CHECK SHEET

Pages of this tariff, as indicated below, are effective as of the date shown at the bottom of the respective pages. Original and revised pages, 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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^{* -} indicates those pages included with this filing

Transmittal No. 8

EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

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

- (C) To signify changed regulation.
- (D) To signify discontinued rate or regulation.
- (I) To signify increased rate.
- (M) To signify a move in the location of text.
- (N) To signify new rate or regulation.
- (R) To signify reduced rate.
- (S) To signify reissued matter.
- (T) To signify a change in text but no change in rate or regulation.
- (Z) To signify a correction

(N)

TARIFF FORMAT

- A. <u>Page Numbering</u> Page numbers appear in the upper right corner of the page. Each page is numbered sequentially. However, a new page is occasionally added to the Tariff. When a new page is added between those already in effect, a decimal is added. For example, a new page added between page 15 and page 16 would be page 15.1.
- B. <u>Page Revision Numbers</u> Revision numbers also appear in the upper right corner of each page. These numbers are used to determine the most current page version on file with the Commission. For example, the 4th Revised Page 15 cancels the 3rd Revised Page 15.
- C. <u>Paragraph Numbering Sequence</u> Each level of paragraph numbering herein is subservient to its next higher level as shown:

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SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS, (CONT'D)

Automatic Number Identification (ANI) - The automatic transmission of a caller's billing account telephone number to a Carrier or end user. (T)

Business Hours – The phrase "Business Hours" generally means the time beginning at 8:00 a.m. and ending at 5:00 p.m. local time at the place of Company operation, Monday through Friday excluding holidays.

Business Office – The phrase "Business Office" means the primary location where the business operations of the Company are performed and where a copy of the Company's tariffs are made available for public inspection.

Call – A communication attempt for which the complete address code (e.g., 0-, 911, or 10 digits) is provided to the Company's switch or equivalent facility. The term "Call" includes, without limitation, communications that are delivered to, or received from, wholesale customers, Internet service providers ("ISPs"), interconnected VOIP service providers, non-interconnected VOIP service providers, conference call providers, chat line providers, calling card providers, call centers, enhanced service providers, help desk providers, and residential and/or business users.

Carrier – A person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity that provides communications services.

Channel - A communications path between two or more points, regardless of the communications technology or protocol used to establish and/or maintain such path.

CIC - An interexchange carrier identification code.

Commission - Refers to the Federal Communications Commission.

Company - Used throughout this tariff to indicate the Issuing Carriers listed herein.

Company End User - Any person, firm, partnership, corporation or other entity (including, where applicable, a Carrier) that subscribes to or otherwise uses the local exchange or other telecommunications services of the Company. The term "Company End User" includes, without limitation, wholesale customers, Internet service providers ("ISPs"), interconnected VOIP service providers, non-interconnected VOIP service providers, call centers, enhanced service providers, help desk providers, and residential and/or business users.

Transmittal No. 8
Issued: May 15, 2015
Effective: May 30, 2015

SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS, (CONT'D)

Constructive Order - Delivery of calls to or acceptance of calls from the Company's End Users in whole or in part over Company's network or facilities constitutes a Constructive Order by the Customer to purchase Switched Access Services as described herein. Similarly the selection by a Company's End User of the Customer as the presubscribed IXC constitutes a Constructive Order of Switched Access Service by the Customer.

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Core - Core Communications, Inc., et al., issuers of this tariff.

CPE - Customer Premises Equipment. All Terminal Equipment or other communications equipment and/or systems provided by the Customer for use with the Company's facilities and services.

Customer - Any person, firm, corporation or other entity which orders Switched Access Service or any other Service provided pursuant to this Tariff, and is responsible for the payment of charges and for compliance with the Company's rate sheet regulations. The Customer could be an interexchange carrier, a wireless provider, or any other carrier. The Customer is responsible for the payment of charges associated with any Switched Access Service or other Service it uses, and for compliance with the terms and conditions of this Tariff.

Customer End User - Any person, firm, partnership, corporation or other entity that subscribes to or otherwise uses the long distance, toll or other communications services of the Customer.

Customer Premises - The premises specified by the Customer for delivery of Switched Access Services, for example, an interexchange carrier's Point of Presence.

Delinquent or Delinquency – An account for which payment has not been made in full on or before the last day for timely payment.

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SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS, (CONT'D)

Dual Tone Multifrequency (DTMF) - Tone signaling, also known as touch tone signaling.

End Office - The term "End Office" denotes the switching system office or serving wire center (or functionally equivalent or analogous facilities) from which Company End Users receive local exchange or other telecommunications service. Company End Users may be collocated with the Company at the End Office; or they may receive service at another location.

