

ACCESS SERVICE**CHECK SHEET**

The title page and pages 1 through 12-8 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.

<u>Page</u>	<u>Revision</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Revision</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Revision</u>
Title Page 1	Original	2-20	Original	5-1	Original
1	First Revised*	2-21	Original	5-2	Original
2	Original	2-22	Original	5-3	Original
3	Original	2-23	Original	5-4	Original
4	Original	2-24	Original	5-5	First Revised*
5	Original	2-25	Original	6-1	Original
6	First Revised*	2-26	Original	6-2	Original
7	First Revised*	2-27	Original	6-3	Original
8	Original	3-1	First Revised*	7-1	Original
9	Original	3-2	Original	8-1	Original
10	First Revised*	3-3	First Revised*	8-2	Original
11	Original	3-4	First Revised*	8-3	First Revised*
1-1	Original	3-5	Original	8-4	Original
1-2	Original	3-6	Original	8-5	Original
1-3	Original	3-7	Original	8-6	First Revised*
1-4	Original	3-8	Original	8-7	Original
1-5	First Revised*	3-9	Original	8-8	First Revised*
2-1	First Revised*	4-1	Original	8-9	Original
2-2	Original	4-2	Original	8-10	Original
2-3	Original	4-3	Original	8-11	Original
2-4	Original	4-4	Original	8-12	Original
2-5	Original	4-5	Original	9-1	First Revised*
2-6	Original	4-6	Original	10-1	Original
2-7	Original	4-7	Original	11-1	Original
2-8	Original	4-8	Original	12-1	Original
2-9	Original	4-9	Original	12-2	Original
2-10	Original	4-10	Original	12-3	Original
2-11	Original	4-11	Original	12-4	Original
2-12	Original	4-12	Original	12-5	First Revised*
2-13	Original	4-13	Original	12-6	Original
2-14	Original	4-14	Original	12-7	Original
2-15	Original	4-15	Original	12-8	First Revised*
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2-17	Original	4-17	Original		
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2-19	Original				

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ACCESS SERVICE

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Cont'd)

8. MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES.....8-1

8.1 Additional Engineering8-1

8.2 Additional Labor8-2

8.3 Testing Services8-3

8.3.1 Switched Access Service8-3

8.3.2 Reserved for Future Use8-6 (C)

8.4 Maintenance of Service.....8-7

8.5 Telecommunications Service Priority-TSP8-8

8.6 Presubscription.....8-9

8.7 Billing Name and Address - BNA8-10

8.7.1 Undertaking of the Company.....8-10

8.7.2 Obligations of the Customer8-11

8.7.3 Usage Rates8-11

8.8 Originating Line Screening (OLS) Service8-12

8.9 Service Provider Number Portability (SPNP) Fee8-12

9. RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE.....9-1 (C)

10. RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE.....10-1

11. RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE.....11-1

ACCESS SERVICE

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Cont'd)

12. RATES AND CHARGES12-1

12.1 Switched Access12-1

 12.1.1 Local Transport.....12-1

 12.1.2 End Office.....12-3

 12.1.3 Information Surcharge12-3

 12.1.4 8YY Database Access Service.....12-3

12.2 End User Common Line (EUCL) Charge12-4

 12.2.1 Business Multiline Monthly Rate12-4

 12.2.2 Business Single Line and Primary Residence Monthly Rate.....12-4

 12.2.3 Non Primary Residence Monthly Rate12-4

12.3 Federal Universal Service Charge.....12-5

 12.3.1 Basic Rate12-5

 12.3.2 Reserved for Future Use12-5 (C)

12.4 Service Orders.....12-6

 12.4.1 Access Order Charge12-6

 12.4.2 Miscellaneous Service Order Charge.....12-6

 12.4.3 Expedited Order Charge12-6

 12.4.4 Cancellation Charge.....12-6

12.5 Miscellaneous Service.....12-7

 12.5.1 Additional Engineering.....12-7

 12.5.2 Additional Labor.....12-7

 12.5.3 Additional Testing12-7

 12.5.4 Maintenance of Service12-7

 12.5.5 Telecommunications Service Priority-TSP.....12-7

 12.5.6 Presubscription12-7

 12.5.7 Billing Name and Address.....12-7

 12.5.8 Originating Line Screening (OLS) Service.....12-8

 12.5.9 Service Provider Number Portability Fee12-8

12.8 Reserved for Future Use12-8 (C)

ACCESS SERVICE

APPLICATION OF TARIFF

This tariff sets forth the service offerings, rates, terms and conditions applicable to the furnishing of interstate Switched Access service and miscellaneous services related to the provision of facilities-based Switched Access Service by the Competitive Local Exchange Carrier (CLEC) operations of HILL COUNTRY TELECOMMUNICATIONS, LLC - OCN #413F (hereinafter “the Company”).

