

ACCESS SERVICE

Regulations, Rates and Charges
applying to the provision of Access Services
within a Local Access and Transport Area (LATA) or
equivalent Market Area for connection to interstate
communications facilities for Interstate Customers within the
operating territories of Issuing Carriers listed below.

TXU Communications Telephone Company
d/b/a Consolidated Communications
and
Fort Bend Telephone Company
d/b/a Consolidated Communications

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

The Consolidated Communications Companies (CCC), consisting of Fort Bend Telephone Company d/b/a Consolidated Communications and TXU Communications Telephone Company d/b/a Consolidated Communications, are replacing the TXU Communications Companies as the provider of access services. These companies hereby cancel TXU Communications Companies (TXUCC) Tariff FCC No. 1 as of the effective date of this transmittal: April 29, 2004. All material from TXUCC Tariff FCC No. 1 has been moved to this tariff with no change of substance or location. This tariff completely replaces the prior tariff. Each page in this tariff is an original page, however there are no changes in regulations, rates or charges between this tariff and the TXUCC tariff being canceled.

The name, title and street address of this tariff's Issuing Officer are located on the bottom of each page.

Transmittal No. 1 – Filed under Special Permission No. 04-026

Issue: April 14, 2004

Senior Director, Regulatory and Industry Relations
300 Decker Drive
Irving, TX 75062

Effective: April 29, 2004

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Title Page 1 to page 19-16 of this tariff are effective as of the date shown. Original pages as named below contain all changes that are in effect on the date hereof.

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CONCURRING CARRIERS

NO CONCURRING CARRIERS

CONNECTING CARRIERS

NO CONNECTING CARRIERS

OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS

NO OTHER PARTICIPATING CARRIERS

REGISTERED SERVICE MARKS

NONE

REGISTERED TRADEMARKS

NONE

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EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

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

EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACIS	-	Advanced Carrier Identification Service
ADA	-	Abbreviated Dialing Arrangement
AML	-	Actual Measured Loss
ANI	-	Automatic Number Identification
AP	-	Program Audio
AT&T	-	American Telephone and Telegraph Company
BHMC	-	Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity
CCS	-	Common Channel Signaling
CDP	-	Customer Designated Premises
CI	-	Channel Interface
CO	-	Central Office
Cont'd	-	Continued
CNP	-	Charge Number Parameter
CPE	-	Customer Provided Equipment
CPN	-	Calling Party Number
CSP	-	Carrier Selection Parameter
dB	-	decibel
dBrnC	-	Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Weighting
dBrnC0-	-	Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Weighted O
dc	-	direct current
DDD	-	Direct Distance Dialing
EAS	-	Extended Area Service
EDD	-	Envelope Delay Distortion
EML	-	Expected Measured Loss
EPL	-	Echo Path Loss
ERL	-	Echo Return Loss
f	-	frequency
F.C.C.	-	Federal Communications Commission

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EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS (Cont'd)

HC	-	High Capacity
Hz	-	Hertz
IC	-	Interexchange Carrier
ICB	-	Individual Case Basis
ICL	-	Inserted Connection Loss
kbps	-	kilobits per second
kHz	-	kilohertz
LATA	-	Local Access and Transport Area
ma	-	milliamperes
Mbps	-	Megabits per second
mcs	-	Microsecond
MHz	-	Megahertz
MRC	-	Monthly Recurring Charge
MTS	-	Message Telecommunications Service(s)
NPA	-	Numbering Plan Area
NRC	-	Nonrecurring Charge
NXX	-	Three-Digit Central Office Prefix
PBX	-	Private Branch Exchange
POT	-	Point of Termination
SAC	-	Service Access Code
SNAL	-	Signaling Network Access Line
SP	-	Signaling Point
SPOI	-	Signaling Point of Interface
SRL	-	Singing Return Loss
SSP	-	Service Switching Point
SS7	-	Signaling System 7
STP	-	Signal Transfer Point
SWC	-	Serving Wire Center
TLP	-	Transmission Level Point
TV	-	Television
VG	-	Voice Grade
V & H	-	Vertical & Horizontal
WATS	-	Wide Area Telecommunications Service(s)
WSO	-	WATS Serving Office

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REFERENCE TO OTHER TARIFFS

Whenever reference is made in this tariff to other tariffs of the Telephone Company, the reference is to the tariffs in force as of the effective date of this tariff, and to amendments thereto and successive issues thereof.

The following tariffs are referenced in this tariff and may be obtained from the Federal Communications Commission's commercial contractor:

National Exchange Carrier
Association, Inc. (NECA)
Wire Center Information
Tariff F.C.C. No. 4

National Exchange Carrier
Association, Inc.(NECA)
Access Service
Tariff F.C.C. No. 5

REFERENCE TO TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS

The following technical publications are referenced in this tariff and may be obtained from TXU Communications Telephone Company, 300 Decker Drive, Irving, Texas 75062-8136.

Technical Reference:

Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing (MECAB) Guidelines
Issued: December 1990

Multiple Exchange Carrier Ordering and Design (MECOD) Guidelines
Issued: September 10, 1990

PUB 41004 Data Communications Using Voiceband Private Line Channels
Issued: October 1973

PUB 62310 Digital Data System Channel Interface Specification
Issued: September 1983

PUB 62411 High Capacity Digital Service Channel Interface Specification
Issued: September 1983, Addendum October 1984

TR-NPL-000258 Compatibility Information for Feature Group D Switched Access Service
Issued: October 1985

TR-NWT-000334, Issue 2 Voice Grade Switched Access Service – Transmission Parameter
Limits and Interface Combinations
Issued: September 1990

TR-TSY-000335, Issue 3 Voice Grade Special Access Service -- Transmission Parameter
Limits and Interface Combinations
Issued: May 1993

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TR-NPL-000337 Program Audio Special Access Service and Local Channel Service
Issued: July 1987

TR-NPL-000338 Television Special Access and Local Channel Services – Transmission
Parameter Limits and Interface Combinations
Issued: December 1986

TR-NPL-000341 Digital Data Special Access Service – Transmission Parameter Limits and
Interface Combinations
Issued: March 1989

TR-INS-00342 High Capacity Digital Special Access Service
Issued: February 1991

SR-STDS-000307 NC/NCI Code Dictionary
Issued: December 1990

TR-TSV-001370 Generic Requirements for Exchange Access Frame Relay PVC Service
Issue: May 1993

GR-506-CORE, Issue 1 LATA Switching Systems Generic Requirements (LSSGR)
Issue: June 1996

GR-905-CORE, Issue 5 Common Channel Signaling Network Interface Specifications
Issued: December 2001

GR-2936-CORE, Issue 3 Local Number Portability (LNP) Capability Specification
Issued: November 1997

PUB AS No. 1, Issue II Access Service
Issued: May 1984
Addendum: March 1987

Telecommunications Transmission Engineering
Volume 3 - Networks and Services (Chapters 6 and 7)
Second Edition, 1980
Issued: August 1989

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REFERENCE TO TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS (Cont'd)

Technical Reference (Cont'd)

Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System for National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP) Service Vendor Handbook, National Communications System (NCSH 3-1-2).

Issued: July 1990
Available: August 1990

Telecommunication Service Priority (TSP) System for National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP) Service User Manual, National Communications System (NCSM 3-1-1).

