERVICE – CARRIER TO CARRIER

---

5. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE – Feature Group D Switched Service (Cont'd)

5.3 Feature Group D – Common Channel Signaling Network Connection (SS-7) Cont'd

5.3.1 General (Cont'd)

5.3.1.1 Rate Categories

Flat rate access charges apply to CCSNC service as follows:

Signaling Mileage Facility (SMF) – a charge per mile for the airline distance between the serving wire center and the Company wire center, if applicable,

Signaling Mileage Termination (SMT) – a charge per termination at each end of the SMF (if the SMF mileage is zero, SMF charges do not apply.

Signaling Entrance Facility (SEF) – a charge per facility for the connection between the end office and the point of interface.

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(M) Certain regulations previously found on this page can now be found on page 81.1.

---

Transmittal No. 3

Issued: January 30, 2012

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(T)

ACCESS SERVICE – CARRIER TO CARRIER

---

5. SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE – Feature Group D Switched Service (Cont'd)

5.4 Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic

(N)(T)

5.4.1 General

The following provision applies to the treatment of Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission's Part 51 Interconnection Rules and in compliance with the Federal Communications Commission's Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 01-92; GN Docket No. 09-51; WC Docket Nos. 03-109, 05-337, 07-135 and 10-90; and WT Docket No. 10-208, adopted October 27, 2011 and released November 18, 2011 (FCC 11-161). In the absence of an interconnection agreement between the Company and the customer specifying the treatment of Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic, the Company will bill the customer the applicable switched access rates and charges specified in Section 10.3, following, on all jurisdictionally interstate voice traffic identified as Toll VoIP-PSTN Traffic.

(N)

5.5 (Reserved For Future Use)

(M)

5.6 Switched Access Service Specifications – Company Requirements

The provision of Switched Access Service has certain obligations of the Company in addition to those listed in Section 2 preceding. They are as follows:

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(M) Certain regulations found on this page formerly appeared on page 81.

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