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Special Access Service is provided outside this tariff. Special Access Services may be referred to in this tariff in general terms to assist in understanding the services that encompass an entire circuit. Terms and conditions for Special Access Services will be provided under individual commercial agreements or under terms and conditions found at the Company’s website.

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ACCESS SERVICE

1. DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

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).

Signaling Transfer Point Access: Allows the Customer to access a specialized switch which provides SS7 network access and performs SS7 messaging routing and screening.

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.

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company

2.1.1 Scope

Access Services consist of furnishing communications service in connection with one-way or two-way information transmission between points within the United States under the terms of this tariff. Access Services provided under this tariff include Switched Access Services described in Section 4 following. (C)

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.
- (C) The provisioning and restoration of service in emergencies shall be in accordance with Part 64, Subpart D, Appendix A of the Federal Communication 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, in 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) Customers may be required to enter in written Service Orders which shall contain or reference the name of the Customer, a specific description of the Service Ordered; the rates to be charged, the duration of the services, and the terms and conditions in this tariff. The Customer will also be required to execute any other documents as may be reasonably requested by the Company.

ACCESS SERVICE**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 Access Services comprising 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. (C)

3.1.1 Ordering Conditions

All services offered under this tariff will 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;
- (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.

The order date (Application Date) is the date on which the Company receives a firm commitment and sufficient information from the Customer to allow processing of the ASR. The Customer is advised of the critical events in the provisioning process, the Application Date, the Plant Test Date and the Service Commencement Date, at the time the Company gives the Customer a Firm Order Confirmation (FOC).

3.1.2 Provision of Other Services

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

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. When added subsequently, charges will apply when an engineering review is required.

ACCESS SERVICE**3. ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE (Cont'd)**3.2 Access Order3.2.1 Access Service Requests

An Access Order in the form of an Access Service Request (ASR) is required by the Company to provide a Customer Switched Access Service, as described herein. An ASR will be required for each new similar service arrangement or group of common circuits. (C)

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. (C)

In the event constructive ordering of Switched Access Service under Section 3.1.3, an ASR is not required.

3.2.2 Access Service Date Intervals

The Company will provide 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) Customer Requested Interval

If none of the conditions described in Section 3.2.2.(B) below apply, the Service Date interval shall be based on provision of access service by the Customer's requested Service Date.

(B) Negotiated Interval

The Company will negotiate a Service Date interval with the Customer when one of the following conditions exists. In such cases, the Company will offer a Service Date based on the type and quantity of Access Service the Customer has requested.

- (1) There is no existing facility connecting the Customer premises with the Company; or
- (2) 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

ACCESS SERVICE

3. ORDERING OPTIONS FOR ACCESS SERVICE (Cont'd)

3.2 Access Order (Cont'd)

3.2.2 Access Service Date Intervals (Cont'd)

B. Negotiated Interval (Cont'd)

- (3) The Customer requests a service that requires provision of facilities by a connecting local exchange carrier in addition to facilities provided by the Company and the connecting local exchange carrier is unable to place connecting facilities in service by Customer's requested Service Date.
- (4) The Company determines that Access Service cannot be installed within the time frame requested by the Customer.
- (5) All services for which rates are applied on an Individual Case Basis are provided with a Negotiated Interval.

3.2.3 Access Order Charge

The Access Order Charge, as set forth in Section 12.6.1 following is applied to all Customer requests for new Switched Access Service. In addition, the Access Order Charge is applicable to Customer requests for additions, changes or rearrangements to existing Switched Access Service with the following exceptions: (C)

The Access Order Charge does not apply:

- When a change to a pending order does not result in the cancellation of the pending order and the issuance of a new order;
- When a Miscellaneous Service Order Charge is applicable;
- When a Presubscription Charge is applicable;
- When a Company initiated network reconfiguration requires a Customer's existing access service to be reconfigured;
- When a service with an Individual Case Basis (ICB) rate is converted to a similar service with a non-ICB tariff rate prior to the expiration of the ICB; or
- When a Billing Name and Address Order charge is applicable.

The Access Order Charge will be applied on a per order basis to each order received by the Company or copy of an order received by the Company pursuant to Sections 3.1 and 3.2 above in addition to other applicable charges as set forth in this and other sections of this tariff.

ACCESS SERVICE

5. END USER ACCESS SERVICE, FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE CHARGE (Cont'd)

5.2 Federal Universal Service Charge

5.2.1 General

The Federal Universal Service Charge (FUSC) recovers the Company’s contribution to various federal universal service funds. The Company will apply the FUSC through flat-rated, monthly line charges assessed to end users that are billed End User Common Line charges.

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5.2.2 Rate Application

Rates for the FUSC are set forth in Section 12.3, following.

The monthly Basic rate applies per each local exchange service line or trunk classified as business or residential service as described in the Company’s general or local tariff.