Issued: July 1990
Available: August 1990

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1. Application of Tariff

- 1.1 This tariff contains regulations, rates and charges applicable to the provision of End User Access, Switched Access, Special Access, Digital Subscriber Line Access Service, Public Packet Data Network and other miscellaneous services, hereinafter referred to collectively as service(s). These services are provided to customers by the Issuing Carriers of this tariff, hereinafter the Telephone Company. This tariff also contains Access Ordering regulations and charges that are applicable when these services are ordered or modified by the customer.
- 1.2 The provision of such services by the Telephone Company as set forth in this tariff does not constitute a joint undertaking with the customer for the furnishing of any service.

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2. General Regulations

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company

2.1.1 Scope

- (A) The Telephone Company does not undertake to transmit messages under this tariff.
- (B) The Telephone Company shall be responsible only for the installation, operation and maintenance of the services it provides.
- (C) The Telephone Company will, for maintenance purposes, test its service only to the extent necessary to detect and/or clear troubles.
- (D) Services are provided 24 hours daily, seven days per week, except as set forth in other applicable sections of this tariff.
- (E) The Telephone Company does not warrant that its facilities and services meet standards other than those set forth in this tariff.
- (F) The Telephone Company provides only those services that are contained in this tariff that the Telephone Company is technically capable of providing.

2.1.2 Limitations

(A) Assignment or Transfer of Services

The customer may assign or transfer the use of services provided under this tariff only where there is no interruption of use or relocation of the services. Such assignment or transfer may be made to:

- (1) another customer, whether an individual, partnership, association or corporation, provided the assignee or transferee assumes all outstanding indebtedness for such services, and the unexpired portion of the minimum period and the termination liability applicable to such services, if any; or

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.2 Limitations (Cont'd)

(A) Assignment or Transfer of Services (Cont'd)

- (2) a court-appointed receiver, trustee or other person acting pursuant to law in bankruptcy, receivership, reorganization, insolvency, liquidation or other similar proceedings, provided the assignee or transferee assumes the unexpired portion of the minimum period and the termination liability applicable to such services, if any.

In all cases of assignment or transfer, the written acknowledgement of the Telephone Company is required prior to such assignment or transfer. This acknowledgement shall be made within 15 days from the receipt of notification. All regulations and conditions contained in this tariff shall apply to such assignee or transferee.

The assignment or transfer of services does not relieve or discharge the assignor or transferor from remaining jointly or severally liable with the assignee or transferee for any obligations existing at the time of the assignment or transfer.

(B) Use and Restoration of Services

The use and restoration of services shall be in accordance with Part 64, Subpart D, Appendix A, of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules and Regulations, which specifies the priority system for such activities.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.2 Limitations (Cont'd)

(C) Sequence of Provisioning

Subject to compliance with the rules mentioned in (B) preceding, the services offered herein will be provided to customers on a first-come, first-served basis.

The first-come, first-served sequence shall be based upon the received time and date officially recorded by the Telephone Company on customer access orders. These orders must contain all the information as required for each respective service as delineated in other sections of this tariff. Customer orders shall not be deemed to have been received until such information is provided. Should questions arise which preclude order issuance due to missing information or the need for clarification, the Telephone Company will attempt to seek such missing information or clarification on a verbal basis

2.1.3 Liability

(A) Limits of Liability

The Telephone Company's liability, if any, for its willful misconduct is not limited by this tariff. With respect to any other claim or suit, by a customer or by any others, for damages associated with the installation, provision, termination, maintenance, repair or restoration of service, and subject to the provisions of (B) through (G) following, the Telephone Company's liability if any, shall not exceed an amount equal to the proportionate charge for the service for the period during which the service was affected. This liability for damages shall be in addition to any amounts that may otherwise be due the customer under this tariff as a Credit Allowance for a Service Interruption.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

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2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.3 Liability (Cont'd)

(B) Acts or Omissions

The Telephone Company shall not be liable for any act or omission of any other carrier or customer providing a portion of a service, nor shall the Telephone Company for its own act or omission hold liable any other carrier or customer providing a portion of a service.

(C) Damages to Customer Premises

The Telephone Company is not liable for damages to the customer premises resulting from the furnishing of a service, including the installation and removal of equipment and associated wiring, unless the damage is caused by the Telephone Company's negligence.

(D) Indemnification of Telephone Company

(1) By the End User

The Telephone Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the end user against any claim, loss or damage arising from the end user's use of services offered under this tariff, involving:

- (a) Claims for libel, slander, invasion of privacy, or infringement of copyright arising from the end user's own communications;

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.3 Liability (Cont'd)

(D) Indemnification of Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(1) By the End User (Cont'd)

- (b) Claims for patent infringement arising from the end user's acts combining or using the service furnished by the Telephone Company in connection with facilities or equipment furnished by the end users or customer or;
- (c) All other claims arising out of any act or omission of the end user in the course of using services provided pursuant to this tariff.

(2) By the Customer

The Telephone Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the customer against any claim, loss or damage arising from the customer's use of services offered under this tariff, involving:

- (a) Claims for libel, slander, invasion of privacy, or infringement of copyright arising from the customer's own communications;
- (b) Claims for patent infringement arising from the customer's acts combining or using the service furnished by the Telephone Company in connection with facilities or equipment furnished by the end user or customer or;
- (c) All other claims arising out of any act or omission of the customer in the course of using services provided pursuant to this tariff.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.3 Liability (Cont'd)

(E) Explosive Atmospheres

The Telephone Company does not guarantee or make any warranty with respect to its services when used in an explosive atmosphere. The Telephone Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the customer from any and all claims by any person relating to such customer's use of services so provided.

(F) No License Granted

No license under patents (other than the limited license to use) is granted by the Telephone Company or shall be implied or arise by estoppel, with respect to any service offered under this tariff. The Telephone Company will defend the customer against claims of patent infringement arising solely from the use by the customer of services offered under this tariff and will indemnify such customer for any damages awarded based solely on such claims.

(G) Circumstances Beyond the Telephone Company's Control

The Telephone Company's failure to provide or maintain services under this tariff shall be excused by labor difficulties, governmental orders, civil commotions, criminal actions taken against the Telephone Company, acts of God and other circumstances beyond the Telephone Company's reasonable control, subject to the Credit Allowance for a Service Interruption as set forth in 2.4.4 following.

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2. ~~General Regulations (Cont'd)~~

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2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.4 Provision of Services

The Telephone Company will provide to the customer, upon reasonable notice, services offered in other applicable sections of this tariff at rates and charges specified therein. Services will be made available to the extent that such services are or can be made available with reasonable effort, and after provision has been made for the Telephone Company's telephone exchange services.

2.1.5 Facility Terminations

The services provided under this tariff will include any entrance cable or drop wiring and wire or intrabuilding cable to that point where provision is made for termination of the Telephone Company's outside distribution network facilities at a suitable location inside a customer designated premises. Such wiring or cable will be installed by the Telephone Company to the Point of Termination. Moves of the Point of Termination at the customer designated premises will be as set forth in 6.4.4 and 7.2.3 following.

2.1.6 Service Maintenance

The services provided under this tariff shall be maintained by the Telephone Company. The customer or others may not rearrange, move, disconnect, remove or attempt to repair any facilities provided by the Telephone Company, other than by connection or disconnection to any interface means used, except with the written consent of the Telephone Company.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

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2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.7 Changes and Substitutions

Except as provided for equipment and systems subject to FCC Part 68 Regulations at 47 C.F.R. Section 68.110(b), the Telephone Company may, where such action is reasonably required in the operation of its business, substitute, change or rearrange any facilities used in providing service under this tariff. Such actions may include, without limitation:

- change of minimum protection criteria,
- change of operating or maintenance characteristics of facilities, or
- change of operations or procedures of the Telephone Company.