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Exchange Message Interface ("EMI") - The industry standard format used for exchange of telecommunications message information among carriers.

Facility (or Facilities) – Any item or items of communications plant or equipment used to provide or connect to Company Switched Access Service.

Transmittal No. 8 Issued: May 15, 2015

> Issued By: Christopher Van de Verg, General Counsel

209 West Street, Suite 302 Annapolis, Maryland 21401

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SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS, (CONT'D)

FCC – Federal Communications Commission.

Holiday – The term "holiday" means 8:00 a.m. to, but not including 11:00 p.m. local time at the originating city on all Company-specific holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. When holidays fall on Saturdays or Sundays, the holiday rate applies unless a larger discount would normally apply.

Host Office - An electronic switching system that provides call processing capabilities for one or more Remote Switching Modules or Remote Switching Systems.

Individual Case Basis or ICB - A process whereby the terms, conditions, rates and/or charges for a service provided under the general provisions of this tariff are developed or modified based on the unique circumstances in each case.

Interconnected VOIP Service - any service that: (i) enables real-time, two-way voice communications; (ii) requires a broadband connection from the user's location; and (iii) requires Internet protocol-compatible customer premises equipment (CPE).

Interstate - Refers to telecommunications between points located in different states within the United States or between a point or points in the United States and a point or points in another country.

Intrastate - Refers to telecommunications between points located within the same state.

Interexchange Carrier (IXC or IC) - A long distance telecommunications services provider that furnishes services between exchange areas.

LATA - Local Access and Transport Area. A geographic area for the provision and administration of communications services existing on February 8, 1996, as previously established by the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia in Civil Action No. 82-0192; or established by a Bell operating company after February 8, 1996 and approved by the FCC; or any other geographic area designated as a LATA in the National Exchange Carrier Association (NECA) Tariff F.C.C. No. 4.

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SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS, (CONT'D)

Local Exchange Carrier (LEC) – Any entity, including, without limitations, the Company, that is certified by

the relevant state utility commission to provide Local Exchange Service. **(T)** Local Exchange Service - Any service provided by a LEC pursuant to its certification as a LEC, including **(T)** without limitation, telephone exchange service and exchange access, whether set forth in a tariff or in a

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N/A - Not Applicable.

contract.

Night/Weekend - The words "night/weekend" mean 11:00 p.m. to, but not including, 8:00 a.m. local time in the originating city, all day on Saturday, and all day Sunday except from 5:00 p.m. to, but not including, 11:00 p.m.

Non-business Hours – The phrase "non-business hours" means the time period after 5:00 p.m. and before 8:00 a.m., Monday through Friday, all day Saturday, Sunday, and on holidays.

Non-Interconnected VOIP Service - any service that: (i) enables real-time voice communications that originate from or terminate to the user's location using Internet protocol or any successor protocol; and (ii) requires Internet protocol compatible customer premises equipment; and (iii) does not include any service that is an interconnected VoIP service.

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Non-Recurring Charge ("NRC") - The initial charge, usually assessed on a one-time basis, to initiate and establish a service or feature.

NPA - Numbering Plan Area or area code.

Off-Hook - The active condition of Switched Access Service or a channel.

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On-Hook - The idle condition of Switched Access Service, or a channel.

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Originating Direction - The use of Switched Access Service for the origination of calls from a Company End User to a Customer's Point of Presence.

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PIC Authorization - A Customer End User's selection of a PIC that meets the requirements of federal and state law.

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SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS, (CONT'D)

Point of Presence or POP - The premises associated with an interexchange or other carrier's communication and switching systems.

Presubscription - An arrangement whereby an end user selects and designates to the Company or other LEC an IXC that such end user wishes to access, without an access code, for completing interLATA and/or intraLATA toll calls.

Primary Interexchange Carrier (PIC) - The interexchange carrier (IXC) designated by an end user as its first routing choice and primary overflow carrier for routing of 1+ direct dialed and operator assisted non-local calls.

Query - The inquiry to a database to obtain information, processing instructions or service data.

Recurring Charge - The charges to the Customer for services, facilities or equipment, which continue for the agreed upon duration of the service. Recurring charges do not vary based on Customer usage of the services, facilities or equipment provided.

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Issued By: Christopher Van de Verg, General Counsel

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SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS, (CONT'D)

Remote Switching Modules or Remote Switching Systems (RSM/RSS) - Small remotely controlled electronic End Office Switching equipment which obtains its call processing capability from a Host Office. An RSM/RSS cannot accommodate direct trunks to a Customer.

Services - Services provided pursuant to this Tariff.