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5.2.3 Reference of Federal Universal Service Charge to NECA Tariff F.C.C. No. 5

The rates in Section 12.3 of this tariff for the Federal Universal Service Charge (FUSC) charges are referenced to the applicable current National Exchange Carrier Association Tariff (NECA) F.C.C. No. For purposes of references to the rates of NECA Tariff F.C.C. No. 5, “current rate” shall mean the NECA tariffed rate in effect at the time the service is provided by the Company.

ACCESS SERVICE**8. MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES (Cont'd)****8.3 Testing Services**

Testing Services offered under this section of the tariff are optional and subject to rates and charges as set forth in Section 12.10 following. A call-out of a Company employee at a time not consecutive with the employee's scheduled work period is subject to a minimum charge of four hours. Other testing services, as described in Section 4.2.6 above, are provided by the Company in association with Access Services and are furnished at no additional charge.

Testing services are normally provided by Company personnel at Company locations; however, provisions are made in Section 8.3.1 following for a customer to request Company personnel to perform Testing Services at the customer designated premises.

The offering of Testing Services under this section of the tariff is made subject to the availability of the necessary qualified personnel and test equipment at the various test locations mentioned in Section 8.3.1, following.

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8.3.1 Switched Access Service

Testing Services for Switched Access are comprised of (a) tests which are performed during the installation of a Switched Access Service, (i.e., Acceptance Tests), (b) tests which are performed after customer acceptance of such access services and which are without charge (i.e., routine testing) and (c) additional tests which are performed during or after customer acceptance of such access services and for which additional charges apply, (i.e., Additional Cooperative Acceptance Tests and in-service tests).

Routine tests are those tests performed by the Company on a regular basis, as set forth in Section 4.2.6 above which are required to maintain Switched Access Service. Additional in-service tests may be done on an automatic basis (no Company or customer technicians involved), on a manual basis (Company technician(s) involved at Company office(s) and Company or customer technician(s) involved at the customer designated premises).

ACCESS SERVICE

8. MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES (Cont'd)

8.3. Testing Services (Cont'd)

8.3.2 Reserved for Future Use

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ACCESS SERVICE

8. MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES (Cont'd)

8.5 Telecommunications Service Priority – TSP

8.5.1 Priority installation and/or restoration of National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP) telecommunications services shall be provided in accordance with Part 64.401, Appendix A, of the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC's) Rules and Regulations.

In addition, TSP System service shall be provided in accordance with the guidelines set forth in "Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System for National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP) Service Vendor Handbook" (NCSH 3-1-2) dated July 9, 1990, and "Telecommunications Service Priority System for National Security Emergency Preparedness Service User Manual" (NCSM 3-1-1).

The TSP System is a service, developed to meet the requirements of the Federal Government, as specified in the Service Vendor's Handbook and Service User's Manual which provides the regulatory, administrative and operational framework for the priority installation and/or restoration of NSEP telecommunications services. This includes Switched Access Services. The TSP System applies only to NSEP telecommunications services, and requires and authorizes priority action by the Telephone Company providing such services.

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For Switched Access Service, the TSP System's applicability is limited to those services which the Company can discreetly identify for priority provisioning and/or restoration.

8.5.2 A Telecommunications Service Priority charge applies as set forth in Section 12.7.5 when a request to provide or change a Telecommunications Service Priority is received subsequent to the issuance of an Access Order to install the service.

Additionally, a Miscellaneous Service Order Charge as set forth in Section 12.6.2 will apply to Telecommunications Service Priority requests that are ordered subsequent to the initial installation of the associated access service.

A Telecommunications Service Priority charge does not apply when a Telecommunications Service Priority is discontinued or when ordered coincident with an Access Order to install or change service.

In addition, Additional Labor rates as set forth in Section 12.7.2 may be applicable when provisioning or restoring Switched Access Services with Telecommunications Service Priority.

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When the customer requests an audit or a reconciliation of the Telephone Company's Telecommunications Service Priority records, a Miscellaneous Service Order Charge as set forth in Section 12.6.2 and Additional Labor rates as set forth in Section 12.7.2 are applicable.

ACCESS SERVICE

9. **RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE**

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ACCESS SERVICE

12. RATES AND CHARGES

12.3 Federal Universal Service Charge

12.3.1 Basic Rate
- per Common Line

The Federal Universal Service Charge (FUSC) recurring rate charged by the Company for all lines is the current rate shown in Section 17.1.2. of NECA's Tariff F.C.C. No. 5.

12.3.2 Reserved for Future Use

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ACCESS SERVICE

12. RATES AND CHARGES

12.7 Miscellaneous Service (Cont'd)

12.7.8 Originating Line Screening (OLS) Service

The rate for the nonrecurring charge by the Company for Originating Line Screening (OLS) Service is the rate shown in Section 17.4.4.M. of NECA's Tariff F.C.C. No. 5.

12.7.9 Service Provider Number Portability (SPNP) Fee

The Service Provider Number Portability (SPNP) Fee charged by the Company are the current rates shown in Section 17.4.4.P. of NECA's Tariff F.C.C. No. 5.

12.8 Reserved for Future Use

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