In case of any such substitution, change or rearrangement, the transmission parameters will be within the range as set forth in Section 15. following. The Telephone Company shall not be responsible if any such substitution, change or rearrangement renders any customer furnished services obsolete or requires modification or alteration thereof or otherwise affects their use or performance. If such substitution, change or rearrangement materially affects the operating characteristics of the facility, the Telephone Company will provide reasonable notification to the customer in writing. Reasonable time will be allowed for any redesign and implementation required by the change in operating characteristics. The Telephone Company will work cooperatively with the customer to determine reasonable notification procedures.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

~~2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)~~

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2.1.8 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service

- (A) If a customer fails to comply with 2.1.6 preceding (Service Maintenance) or 2.3.1, 2.3.4, 2.3.5, 2.4.1 or 2.5 following (respectively, Damages, Availability for Testing, Balance, Payment Arrangements, Connections) including any customers failure to make payments on the date and times therein specified, the Telephone Company may, on thirty (30) days written notice to the customer by Certified U.S. Mail, take the following actions:

- Refuse additional applications for service and/or refuse to complete any pending orders for service, and/or
- Discontinue the provision of service to the customer.

In the case of discontinuance all applicable charges, including termination charges, shall become due.

- (B) If a customer fails to comply with 2.2.2 following (Unlawful and Abusive Use), the Telephone Company may, upon written request from a customer, or another exchange carrier, terminate service to any subscriber or customer identified as having utilized service provided under this tariff in the completion of abusive or unlawful telephone calls. Service shall be terminated by the Telephone Company as provided for in its general and/or local exchange service tariffs.

In such instances when termination occurs the Telephone Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by any customer or Exchange Carrier requesting termination of service against any claim, loss or damage arising from the Telephone Company's actions in terminating such service, unless caused by the telephone Company's negligence.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

~~2.1.8 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service (Cont'd)~~

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- (C) Except as provided for equipment or systems subject to the FCC Part 68 Rules in 47 C.F.R. Section 68.108, if the customer fails to comply with 2.2.1 following Interference or Impairment), the Telephone Company will, where practicable, notify the customer that temporary discontinuance of the use of a service may be required; however, where prior notice is not practicable, the Telephone Company may temporarily discontinue service forthwith if such action is reasonable in the circumstances. In case of such temporary discontinuance, the customer will be notified promptly and afforded the opportunity to correct the condition which gave rise to the temporary discontinuance. During such period of temporary discontinuance, credit allowance for service interruptions as set forth in 2.4.4 following is not applicable.
- (D) When access service is provided by more than one Telephone Company, the companies involved in providing the joint service may individually or collectively deny service to a customer for nonpayment. Where the Telephone Company(s) affected by the nonpayment is incapable of effecting discontinuance of service without cooperation from the other joint providers of Switched Access Service, such other Telephone Company(s) will, if technically feasible, assist in denying the joint service to the customer. Service denial for such joint service will only include calls originating or terminating within, or transiting, the operating territory of the Telephone Companies initiating the service denial for nonpayment. When more than one of the joint providers must deny service to effectuate termination for nonpayment, in cases where a conflict exists in the applicable tariff provisions, the tariff regulations of the Telephone Company located closest to the customer shall apply for joint service discontinuance.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.8 Refusal and Discontinuance of Service (Cont'd)

- (E) If the Telephone Company does not refuse additional applications for service and/or does not discontinue the provision of the services as specified for herein, and the customer's noncompliance continues, nothing contained herein shall preclude the Telephone Company's right to refuse additional applications for service and/or to discontinue the provision of the services to the non-complying customer without further notice.
- (F) If the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., notifies the Telephone Company that the Customer has failed to comply with Section 8 of the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., Tariff F.C.C. No. 5 (Lifeline Assistance and Universal Service Fund charges) including any Customer's failure to make payments on the date and times specified therein, the Telephone Company, may, on thirty days' written notice to the Customer by Certified U.S. Mail, take any of the following actions: (1) refuse additional applications for service and/or (2) refuse to complete any pending orders for service, (3) discontinue the provision of service to the Customer. In the case of discontinuance, all applicable charges shall become due.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.9 Notification of Service-Affecting Activities

The Telephone Company will provide the customer reasonable notification of service-affecting activities that may occur in the normal operation of its business. Such activities may include, but are not limited to the following:

- equipment or facilities additions,
- removals or rearrangements,
- routine preventative maintenance, and
- major switching machine change-out.

Generally, such activities are not individual customer service specific, but may affect many customer services. No specific advance notification period is applicable to all service activities. The Telephone Company will work cooperatively with the customer to determine reasonable notification requirements.

2.1.10 Coordination with Respect to Network Contingencies

The Telephone Company intends to work cooperatively with the customer to develop network contingency plans in order to maintain maximum network capability following natural or man-made disasters which affect telecommunications services.

2.1.11 Provision and Ownership of Telephone Numbers

The Telephone Company reserves the reasonable right to assign, designate or change telephone numbers, any other call number designations associated with Access Services, or the Telephone Company serving central office prefixes associated with such numbers, when necessary in the conduct of its business. Should it become necessary to make a change in such number(s), the Telephone Company will furnish to the customer six (6) months notice, by Certified U.S. Mail, of the effective date and an explanation of the reason(s) for such change(s).

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.2 Use

2.2.1 Interference or Impairment

The characteristics and methods of operation of any circuits, facilities or equipment provided by other than the Telephone Company and associated with the facilities utilized to provide services under this tariff shall not:

- interfere with or impair service over any facilities of the Telephone Company, its affiliated companies, or its connecting and concurring carriers involved in its services,
- cause damage to their plant,
- impair the privacy of any communications carried over their facilities, or
- create hazards to the employees of any of them or the public.

2.2.2 Unlawful and Abusive Use

- (A) The service provided under this tariff shall not be used for an unlawful purpose or used in an abusive manner.

Abusive use includes:

- (1) The use of the service of the Telephone Company for a call or calls, anonymous or otherwise, in a manner reasonably expected to frighten, abuse, torment, or harass another;
- (2) The use of the service in such a manner as to interfere unreasonably with the use of the service by one or more other customers.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer

2.3.1 Damages

The customer shall reimburse the Telephone Company for damages to Telephone Company facilities utilized to provide services under this tariff caused by the negligence or willful act of the customer or resulting from the customer's improper use of the Telephone Company facilities, or due to malfunction of any facilities or equipment provided by other than the Telephone Company. Nothing in the foregoing provision shall be interpreted to hold one customer liable for another customer's actions. The Telephone Company will, upon reimbursement for damages, cooperate with the customer in prosecuting a claim against the person causing such damage and the customer shall be subrogated to the right of recovery by the Telephone Company for the damages to the extent of such payment.

2.3.2 Ownership of Facilities and Theft

Facilities utilized by the Telephone Company to provide service under the provisions of this tariff shall remain the property of the Telephone Company. Such facilities shall be returned to the Telephone Company by the customer, whenever requested, within a reasonable period. The equipment shall be returned in as good condition as reasonable wear will permit.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

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2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.3 Equipment Space and Power

The customer shall furnish or arrange to have furnished to the Telephone Company, at no charge, equipment space and electrical power required by the Telephone Company to provide services under this tariff at the points of termination of such services. The selection of AC or DC power shall be mutually agreed to by the customer and the Telephone Company. The customer shall also make necessary arrangements in order that the Telephone Company will have access to such spaces at reasonable times for installing, testing, repairing or removing Telephone Company facilities used to provide services.