Service Commencement Date - For Services ordered pursuant to an ASR or Application for Service, 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 in the service order or this tariff, in which case the service commencement date is the date of the Customer's acceptance. The Company and Customer may mutually agree on a substitute service commencement date.

Switch - The terms "switch," "switching" or "switched" refer to any technical means by which a call is directed from an input source onwards towards a destination or output location by performing, for example, call set-up, supervision, and management functions or their functional equivalents. Switching may include (without limitation) either circuit or packet switching, and switching of communications individually (including, if applicable, individual packets) or in groups, depending on the technology deployed. A "switch" is a device, software, or any technical arrangement that performs or accomplishes switching. A call is "switched" when any of the above functions, or functional equivalents, is performed.

Switched Access Service - Access to the network or facilities of the Company for the purpose of originating or terminating calls. Switched Access Service is available to carriers, as defined in this rate sheet. Switched access service includes services and facilities provided for the origination or termination of any interstate or foreign calls regardless of the technology used in transmission, including, but not limited to, local exchange, long distance, and data communications services that may use either TDM or Internet protocol ("IP") or other technology, or a combination of technologies. Switched Access Service includes, but is not limited to, the functional equivalent of the incumbent local exchange carrier interstate exchange access services typically associated with following rate elements: carrier common line (originating); carrier common line (terminating); local end office switching; interconnection charge; information surcharge; tandem switched transport termination; tandem switched transport facility (per mile); tandem switching; common transport multiplexing; and common trunk port. Consistent with 47 C.F.R. § 61.26(a)(3)(ii), Switched Access Services includes the origination of calls from, or the termination of calls to, any retail end user, either directly or via contractual or other arrangements with an affiliated or unaffiliated provider of interconnected VOIP service, or a non-interconnected VOIP service, that does not itself seek to collect reciprocal compensation charges prescribed by this subpart for that traffic, regardless of the specific functions provided or facilities used.

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SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS, (CONT'D)

Terminal Equipment - Facilities located at the Customer-designated premises.

Telecommunications Service - the offering of telecommunications for a fee directly to the public, or to such classes of users as to be effectively available directly to the public, regardless of the facilities used.

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Terminating Direction - The use of Switched Access Service for the completion of calls from a Customer's Point of Presence to a Company End User.

Timely Payment - A payment on a Customer's account made on or before the due date.

Traffic - Another term for Calls. These terms expressly include communications that are delivered to, or received from, persons or entities that include, but are not limited to: conference call providers, chat line providers, calling card providers, call centers, help desk providers, and residential and/or business end users.

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

Trunk Group - A set of trunks, which are traffic engineered as a unit for the establishment of connections between switching systems in which all of the communications paths are interchangeable.

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2.7 Liability of the Company

- 2.7.1 The liability of the Company for damages of any nature arising from errors, mistakes, omissions, interruptions, or delays of the Company, its agents, servants, or employees, in the course of establishing, furnishing, rearranging, moving, terminating, changing or removing the service or facilities or equipment shall not exceed an amount equal to the charges applicable under this tariff (calculated on a proportionate basis where appropriate, at the sole discretion of the Company) to the period during which such error, mistake, omission, interruption or delay occurs.
- 2.7.2 In no event shall the Company be liable for any incidental, indirect, special, or consequential damages (including, without limitation, lost revenue or profits) of any kind whatsoever regardless of the cause or foreseeability thereof.
- 2.7.3 When the services or facilities of other carriers or providers are used separately or in conjunction with the Company's facilities or equipment in establishing connection to points not reached by the Company's facilities or equipment, the Company shall not be liable for any act or omission of such other carriers or providers or their agents, servants or employees.
- 2.7.4 The Company shall not be liable for any failure of performance hereunder if such failure is due to any cause or causes beyond the reasonable control of the Company. Such causes shall include, without limitation, acts of God, fire, explosion, vandalism, cable cut, storm or other similar occurrence, any law, order, regulation, direction, action or request of the United States government or of any other government or of any civil or military authority, national emergencies, insurrections, riots, wars, strikes, lockouts or work stoppages or other labor difficulties, supplier failures, shortages, breaches or delays, or preemption of existing service to restore service in compliance with FCC rules and regulations.

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- 2.9 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd.)
 - 2.9.2 With regard to Services provided by the Company, specific Customer responsibilities include, but are not limited to the following:
 - A. Design of Customer Services

The Customer shall be responsible for its own expense for the overall design of its services and for any redesigning or rearrangements of its services which may be required because of changes in facilities, operations or procedures of the Company, minimum protection criteria, or operating or maintenance characteristics of the facilities.

