

Sprint Local Telephone Companies

Tariff F.C.C. No. 3

Transmittal No. 227

Description and Justification

The Sprint local telephone companies (Sprint LTC) hereby submit the following information in support of the accompanying tariff filing, as required by Sections 61.38 and 61.41 through 61.49 of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules and Regulations.

This filing is being made on 15 days' notice under the Federal Communications Commission's streamlined filing procedures, and proposes to adjust voice grade and digital data service rates in its Orlando and Tallahassee, Florida; Fayetteville, Greenville, Hickory and Rocky Mount, North Carolina; Las Vegas, Nevada; York, Pennsylvania; and Charlottesville, Virginia MSAs where pricing flexibility has been granted in accordance with Subpart H of Part 69 of the Commission's rules. In addition, Sprint LTC is including tariff revisions which clarify that the NetPointSM optional feature is designed for the transmission of data traffic.

Consistent with the requirements of Section 61.58(d)(4), affected customers will be notified of the proposed changes on or before the date this transmittal is filed.

1.0 Pricing Flexibility Rate Adjustments

Sprint LTC proposes to adjust the certain special access voice grade and digital data service rate elements in the Orlando and Tallahassee, Florida; Fayetteville, Greenville, Hickory and Rocky Mount, North Carolina; Las Vegas, Nevada; and Charlottesville, Virginia metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) where pricing flexibility has been granted in accordance with Subpart H of Part 69 of the Commission's rules. Customers subscribing to these services may experience increases in

rates, the impact of which is dependent upon the quantity and rate elements associated with each service arrangement. Cost support material in accordance with Sections 61.38 and 61.41 through 61.49 of the Commission's Rules is not required for these rate adjustments.

2.0 NetPointSM Optional Feature

Sprint developed the NetPoint optional feature during 1999 in response to ISP customer requests for high bandwidth platforms for their dial-in customers. Prior to the establishment of NetPoint, the only products available to satisfy ISP customer needs were local service offerings. In response to strong customer preference for national ordering, provisioning, billing and maintenance through a single point of contact, Sprint LTC elected to introduce NetPoint as a standardized special access product utilizing ISDN architecture.

The basic configuration for NetPoint is twenty-three 64 kbps B-channels and one 64 kbps D-channel, for a total transmission rate of 1.544 Mbps. The NetPoint feature is provided on DS1 high capacity facilities for connection to other access services provided by Sprint LTC, and may not be terminated to a modem pool, PBX, or other customer premises equipment (CPE) of the customer. Two NetPoint options are available to customers: NetPoint1 (a one-way offering) and NetPoint2 (a two-way offering).

Sprint LTC believes that some ISPs may need to use NetPoint2 for the completion of calls from devices (other than standard telephone instruments) that originate as Internet protocol (IP) and must be converted to traditional voice protocol for interfacing with the public switched telephone network (PSTN). Such uses include computer-to-phone information services where there is a protocol conversion that transforms user information such that information sent into the network in one protocol, exits the network in a different protocol.

In this filing, Sprint LTC seeks only to clarify that, in relation to NetPoint, the term "voice" relates to traffic on which an ISP must perform a net protocol conversion due to the fact that the

equipment used by the originating end user transmits in a protocol which will not interface with the PSTN. Consequently, Sprint LTC is revising its interstate access tariff to clarify that NetPoint is intended for computer-to-phone traffic, and shall not be used for voice calls where dial pulse or dual tone multi-frequency dialing is used to call telephone numbers assigned in accordance with the North American Numbering Plan and associated international agreements. In addition, this filing eliminates the restriction preventing customers from terminating the NetPoint feature to a modem pool.

Customers subscribing to NetPoint prior to August 2, 2003 may continue the existing arrangement for up to 90 days; and may elect to discontinue NetPoint, the DS1 high capacity facility on which it is provided, and any associated optional features, without termination liability within 90 days of the effective date of the NetPoint revisions included in this filing.

3.0 Conclusion

The Sprint local telephone companies are submitting the accompanying tariff revisions in response to customer requests for the proposed services, and in accordance with the Commission's Rules governing the provision of interstate access services. The rates and charges proposed in this filing are demonstrated to be fully cost-based and reasonable, and are supported, where required, by exhibits detailing cost and rate development, along with a showing of prospective demand.