2.3.4 Availability for Testing

Access to facilities used to provide services under this tariff shall be available to the Telephone Company at times mutually agreed upon in order to permit the Telephone Company to make tests and adjustments appropriate for maintaining the services in satisfactory operating condition. Such tests and adjustments shall be completed within a reasonable time. As set forth in 2.4.4(C)(4) following, no credit will be allowed for any interruptions involved during such tests and adjustments.

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2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.5 Balance

All signals for transmission over the facilities used to provide services under this tariff shall be delivered by the customer balanced to ground except for ground start, duplex (DX) and McCulloch-Loop (Alarm System) type signaling.

2.3.6 Design of Customer Services

Subject to the provisions of 2.1.7 preceding (Changes and Substitutions), the customer shall be solely responsible, at its own expense, for the overall design of its services and for any redesigning or rearrangement of its services which may be required because of changes in facilities, operations or procedures of the Telephone Company, minimum protection criteria or operating or maintenance characteristics of the facilities.

2.3.7 References to the Telephone Company

The customer may advise end users that certain services are provided by the Telephone Company in connection with the service the customer furnishes to end users; however, the customer shall not represent that the Telephone Company jointly participates in the customer's services.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.8 Claims and Demands for Damages

- (A) With respect to claims of patent infringement made by third persons, the customer shall defend, indemnify, protect and save harmless the Telephone Company from and against all claims arising out of the combining with, or use in connection with, the services provided under this tariff, any circuit, apparatus, system or method provided by the customer.
- (B) The customer shall defend, indemnify and save harmless the Telephone Company from and against any suits, claims, losses and damages, including punitive damages, attorney fees and court costs by third persons arising out of the construction, installation, operation, maintenance, or removal of the customer's circuits, facilities, or equipment connected to the Telephone Company's services provided under this tariff including, without limitation, Worker's Compensation claims, actions for infringement of copyright and/or unauthorized use of program material, libel and slander actions based on the content of communications transmitted over the customer's circuits, facilities or equipment, and proceedings to recover taxes, fines, or penalties for failure of the customer to obtain or maintain in effect any necessary certificates, permits, licenses, or other authority to acquire or operate the services provided under this tariff; provided, however, the foregoing indemnification shall not apply to suits, claims, and demands to recover damages for damage to property, death, or personal injury unless such suits, claims or demands are based on the tortuous conduct of the customer, its officers, agents or employees.
- (C) The customer shall defend, indemnify and save harmless the Telephone Company from and against any suits, claims, losses or damages, including punitive damages, attorney fees and court costs by the customer or third parties arising out of any act of omission of the customer in the course of using services provided under this tariff.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.9 Coordination with Respect to Network Contingencies

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

2.3.10 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements

(A) Certification Requirements - Special Access

When the customer orders Special Access Service, and the jurisdictional nature of the customer's traffic is mixed and the customer certifies to the Telephone Company in writing that more than ten percent of the traffic is interstate, the service is considered to be interstate and is provided under this Tariff.

For those customers who were provided Special Access Service under this tariff prior to May 15, 1990, or who have pending Special Access Service orders as of May 15, 1990, the Telephone Company will by July 15, 1990, request the customer to certify their existing Special Access Service and advise the telephone company in writing of any jurisdictional change. The customer will be requested to reply to the Telephone Company within 90 days. When a Special Access Service is certified to be jurisdictionally changed, the effective date of the change will be the date the Telephone Company receives the customer's certification. There is no charge when the customer's reply results in a jurisdictional change in the Special Access Service.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.10 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements (Cont'd)

(A) Certification Requirements - Special Access (Cont'd)

Following initial certification, should the jurisdictional nature of the customer's Special Access Service change, the customer should inform the Telephone Company in writing of the change. The effective date of the change will be the date the Telephone Company receives the customer's notice of change. No charge applies for the jurisdictional change.

(B) Disputes Involving Jurisdictional Certification - Special Access

If a dispute arises concerning the certification of protected interstate traffic as described in (A) above, the Telephone Company will ask the customer to provide the data the customer used to determine that more than 10% of the traffic is interstate. The customer shall supply the data within thirty (30) days of the Telephone Company request. If the reply results in a jurisdictional change of a Special Access Service, the effective date of the change will be the date the Telephone Company receives the Customer's reply. There is no charge when the customer's reply results in a jurisdictional change in the Special Access Service.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.10 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements (Cont'd)

(C) Jurisdictional Reports - Switched Access

(1) General

- (a) The PIUs described following are applied to MTX usage rated Carrier Common Line, Information Surcharge, Local Switching, Tandem Switched Transport and Residual Interconnection charges. Separate PIUs are required for flat rated Entrance Facilities, Direct-Trunked Transport and Multiplexars.
- (b) Where a customer utilizes the services of multiple telephone companies to provide its services, provisions of Section 2.4.7 will be used to determine the customer's billing.

(2) FGA, FGB, FGC or FGD 800 Number Portability Access Service (NPAS) 900 Access Service

- (a) For services where jurisdiction can be determined from the call detail, the Telephone Company will bill according to such jurisdiction by developing a projected interstate percentage.

The projected interstate percentage will be developed on a monthly basis, by end office, when the access service access minutes are measured by dividing the measured interstate originating or terminating access minutes (the access minutes where the calling number is in one state and the called number is in another state) by the total originating or terminating access minutes.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.10 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements (Cont'd)

(C) Jurisdictional Reports - Switched Access (Cont'd)

(2) FGA, FGB, FGC or FGD 800 Number Portability Access Service (NPAS) 900 Access Service (Cont'd)

- (b) Upon ordering services where call details are insufficient to determine jurisdiction, the customer will provide an interstate percentage of originating and terminating access minutes for each end office or LATA from which the customer may originate or terminate traffic. If a LATA-level PIU factor is provided by the customer, the specified percentage will be applied to all end offices to which the customer may originate or terminate traffic within the LATA or to those end offices for which an end office-level PIU is not provided.

For FGA and FGB, the customer may provide a PIU factor for each Billing Account Number (BAN) within the LATA in lieu of an end office-level PIU. If LATA-level PIU factor is provided by the customer, the specified percentage will be applied to all BANs for which a BAN-level PIU is not provided.

- (3) Line Information Data Base (LIDB) Validation Service. Upon ordering LIDB Validation Service, the customer will provide an interstate percentage of LIDB queries. The LIDB Validation Service PIU will be an average PIU based on the jurisdiction of the originating end user calls for which the Telephone Company's LIDB is queried. The LIDB Validation Service will be applied to the LIDB Validation Service rates and charges.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.10 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements (Cont'd)

(C) Jurisdictional Reports - Switched Access (Cont'd)

(4) Annual Requirements

The customer shall provide to the Telephone Company by April 15 of each year a written report which provides the methodology utilized by the customer to develop the PIU factors provided in the quarterly update report as set forth in 2.3.10(C)(5) following.