B. Network Contingency Coordination

The Customer shall, in cooperation with the Company, coordinate in planning the actions to be taken to maintain maximum network capability following natural or man-made disasters which affect telecommunications service.

C. Jurisdictional Reports

The jurisdictional reporting requirements will be as specified below. When a Customer orders Switched Access Service, its projected Percent Interstate Usage (PIU) must be provided in whole numbers to the Company. These whole number percentages will be used by the Company to apportion the use and/or charges between interstate and intrastate until a revised report is received as set forth herein. Reported or default PIU factors are used only where the call detail is insufficient to reasonably determine the appropriate jurisdiction of the traffic.

- Originating Access: Originating access minutes consist of traffic originating from the Company End Office(s). The Customer must provide the Company with a projected PIU factor on an annual basis. If no PIU for originating minutes is submitted as specified herein, the Company will apply a default PIU of 50%.
- 2) <u>Terminating Access:</u> Terminating access minutes consist of traffic terminating to the Company End Office(s). The Customer must provide the Company with a projected PIU factor on an annual basis. If no PIU for terminating minutes is submitted as specified herein, the Company will apply a default PIU of 50%.

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2.10 Billing and Payment For Service (Cont'd.)

2.10.3 Payment for Service (Cont'd.)

I. The Company will endeavor to bill usage charges monthly for the preceding billing period; however, the Company's failure to do so shall not affect the Customer's liability for such charges irrespective of the length of delay between the date of usage and the Company's billing for such usage. Company is permitted to backbill for usage within two (2) years of the date upon which service was provided.

2.10.4 Disputed Charges

- A. In the event that a billing dispute occurs concerning any charges billed to the Customer by the Company, the Customer must submit a documented claim for the disputed amount. The Customer will submit all documentation as may reasonably be required to support the claim, including but not limited to the specific invoices and amounts disputed, and all reasons therefor. All claims should be submitted to the Company within sixty (60) days of the invoice date of the bill for the disputed services. The Company shall review Customer disputes in a reasonably timely fashion, and the Company shall resolve each dispute based on the terms of this tariff.
- B. Customer shall pay any undisputed charges in full by the due date of the disputed invoice(s) and in any event, prior to or at the time of submitting a good faith dispute. Failure to tender payment for undisputed invoices, or portions of disputed invoices that are undisputed, is sufficient evidence for the Company to deny a dispute due to the Customer's failure to demonstrate that the dispute was made in good faith.
- C. If the dispute is resolved in favor of the Company and the Customer has withheld the disputed amount, any payments withheld pending resolution of the disputed amount shall be subject to the late payment penalty as set forth in 2.10.5.
- D. If the dispute is resolved in favor of the Company and the Customer has paid the disputed amount on or before the payment due date, no interest credit or penalties will apply.
- E. In the event that the Company pursues a claim in Court or before any regulatory body arising out of a Customer's refusal to make payment pursuant to this Tariff, including refusal to pay for services originating from or terminating to any Company End User, and the Company prevails on all or a substantial part of its claim, Customer shall be liable for the payment of the Company's reasonable attorneys' fees expended in collecting those unpaid amounts.

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2.10 Billing and Payment For Service (Continued)

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2.10 Billing and Payment For Service (Continued)

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2.10 Billing and Payment For Service (Continued)

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

2.10 Billing and Payment For Service (Continued)

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2.10 Billing and Payment For Service (Continued)

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

- 2.11 Taxes, Surcharges and Fees
 - 2.11.1 All taxes, if applicable, including state and local taxes (i.e., gross receipts tax, sales tax, municipal utilities tax), are listed as separate line items on the Customer's bill and are not included in the quoted rates and charges set forth in this tariff. To the extent that a municipality, other political subdivision or local agency of government, or Commission imposes upon and collects from the Company a gross receipts tax, sales tax, occupation tax, license tax, permit fee, rights-of-way fee, franchise fee, or other regulatory fee or tax, such fees and taxes shall, insofar as practicable and allowed by law, be billed pro rata to Customers receiving service from the Company within the territorial limits of such municipality, other political subdivision or local agency of government. It shall be the responsibility of the Customer to pay any such taxes and fees that subsequently become applicable retroactively.
 - 2.11.2 The Company may adjust its rates and charges or impose additional rates and charges on its Customers in order to recover amounts it is required by governmental or quasi-governmental authorities to collect from or pay to others in support of statutory or regulatory programs.