If the customer does not provide the annual report by April 15 of each year, the customer will be notified by certified mail that if the annual report is not received within thirty (30) calendar days of the receipt of the notice, the Telephone Company will designate a PIU factor of 50% for each service arranged for interstate use. This factor will be applied to the next billing cycle following the thirty (30) day notice period and will be utilized until the customer provides an annual report. Once the customer does provide an annual report, the Telephone Company will update the customer's PIU factors within fifteen (15) business days utilizing the most current PIU factor reported by the customer.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.10 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements (Cont'd)

(C) Jurisdictional Reports - Switched Access (Cont'd)

(5) Quarterly Update Requirements

- (a) Effective on the first of January, April, July and October of each year, the customer will update the PIU reports. The customer will forward to the Telephone Company, to be received no later than fifteen (15) business days after the first of each such month, a revised report showing the interstate and intrastate percentage of use for the past three months ending the last day of December, March, June and September, respectively, for each service arranged for interstate use. The revised report will serve as the basis for the next three months billing.
- (b) When the customer does not provide a quarterly update report, but has complied with the annual report requirements set forth in 2.3.10(C)(4), the Telephone Company will assume the percentages to be the same as those provided in the last quarterly update report received by the Telephone Company. When the customer does not provide a quarterly update report and has not complied with the annual report requirements, the provisions set forth in 2.3.10(C)(4) will apply.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.10 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements (Cont'd)

(C) Jurisdictional Reports - Switched Access (Cont'd)

(5) Quarterly Update Requirements (Cont'd)

(b) (Cont'd)

If the Telephone Company has never received a quarterly update report, the customer will be notified by certified mail that if the quarterly update report is not received within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the notice, the Telephone Company will designate a PIU factor of 50% for each service arranged for interstate use. This factor will be applied to the next billing cycle and continue until the customer provides a quarterly update report. When the customer does provide the quarterly update report, the Telephone Company will update the customer's PIU factors within fifteen (15) business days.

(6) Exemption

FGA FX/ONAL services are exempt from the Report Update requirements set forth preceding.

(7) Update Requirements for Adding To and Discontinuing Services

When a customer requires additional Access Service within the end office or LATA, the customer shall provide to the Telephone Company a revised PIU report for the overall services provided. Additionally, when a customer discontinues a portion of the Access Services within the end office or LATA, the customer shall provide to the Telephone Company a revised PIU for the overall remaining services.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.10 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements (Cont'd)

(C) Jurisdictional Reports - Switched Access (Cont'd)

(8) Update Requirements for Modifications in Service Use and Traffic Patterns

When a customer modifies his use of Access Services within an end office or LATA in such a manner that substantially affects the jurisdiction of the traffic which the PIU represents, the customer is required to provide the Telephone Company a revised PIU report for the services affected.

(9) Disputes Involving Jurisdictional Reports – Switched Access

- (a) If a billing dispute arises or if a regulatory commission questions the projected PIU factor(s) provided by the customer, the Telephone Company may, by written request, require the customer to provide the data the customer used to determine the projected PIU factor(s). This written request will be considered the initiation of the audit. The customer shall supply the data to an independent auditor or the Telephone Company within thirty (30) days of the Telephone Company request. The customer shall keep records of call detail from which the percentage of interstate and intrastate use can be ascertained. The customer shall retain for a minimum of six (6) months, call detail records that substantiate the interstate percentage provided to the Telephone Company for Switched Access Services and upon request of the Telephone Company make the records available for inspection at an agreed upon location during normal business hours as reasonably necessary for purposes of verification of the percentages. The Telephone Company will audit data from one quarter unless a longer period is requested by the customer and agreed to by the Telephone Company.
- (b) If the customer does not provide the requested data to the Telephone Company or independent auditor within thirty (30) days of the notice of audit, the customer will be in violation of the Tariff and subject to the provisions specified in Section 2.1.8(A), preceding.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.10 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements (Cont'd)

(C) Jurisdictional Reports - Switched Access (Cont'd)

(9) Disputes Involving Jurisdictional Reports – Switched Access (cont'd)

- (c) Audits may be conducted by: (1) the Telephone Company when the customer agrees; (2) an independent auditor under contract to the Telephone Company; (3) a mutually agreed upon independent auditor paid for equally by the customer and the Telephone Company; or (4) an independent auditor selected and paid for by the customer. If the customer selected option (4), where it pays for its own independent audit, the selected auditor must certify that the audit was performed following Commission procedures for measuring interstate traffic as established by Commission Order, and provide the Telephone Company a report with supporting documentation to verify such procedures.
- (d) Verification audits may be conducted no more frequently than once per year except in extreme circumstances. The Telephone Company and customer will attempt to limit the audit to a reasonable time to effectively complete the audit. The Telephone Company and customer shall respond promptly to requests generated during the audit to ensure timely completion of the audit.

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.10 Jurisdictional Report and Certification Requirements (Cont'd)

(C) Jurisdictional Reports - Switched Access (Cont'd)

(9) Disputes Involving Jurisdictional Reports – Switched Access (cont'd)

- (e) When a PIU audit is conducted by the Telephone Company or an independent auditor under contract to the Telephone Company, the audit results will be furnished to the customer by Certified U.S. Mail. When a PIU audit is conducted by an independent auditor selected by the customer, the audit results will be furnished to the Telephone Company by Certified U.S. Mail. The Telephone Company will adjust the customer's PIU based upon the audit results. The PIU resulting from the audit shall be applied to the customer's usage for the quarter the audit is completed, the usage for the quarter prior to the completion of the audit, and the usage for the two (2) quarters following the completion of the audit. After that time, the customer may report revised PIU pursuant to 2.3.10(C)(4) and (5), above. If the revised PIU submitted by the customer represents a deviation of 5 percentage points or more from the audited PIU, and that deviation is not due to identifiable reasons, the provisions in 2.3.10(C)(9)(a), above, may be applied.,
- (f) Both credit and debit adjustments will be made to the customer's interstate access charges based on the audit results for the specified periods to accurately reflect the interstate usage for the customer's account consistent with Section 2.4.1, following.
- (g) If, as a result of an audit conducted by an independent auditor, a customer is found to have over-stated its PIU(s) by 20 percentage points or more, the Telephone Company shall require reimbursement from the customer for the cost of the audit. Such bill(s) shall be due and paid in immediately available funds within 30 days from receipt and shall carry a late payment penalty, as set forth in Section 2.4.1, following, if not paid within the 30 days.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.11 Determination of Interstate Charges for Mixed Interstate and Intrastate Access Service

When mixed interstate and intrastate Access Service is provided, all charges (i.e., nonrecurring, monthly and/or usage) including optional features charges will be prorated between interstate and intrastate. The percentage determined as set forth in 2.3.10(C) preceding will serve as the basis for prorating the charges unless the Telephone Company is billing according to actuals by the jurisdiction. The percentage of an Access Service to be charged as interstate is applied in the following manner:

(A) Monthly and Nonrecurring Charges

For monthly and nonrecurring chargeable rate elements, multiply the percent interstate use times the quantity of chargeable elements times the stated tariff rate.

(B) Usage Sensitive Charges

For usage sensitive (i.e., access minutes and calls) chargeable rate elements, multiply the percent interstate use times actual use (i.e., measured or Telephone Company assumed average use) times the stated tariff rate.

The interstate percentage may change as revised usage reports are submitted as set forth in 2.3.10 preceding.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances

2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits

(A) Deposits

The Telephone Company may require a customer which has a proven history of late payments to the Telephone Company or does not have established credit, to make a deposit prior to or at any time after the provision of a service to the customer. No such deposit will be required of a customer which is a successor of a company which has established credit and has no history of late payments to the Telephone Company. Such deposit will not exceed the actual or estimated rates and charges for the service for a two-month period. The fact that a deposit has been made in no way relieves the customer from complying with the Telephone Company's regulations as to the prompt payment of bills. At such time as the provision of the service to the customer is terminated, the amount of the deposit will be credited to the customer's account and any credit balance, which may remain, will be refunded.

Such a deposit will be refunded or credited to the account when the customer has established credit or, in any event, after the customer has established a one-year prompt payment record at any time prior to the termination of the provision of the service to the customer. In case of a cash deposit, for the period the deposit is held by the Telephone Company, the customer will receive interest at the same percentage rate as that set forth in (C)(2)(a) or in (C)(2)(b) following, whichever is lower.

The rate will be compounded daily for the number of days from the date the customer deposit is received by the Telephone Company to and including the date such deposit is credited to the customer's account or the date the deposit is refunded by the Telephone Company. Should a deposit be credited to the customer's account, as indicated above, no interest will accrue on the deposit from the date such deposit is credited to the customer's account.

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

(B) Bill Dates

The Telephone Company shall bill on a current basis all charges incurred by and credits due to the customer under this tariff attributable to services established or discontinued during the preceding billing period. In addition, the Telephone Company shall bill in advance charges for all services to be provided during the ensuing billing period except for charges associated with service usage and for the Federal Government which will be billed in arrears. The bill day (i.e., the billing date of a bill for a customer for Access Service under this tariff), the period of service each bill covers and the payment date will be as follows:

(1) End User Access Service and Presubscription

For End User Access Service, the Telephone Company will establish a bill day each month for each end user account or advise the customer in writing of an alternate billing schedule. Alternate billing schedules shall not be established on less than 60 days notice or initiated by the Telephone Company more than twice in any consecutive 12 month period. The bill will cover End User Access Service charges for the ensuing billing period except for End User Access Service for the Federal Government which will be billed in arrears. Any applicable Presubscription Charges, any known unbilled charges for prior periods and any known unbilled adjustments for prior periods for End User Access Service and Presubscription Service will be applied to this bill. Such bills are due when rendered.

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

(B) Bill Dates (Cont'd)

(2) Access Services Other Than End User and Presubscription

For Service other than End User Access Service and Presubscription Service, the Telephone Company will establish a bill day each month for each customer account or advise the customer in writing of an alternate billing schedule. Alternate billing schedules shall not be established on less than 60 days notice or initiated by the Telephone Company more than twice in any consecutive 12 month period.

The bill will cover nonusage sensitive service charges for the ensuing billing period for which the bill is rendered, any known unbilled nonusage sensitive charges for prior periods and unbilled usage charges for the period after the last bill day through the current bill day. Any unbilled usage charges for prior periods and any known unbilled adjustments will be applied to this bill. Payment for such bills is due in immediately available funds by the payment date, as set forth in (C) following. If payment is not received by the payment date, a late payment penalty will apply as set forth in (C) following.

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

(C) Payment Dates and Late Payment Penalties

- (1) All bills dated as set forth in (B)(2) preceding for service, other than End User Service and Presubscription Service, provided to the customer by the Telephone Company are due 31 days (payment date) after the bill day or by the next bill date (i.e., same date in the following month as the bill date), whichever is the shortest interval, except as provided herein, and are payable in immediately available funds. If the customer does not receive a bill at least 20 days prior to the 31 day payment due date, then the bill shall be considered delayed. When the bill has been delayed, upon request of the customer the due date will be extended by the number of days the bill was delayed. Such request of the customer must be accompanied with proof of late bill receipt.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

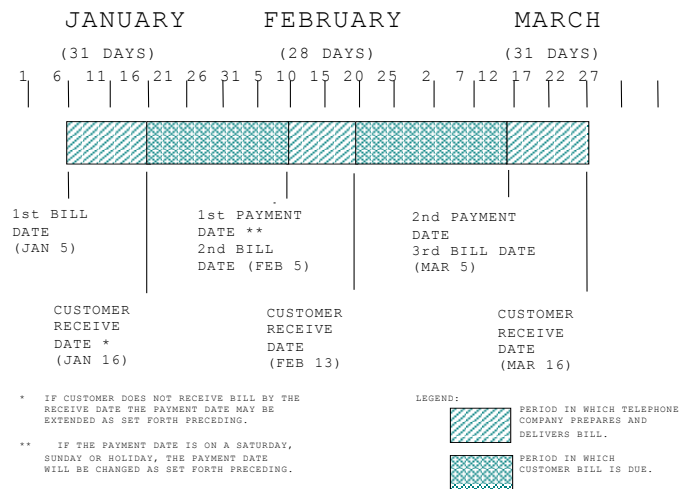
2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

(C) Payment Dates and Late Payment Penalties (Cont'd)

(1) (Cont'd)

If such payment date would cause payment to be due on a Saturday, Sunday or Legal Holiday, payment for such bills will be due from the customer as follows:

- If the payment date falls on a Sunday or on a Legal Holiday which is observed on a Monday, the payment date shall be the first non-Holiday day following such Sunday or Legal Holiday.
- If the payment date falls on a Saturday or on a Legal Holiday which is observed on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, the payment date shall be the last non-Holiday day preceding such Saturday or Legal Holiday.

EXAMPLE: CALCULATION OF PAYMENT DATES

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

(C) Payment Dates and Late Payment Penalties (Cont'd)

(2) Further, if no payment is received by the payment date or if a payment or any portion of a payment is received by the Telephone Company after the payment date as set forth in (1) preceding, or if a payment or any portion of a payment is received by the Telephone Company in funds which are not immediately available to the Telephone Company, then a late payment penalty shall be due to the Telephone Company. The late payment penalty shall be the payment or the portion of the payment not received by the payment date times a late factor. The late factor shall be the lesser of:

- (a) The highest interest rate (in decimal value) which may be levied by law for commercial transactions, compounded daily for the number of days from the payment date to and including the date that the customer actually makes the payment to the Telephone Company, or
- (b) 0.000590 per day, compounded daily for the number of days from the payment date to and including the date that the customer actually makes the payment to the Telephone Company.
- (c) For Ft. Bend Telephone Company, .000292 per day, per day, compounded daily for the number of days from the payment date to and including the date that the customer actually makes the payment to the Telephone Company.

(D) Billing Disputes Resolved in Favor of the Telephone Company

Late payment charges will apply to amounts withheld pending settlement of the dispute. Late payment charges are calculated as set forth in (C)(2) preceding except that when the customer disputes the bill on or before the payment date and pays the undisputed amount on or before the payment date, the interest period shall not begin until 10 days following the payment date.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

(E) Billing Disputes Resolved in Favor of the Customer

If the customer pays the total billed amount and disputes all or part of the amount, the Telephone Company will refund any overpayment. In addition, the Telephone Company will pay to the customer penalty interest on the overpayment. When a claim is filed within 90 days of the due date, the penalty interest period shall begin on the payment date. When a claim is filed more than 90 days after the due date, the penalty interest period shall begin from the date of the claim or the date of overpayment, whichever is later.