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

2.16 Interconnection

- 2.16.1 Service furnished by the Company may be connected with services or facilities of other carriers and with private systems, subject to technical limitations established by the Company. Service furnished by the Company is not part of a joint undertaking with such other carriers or systems. Any special interface equipment or facilities necessary to achieve compatibility between the facilities of Company and other participating carriers shall be provided at the Customer's expense.
- 2.16.2 Customer's connection with the facilities or services of other carriers shall be under the applicable terms and conditions of the other carriers' tariffs or contracts. The Customer is responsible for taking all necessary legal steps for interconnecting Customer-provided terminal equipment or systems with Company's facilities. Customer shall secure all licenses, permits, rights-of-way, and other arrangements necessary for such interconnection.
- 2.16.3 The Customer shall ensure that the facilities or equipment provided by another carrier are properly interconnected with the facilities or equipment of the Company. If the Customer maintains or operates the interconnected facilities or equipment in a manner which results or may result in harm to the Company's facilities, equipment, personnel, or the quality of service, the Company may, upon five (5) days written notice, require the use of protective equipment at the Customer's expense. If this written notice fails to eliminate the actual or potential harm, the Company may, upon additional five (5) days written notice, terminate the existing service of the Customer.
- 2.16.4 If harm to the Company's network, personnel or services is imminent due to interconnection with another carrier's services, the Company reserves the right to shut down Customer's service immediately, with no prior notice required.

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SECTION 3 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE

3.	General

3.1.1	Switched Access Service is available to Customers for their use in furnishing service to Customers' End Users.	(T) (T)
3.1.2	When a rate as set forth in this tariff is shown to more than two decimal places, the charges will be determined using the rate shown. The resulting amount will then be rounded to the nearest penny (i.e., rounded to two decimal places).	(T)
3.1.3	Customer may order Switched Access Service, without limitation, by means of an ASR or a Constructive Order.	(T) (T)

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SECTION 3 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE, (CONT'D)

3.2 Manner of Provision

- 3.2.1 Switched Access Service is available when originating or terminating calls from or to a Company End User.
- 3.2.2 Originating traffic represents access capacity for carrying traffic from the Company's End User to the Customer; and Terminating traffic represents access capacity for carrying traffic from the Customer to the Company's End User.
- 3.2.3 Facilities for Switched Access Service are provisioned, at minimum, at the DS-1, or functional equivalent, level and provide access to Company Switches for the Customer's use in originating and terminating communications.
- 3.2.4 Two types of Switched Access are available:
 - A. Tandem Connect Access: This option applies when there are no direct facilities between the Customer's Point of Presence and the Company's End Office. Traffic is routed to and from the Company's End Office via the appropriate Company or third-party Access Tandem.
 - B. Direct Connect Access: This option applies when the Company or a third party provides a dedicated transmission path between the Customer's Point of Presence and the Company's End Office. The Customer is responsible for providing such facilities itself or for negotiating such arrangements with potential third-party suppliers. To the extent that the Company is able to provide such arrangements, the dedicated portion of Direct Connect Access would be provided on an Individual Case Basis as Special Service Arrangements pursuant to Section 6 of this tariff.

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3.3 Switched Access Service

Switched Access Service consists of the following rate categories and elements. Depending on the network configuration of the Customer, the Company, and any third-party access tandem providers which may be involved in the call path, some of all of the following elements shall apply.

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3.3.1 Carrier Common Line

The Carrier Common Line rate category establishes charges related to the use of Channels, or any functional equivalent of the incumbent local exchange carrier Carrier Common Line service provided by the Company via analogous facilities.

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3.3.2 Switched Transport

The Switched Transport access service category includes tandem switching and common transport between the tandem switch and end office, or any functional equivalent of the incumbent local exchange carrier Switched Transport access service provided by the Company via analogous facilities.

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Switched Transport includes the following rate elements: Tandem Switched Transport-Termination, Tandem Switched Transport-Facility, Access Tandem Switching, Common Transport Multiplexing ("CMUX"), Common Tandem Port ("CTP") and Dedicated Tandem Port charges.

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3.3.3 End Office

The End Office access service category includes: (1) The switching of calls at the Company's End Office Switch and the delivery of such calls to or from the called party's premises; (2) The routing of calls to the called party's premises, either directly or via contractual or other arrangements with an affiliated or unaffiliated provider of interconnected VoIP service or a non-interconnected VoIP service that does not itself seek to collect switched access charges, regardless of the specific functions provided or facilities or technology used; or (3) Any functional equivalent of the incumbent local exchange carrier End Office access service provided by the Company via analogous services.

End Office access service, or its functional equivalent, includes the following rate elements: Local Switching—Originating, Local Switching—Terminating, Common Trunk Port, Interconnection Charge, Information Surcharge, and Dedicated Trunk Port charges.

Material previously located on this page now appears on Page 43.1.