The penalty interest period shall end on the date that the Telephone Company actually refunds the overpayment to the customer. The penalty interest rate shall be the lesser of:

- (1) The highest interest rate (in decimal value) which may be levied by law for commercial transactions, compounded daily for the number of days from the first date to and including the last date of the period involved, or
- (2) For TXU Communications, 0.000590 per day, compounded daily for the number of days from the first date to and including the last date of the period involved.
- (3) For Ft. Bend Telephone Company, 0.000292 per day, compounded daily for the number of days from the first date to and including the last date of the period involved.

(F) Proration of Charges

Adjustments for the quantities of services established or discontinued in any billing period beyond the minimum period set forth for services in other sections of this tariff will be prorated to the number of days based on a 30 day month. The Company will, upon request, furnish within 30 days of a request and at no charge to the customer such detailed information as may reasonably be required for verification of any bill.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

(G) Rounding of Charges

When a rate as set forth in this tariff is shown to be 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).

2.4.2 Minimum Periods

The minimum period for which services are provided and for which rates and charges are applicable is one month except for those usage rated services set forth in Section 6. (Switched Access Service), or as otherwise specified.

The minimum period for which service is provided and for which rates and charges are applicable for a Specialized Service or Arrangement provided on an individual case basis as set forth in Section 12. following, is one month unless a different minimum period is established with the individual case filing.

When a service is discontinued prior to the expiration of the minimum period, charges are applicable, whether the service is used or not, as follows:

- (A) When a service with a one month minimum period is discontinued prior to the expiration of the minimum period, a one month charge will apply at the rate level in effect at the time service is discontinued.
- (B) When a service with a minimum period greater than one month is discontinued prior to the expiration of the minimum period, the applicable charge will be the lesser of (1) the Telephone Company's total nonrecoverable costs less the net salvage value for the discontinued service or (2) the total monthly charges, at the rate level in effect at the time service is discontinued, for the remainder of the minimum period.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.3 Cancellation of an Order for Service

Provisions for the cancellation of an order for service are set forth in other applicable sections of this tariff.

2.4.4 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions

(A) General

A service is interrupted when it becomes unusable to the customer because of a failure of a facility component used to furnish service under this tariff or in the event that the protective controls applied by the Telephone Company result in the complete loss of service by the customer as set forth in 6.2.1 following. An interruption period starts when an inoperative service is reported to the Telephone Company, and ends when the service is operative.

(B) When a Credit Allowance Applies

In case of an interruption to any service, allowance for the period of interruption, if not due to the negligence of the customer, shall be provided.

For Digital Data Access, D1 through D4 and High Capacity, HC1, Special Access Services, any period during which the error performance is below that specified for the service will be considered as an interruption.

Service interruptions for Specialized Service or Arrangements provided under Section 12. following shall be administered in the same manner as those set forth in this section (2.4.4) unless other regulations are specified with the individual case filing.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.4 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

(B) When a Credit Allowance Applies (Cont'd)

Credit allowances are computed as follows:

(1) Special Access Service other than Program Audio and Flat Rated Switched Access Service

For Special Access Services other than Program Audio and flat rated Switched Access Service rate elements (i.e., Entrance Facility, Direct-Transport and Multiplexing), no credit shall be allowed for an interruption of less than 30 minutes. The customer shall be credited for an interruption of 30 minutes or more at the rate of 1/1440 of the monthly charges for the facility or service for each period of 30 minutes or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues.

The monthly charges used to determine the credit shall be as follows:

(a) Two-point Services

For two-point services, the monthly charge shall be the total of all the monthly rate element charges associated with the service (i.e., two channel terminations, channel mileage and optional features and functions).

(b) Multipoint Services

For multipoint services, the monthly charge shall be only the total of all the monthly rate element charges associated with that portion of the service that is inoperative (i.e., a channel termination per customer designated premises, channel mileage and optional features and functions).

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.4 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

(B) When a Credit Allowance Applies (Cont'd)

(1) Special Access Service other than Program Audio and Flat rated Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

(c) Multiplexed Services

For multiplexed services, the monthly charge shall be the total of all the monthly rate element charges associated with that portion of the service that is inoperative. When the facility which is multiplexed or the multiplexer itself is inoperative, the monthly charge shall be the total of all the monthly rate element charges associated with the service (i.e., the channel termination, channel mileage, Entrance Facility, Direct-Trunked Transport and optional features and functions, including the multiplexer on the facility to the hub, and the channel terminations, channel mileages and optional features and functions on the individual services from the hub). When the service which rides a channel of the multiplexed facility is inoperative, the monthly charge shall be the total of all the monthly rate element charges associated with that portion of the service from the hub to a customer premises (i.e., channel termination, channel mileage, Direct-Trunked Transport and optional features and functions).

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.4 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

(B) When a Credit Allowance Applies (Cont'd)

(1) Special Access Service other than Program Audio and Flat Rated Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

(d) Flat Rated Switched Access Service Rate Elements

For flat rated Switched Access Service rate elements, the monthly charge shall be the total of all the monthly rate element charges associated with the service (i.e., Entrance Facility, Direct-Trunked Transport and Multiplexing).

(2) Program Audio Special Access Services

For Program Audio Special Access Service, no credit shall be allowed for an interruption of less than 30 seconds. The customer shall be credited for an interruption of 30 seconds or more as follows:

(a) For two-point services, when monthly rates are applicable, the credit shall be at the rate of 1/8640 of the monthly charges for the service for each period of 5 minutes or fraction thereof that the interruption continues.

(b) For multipoint services, when monthly rates are applicable, the credit shall be at the rate of 1/8640 of the monthly charges for each channel termination, channel mileage and optional features and functions that are inoperative for each period of 5 minutes or fraction thereof that the interruption continues.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.4 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

(B) When a Credit Allowance Applies (Cont'd)

(2) Program Audio Special Access Services (Cont'd)

(c) For multipoint services, the credit for the monthly charges includes the charges for the distribution amplifier only when the distribution amplifier is inoperative.

(d) When two or more interruptions occur during a period of 5 consecutive minutes, such multiple interruptions shall be considered as one interruption.

(3) Switched Access Service Usage Rated Elements

For Switched Access Service usage rated elements, no credit shall be allowed for an interruption of less than 24 hours. The customer shall be credited for an interruption of 24 hours or more at the rate of 1/30 of any applicable monthly rate or assumed minutes of use charge for each period of 24 hours or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.4 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

(B) When a Credit Allowance Applies (Cont'd)

(4) Credit Allowances Cannot Exceed Monthly Rate

The credit allowance(s) for an interruption or for a series of interruptions shall not exceed any monthly rate for the service interrupted in any one monthly billing period.

(C) When a Credit Allowance Does Not Apply

No credit allowance will be made for:

- (1) Interruptions caused by the negligence of the customer.
- (2) Interruptions of a service due to the failure of equipment or systems provided by the customer or others.
- (3) Interruptions of a service during any period in which the Telephone Company is not afforded access to the premises where the service is terminated.
- (4) Interruptions of a service when the customer has released that service to the Telephone Company for maintenance purposes, to make rearrangements, or for the implementation of an order for a change in the service during the time that was negotiated with the customer prior to the release of that service. Thereafter, a credit allowance as set forth in (B) preceding applies.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.4 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

(C) When a Credit Allowance Does Not Apply (Cont'd)

- (5) Interruptions of a service which continue because of the failure of the customer to authorize replacement of any element of special construction, as set forth in Section 19 of this Tariff. The period for which no credit allowance is made begins on the seventh day after the customer receives the Telephone Company's written notification of the need for such replacement and ends on the day after receipt by the Telephone Company of the customer's written authorization for such replacement.
- (6) Periods when the customer elects not to release the service for testing and/or repair and continues to use it on an impaired basis.
- (7) An interruption or a group of interruptions, resulting from a common cause, that would result in credit in an amount less than one dollar.