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SECTION 3 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE, (CONT'D)

- 3.3 Switched Access Service (Cont'd.)
 - 3.3.4 Toll-Free 8YY Data Base Access Service

Toll-Free 8YY Data Base Access Service, which is available to all Customers, provides trunk-side equivalent access to the Company's Network in the originating direction only, for the Customer's use in originating calls dialed by an end user to toll free telephone numbers beginning with prefixes, 800, 888, 877, 866, 855, and/or subsequent toll-free codes.

3.3.5 Toll Free Interexchange Delivery Service

Toll Free Interexchange Delivery Service is a switched access service in which the Company switches toll-free traffic originated by any third party, including CLECs, ILECs, CMRS providers, and VoIP providers. Switched Transport, End Office, and Query elements shall apply based on the elements, or functional equivalents thereof, provided.

- 3.3.6 Disallowance of one switched access rate category or element shall in no way limit Company's ability to collect switched access charges for any other rate category or element.
- 3.3.7 Where the Company contracts or otherwise arranges with another entity to provide some or all of the facilities provisioned in the course of furnishing any Switched Access Service rate category or element hereunder, the Company shall be fully entitled to charge the applicable rate category or element.

Material appearing on this page was previously located on Page 43.

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3.6 Obligations of the Company

With regard to Services provided by the Company, specific Company responsibilities include, but are not limited to the following:

A. Network Management

The Company will administer its network to ensure that provision of acceptable service levels to all Customers and Company End Users of the Company's network services. Generally, service levels are considered acceptable only when both End Users and Customers are able to establish connections with minimal delay encountered within the Company network. The Company maintains the right to apply protective controls, i.e., those actions, such as call gapping, which selectively cancel the completion of traffic, over any traffic carried over its network, including that associated with a Customer's Switched Access Service. Generally, such protective measures would only be taken as a result of occurrences such as a failure or overload of Company or Customer facilities, natural disasters, mass calling or national security demands.

B. Design and Traffic Routing of Switched Access Service

The Company shall design and determine the routing of Switched Access Service, including the selection of the first point of switching and the selection of facilities from the interface to any switching point. The Company shall also decide if capacity is to be provided by originating only, terminating only, or two-way trunk groups. Finally, the Company will determine the appropriate technology to utilize in providing Switched Access Service, and such determination will have no impact on the rates charged for functionally equivalent services.

Selection of facilities and equipment and traffic routing of the service are based on standard engineering methods, available facilities and equipment and the Company's traffic routing plans. If the Customer desires different routing or directionality than that determined by the Company, the Company will work cooperatively with the Customer in determining (1) whether the service is to be routed directly to an end office or through an access tandem switch and (2) the directionality of the service. (T)

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3.8 Rate Regulations

3.8.1 General

There are three types of rates and charges that apply to Switched Access Service provided by the Company. These are monthly recurring charges, usage charges, and nonrecurring charges.

3.8.2 Types of Charges

- A. Nonrecurring charges are one-time charges that apply for a specific work activity. For example, nonrecurring charges may apply for installation of service, installation of optional features and service rearrangements.
- B. Recurring Charges are flat monthly rates that apply for each month or fraction thereof that a specific rate element is provided. For billing purposes, each month is considered to have thirty (30) days.
- C. Usage Charges are rates that apply only when a specific Switched Access Service element (or its functional equivalent), or category of Switched Access Service elements (or its functional equivalent), as the case may be, is provided. These are applied on a per-access minute, a per-call or per-query basis. Usage rates are accumulated over a monthly period.

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- 3.8 Rate Regulations (Continued)
 - 3.8.3 Measurement of Access Minutes



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- A. When recording originating calls over Switched Access Service with SS7 signaling, or its functional equivalent, 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 Switched Access Service usage ends when the entry switch receives or sends a release message, whichever occurs first.
- B. For terminating calls over Switched Access Service with SS7 signaling, or its functional equivalent, 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 Switched Access Service call usage ends when the entry switch receives or sends a release message, whichever occurs first.
- C. Mileage, where applicable, will be measured in accordance with standard industry practices. (T)

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SECTION 3 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE, (CONT'D)

3.8 Rate Regulations (Cont'd.)

- 3.8.3 Measurement of Access Minutes (Continued)
 - D. The Company will use the Small Exchange Carrier Access Billing ("SECAB") guidelines, or the Carrier Access Billing System ("CABS") guidelines, or other system that emulates or otherwise produces a reasonable substitute for the output of SECAB or CABS, for billing all charges under this tariff. The Company will provide billing using a hardcopy format or upon request, a mechanized medium (e.g., cartridge tape, CD ROM, etc.). Bills will be accurate and contain sufficient supporting details to allow customers to account for the charges and to verify their accuracy in a reasonable and timely fashion. Requests for additional bill detail will be handled and priced on an Individual Case Basis (ICB).

3.8.4 Moves

- A. A move of services involves a change in the physical location of one of the following:
 - 1) The point of termination at the Customer Premises, or
 - 2) The Customer Premises
- B. The charges for the move are dependent on whether the move is to a new location within the same building or to a different building as described below:
 - 1) Moves Within the Same Building

When the move is to a new location within the same building, the charge for the move will be an amount equal to one half of the nonrecurring charge for the capacity affected. There will be no change in the minimum period requirements.

2) Moves to a Different Building

Moves to a different building will be treated as a discontinuance and start of service and all associated nonrecurring charges will apply. New minimum period requirements will be established for the new service. The Customer will also remain responsible for satisfying all outstanding minimum period charges for the discontinued service.

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4.1 Rate Elements (Cont'd.)

4.1.4 Rates and Charges – Windstream Pennsylvania, Inc. Territories

Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute per termination	\$0.000584
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.000140
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.001574
CMUX, per minute	\$0.000022
CTP, per minute	
Originating	\$0.0006070
Terminating	\$0.0004422
Local Switching, per minute	
Originating	\$0.0030240
Terminating	\$0.0022029

4.1.5 Rates and Charges – Armstrong Telephone Company North (Pennsylvania) Territories

Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute per termination	\$0.000424
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.002202
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.005554
CMUX, per minute	\$0.000000
CTP, per minute	\$0.000000
Local Switching, per minute	
Originating	\$0.047311
Terminating	\$0.033554
Information Surcharge	
Originating	\$0.000520
Terminating	\$0.000000

4.1.6 Rates and Charges – Armstrong Telephone Company - Pennsylvania Territories

Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute per termination	\$0.001032
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.000198
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.002601
CMUX, per minute	\$0.0000000
CTP, per minute	\$0.0000000
Local Switching, per minute	
Originating	\$0.047311
Terminating	\$0.033554
Information Surcharge	
Originating	\$0.000520
Terminating	\$0.000000

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4.1 Rate Elements (Cont'd.)

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4.1.6.1 Rates and Charges – Armstrong Telephone Company - Maryland Terr	itories	
		i
Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute per termination	\$0.001032	ì
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.000198	-
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.002601	ļ
CMUX, per minute	\$0.0000000	ļ.
CTP, per minute	\$0.0000000	ļ
Local Switching, per minute		
Originating	\$0.023655	
Terminating	\$0.017783	
Information Surcharge		
Originating	\$0.000520	ĺ
Terminating	\$0.000000	i
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4.1 Rate Elements (Cont'd.)

4.1.13 Rates and Charges – Denver and Ephrata Telephone and Telegraph Company d/b/a D&E Telephone Company (Pennsylvania) Territories

Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute per termination	\$0.000979
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.000188
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.002468
CMUX, per minute	\$0.000000
CTP, per minute	\$0.000000
Local Switching, per minute	
Originating	\$0.008411
Terminating	\$0.0058972
Information Surcharge	
Originating	\$0.000494
Terminating	\$0.0000000

4.1.14 Rates and Charges – TDS Telecom/Deposit Telephone Company (Pennsylvania) Territories

Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute per termination	\$0.001032
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.000198
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.002601
CMUX, per minute	\$0.000000
CTP, per minute	\$0.000000
Local Switching, per minute	
Originating	\$0.014192
Terminating	\$0.011475
Information Surcharge	
Originating	\$0.0005200
Terminating	\$0.0000000

4.1.15 Rates and Charges – Frontier Communications of Breezewood, LLC (Pennsylvania) Territories

Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute per termination	\$0.00241772
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.00001
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.0002
CMUX, per minute	\$0.000000
CTP, per minute	\$0.000000
Originating	\$0.000200
Terminating	\$0.000000
Local Switching, per minute	
Originating	\$0.00265114
Terminating	\$0.00299356

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4.1 Rate Elements (Cont'd.)

4.1.19 Rates and Charges – Frontier Communications of Pennsylvania, LLC Territories

Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute per termination	\$0.00241772
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.00001
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.0002
CMUX, per minute	\$0.000000
CTP, per minute	\$0.000000
Originating	\$0.000200
Terminating	\$0.000000
Local Switching, per minute	
Originating	\$0.00265114
Terminating	\$0.00299356

4.1.20 Rates and Charges – The Hancock Telephone Company (Pennsylvania) Territories

Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute per termination	\$0.001032
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.000198
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.002601
CMUX, per minute	\$0.0000000
CTP, per minute	\$0.0000000
Local Switching, per minute	
Originating	\$0.047311
Terminating	\$0.033554
Information Surcharge	
Originating	\$0.0005200
Terminating	\$0.0000000

4.1.21 Rates and Charges – Hickory Telephone Company (Pennsylvania) Territories

Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute per termination Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.000424 \$0.002202
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.005554
CMUX, per minute	\$0.0000000
CTP, per minute	\$0.0000000
Local Switching, per minute	
Originating	\$0.037848
Terminating	\$0.027245
Information Surcharge	
Originating	\$0.0005200
Terminating	\$0.0000000

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SECTION 4 – RATES AND CHARGES, (CONT'D)

4.1 Rate Elements (Cont'd.)

4.1.25 Rates and Charges – Marianna and Scenery Hill Telephone Company (Pennsylvania) Territories

Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute per termination	\$0.001032
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.000198
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.002601
CMUX, per minute	\$0.000000
CTP, per minute	\$0.000000
Local Switching, per minute	
Originating	\$0.014192
Terminating	\$0.011475
Information Surcharge	
Originating	\$0.0005200
Terminating	\$0.0000000

4.1.26 Rates and Charges – North Penn Telephone Company Territories

Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute per termination Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.000424 \$0.002202 \$0.005554
CMUX, per minute	\$0.000000
CTP, per minute	\$0.000000
Local Switching, per minute	
Originating	\$0.018925
Terminating	\$0.014630
Information Surcharge	
Originating	\$0.0005200
Terminating	\$0.0000000

4.1.27 Rates and Charges – Consolidated Communications of Pennsylvania Company f/k/a North Pittsburgh Telephone Company Territories

Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute per termination	\$0.001463
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.000281
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.003691
CMUX, per minute	\$0.000000
CTP, per minute	\$0.000000
Local Switching, per minute	
Originating	\$0.009430
Terminating	\$0.006510
Information Surcharge	\$0.000239

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4.1 Rate Elements (Cont'd.)

4.1.34 Rates and Charges – TDS Telecom/Sugar Valley Telephone Company (Pennsylvania) Territories

Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute per termination	\$0.000424
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.002202
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.005554
CMUX, per minute	\$0.000000
CTP, per minute	\$0.000000
Local Switching, per minute	
Originating	\$0.014192
Terminating	\$0.011475
Information Surcharge	
Originating	\$0.0005200
Terminating	\$0.0000000

4.1.35 Rates and Charges – Venus Telephone Corporation (Pennsylvania) Territories

Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute per termination	\$0.000424
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.002202
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.005554
CMUX, per minute	\$0.000000
CTP, per minute	\$0.000000
Local Switching, per minute	
Originating	\$0.042580
Terminating	\$0.030400
Information Surcharge	
Originating	\$0.0005200
Terminating	\$0.0000000

4.1.36 Rates and Charges – West Side Telephone Co. d/b/a West Side Telecommunications (Pennsylvania) Territories

Tandem-Switched Transport - Termination, per minute per termination	\$0.001032
Tandem-Switched Transport - Facility, per minute per mile	\$0.000198
Access Tandem Switching, per minute	\$0.002601
CMUX, per minute	\$0.000000
CTP, per minute	\$0.000000
Local Switching, per minute	
Originating	\$0.047311
Terminating	\$0.033554
Information Surcharge	
Originating	\$0.0005200
Terminating	\$0.0000000

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SECTION 7 - SECTION 251(b)(5) VOIP-PSTN TRAFFIC

- 7.1 Section 251(b)(5) toll VOIP-PSTN Traffic is defined as Traffic that is (1) exchanged in time division multiplexing (TDM) format that originates and/or terminates in IP format (as delineated in FCC Item 11-161, ¶¶ 933-975 and 47 C.F.R. § 51.913), and (2) would be rated (if it originated and terminated in purely TDM format) as interstate or intrastate access based on a comparison of the NPA-NXX of the calling and called parties.
 - The rates applicable to Section 251(b)(5) toll VOIP-PSTN Traffic shall be equivalent to the rates and (T)

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7.3 The Company shall be fully entitled to bill (and collect from) Customer for services, facilities and access to the network provided in connection with Section 251(b)(5) toll VOIP-PSTN Traffic in the same manner and extent as Company is entitled to bill and collect for Switched Access Services as set forth in Section 3 of this Tariff, and the rules and regulations of Section 2 of this Tariff shall apply to all of the foregoing billing, collection, services, facilities, network access and traffic.

charges set forth herein in Section 4 of this Tariff.

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