(D) Use of an Alternative Service Provided by the Telephone Company

Should the customer elect to use an alternative service provided by the Telephone Company during the period that a service is interrupted, the customer must pay the tariffed rates and charges for the alternative service used.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.4 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

(E) Temporary Surrender of a Service

In certain instances, the customer may be requested by the Telephone Company to surrender a service for purposes other than maintenance, testing or activity relating to a service order. If the customer consents, a credit allowance will be granted. The credit allowance will be 1/1440 of the monthly rate for each period of 30 minutes or fraction thereof that the service is surrendered. In no case will the credit allowance exceed the monthly rate for the service surrendered in any one monthly billing period.

2.4.5 Re-establishment of Service Following Fire, Flood or Other Occurrence

(A) Nonrecurring Charges Do Not Apply

Charges do not apply for the re-establishment of service following a fire, flood or other occurrence attributed to an Act of God provided that:

- (1) The service is of the same type as was provided prior to the fire, flood or other occurrence.
- (2) The service is for the same customer.
- (3) The service is at the same location on the same premises.
- (4) The re-establishment of service begins within 60 days after Telephone Company service is available. (The 60 day period may be extended a reasonable period if the renovation of the original location on the premises affected is not practical within the allotted time period).

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.5 Re-establishment of Service Following Fire, Flood or Other Occurrence (Cont'd)

(B) Nonrecurring Charges Apply

Nonrecurring Charges apply for establishing service at a different location on the same premises or at a different premises pending re-establishment of service at the original location.

2.4.6 Title or Ownership Rights

The payment of rates and charges by customers for the services offered under the provisions of this tariff does not assign, confer or transfer title or ownership rights to proposals or facilities developed or utilized, respectively, by the Telephone Company in the provision of such services.

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company

(A) Non Meet Point Billing

FGA Access Service will be jointly provided by Telephone Companies. When Meet Point Billing is not available, the Primary Telephone Company providing the customer's dial tone will bill both originating FGA usage rates. The Secondary Telephone Company will be compensated for interstate access revenue through a Revenue-sharing Agreement with the Primary Telephone Company.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing

When FGB, FGC, or FGD Access Service is provided by more than one Telephone Company, the Telephone Companies involved will bill the customer according to the Meet Point Billing Procedures described in this tariff. The customer will place the order for the service as set forth in 5.3 following dependent upon the billing method.

Meet Point Billing is required when an access service is provided by multiple Telephone Companies for Feature Groups B, C and D Switched Access Services, and Special Access. It is optional for Feature Group A Switched Access Service. For usage rated access services the access minutes of use will be determined by the Initial Billing Company and used by the Initial Billing Company and any Subsequent Billing Company(s) for the development of access charges.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

- The Initial Billing Company for Feature Group B, C and D Switched Access Service is normally C the end user's end office, for WATS usage the Initial Billing Company is normally the WATS serving office. When the Initial Billing Company is other than the normally designated Telephone Company office, the Telephone Company will notify the customer.
- The Subsequent Billing Company(s) is any Telephone Company(s) in whose territory a segment of Local Transport is provided and/or where the customer's Point of Termination is located.

There are two Meet Point Billing Options -- Single Bill and Multiple Bill.

The Telephone Company must notify the customer of:

- The Meet Point Billing Option that will be used,
- The Telephone Company(s) that will render the bill(s)

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

- The Telephone Company(s) to whom payment(s) should be remitted, and
- The Telephone Company(s) that will provide the bill inquiry function.

The Telephone Company shall provide such notification at the time that orders are placed for access service. Additionally, the Telephone Company shall provide this notice in writing 30 days in advance of any changes.

The Telephone Company that renders the bill -- the Bill Rendering Telephone Company -- will include on the access service bill, based upon Industry Standards as described in the Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing Guidelines and the Multiple Exchange Carrier Ordering and Design Guidelines, cross reference(s) to the other Telephone Company(s) service and the common circuit identifiers. Should a billing dispute arise, the terms and conditions of the Bill Rendering Telephone Company will apply.

(1) Single Bill Option

The Single Bill option provides the following three billing alternatives:

- Single Bill/Multiple Tariff,
- Single Bill/Pass-Through Billing, and
- Single Bill/Single Tariff

These options are described following in a, b and c respectively.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(1) Single Bill Option (Cont'd)

(a) Single Bill/Multiple Tariff

Each Telephone Company will receive an order or a copy of the order from the customer as specified in 5.3.2 following and arrange to provide the service. The Bill Rendering Telephone Company will:

- Determine and include all other recurring and nonrecurring rates and charges for each involved Telephone Company;
- identify each involved Telephone Company's rates and charges separately on the bill;
- forward the bill to the customer; and
- advise the customer how to remit the payment, either directly to each Telephone Company involved in the provision of this meet point billed service; or, as a single payment made to the Bill Rendering Telephone Company. If payments are to be sent directly to the Bill Rendering Telephone Company, the non-bill rendering Telephone Company(s) will provide the customer with written authorization for the payment arrangement.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided by More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(1) Single Bill Option (Cont'd)

(b) Single Bill/Pass-Through Billing

Each Telephone Company will receive an order or a copy of the order from the customer as specified in 5.3.2 following and arrange to provide the service. Each Telephone Company will:

- Prepare its own bill;
- Determine its rates and charge(s) for Local Transport, and/or Channel Mileage as set forth in (3) following;
- Determine and include all other recurring and nonrecurring rates and charges of its access tariff; and
- Forward the bill to the Bill Rendering Telephone Company for the meet point billed access services.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided by More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(1) Single Bill Option (Cont'd)

(b) Single Bill/Pass-Through Billing (Cont'd)

The Bill Rendering Telephone Company will:

- Apply usage data, when needed, to the bill and calculate the charges;
- Identify each involved Telephone Company's charges separately on the bill;
- Combine all the bills of the involved Telephone Companies of a meet point billed access service into one access bill;
- Forward the bill to the customer; and
- Advise the customer how to remit the payment, either directly to each Telephone Company involved in the provision of this meet point billed service; or, as a single payment made to the Bill Rendering Telephone Company. If payments are to be sent directly to the Bill Rendering Telephone Company, the non-bill rendering Telephone Company(s) will provide the customer with written authorization for the payment arrangement.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(1) Single Bill Option (Cont'd)

(c) Single Bill/Single Tariff

Each Telephone Company will receive an order or a copy of the order from the customer as specified in 5.3.2 following and arrange to provide the service. The Bill Rendering Telephone Company will:

- determine and include all other recurring and nonrecurring rates and charges of its access tariff; and
- forward the bill to the customer.

The customer will remit the payment to the Bill Rendering Telephone Company.

(2) Multiple Bill Option

Each Telephone Company will receive an order or a copy of the order from the customer as specified in 5.3.2 following. Each Telephone Company will be the Bill Rendering Telephone Company and will:

- prepare its own bill;

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(2) Multiple Bill Option (Cont'd)

- determine its charge(s) for Local Transport and/or Channel Mileage as set forth in (3) following;
- determine and include all other recurring and nonrecurring rates and charges of its access tariff;
- bill in accordance with its access tariff; and
- forward its bill to the customer.

The customer will remit payment directly to each Bill Rendering Telephone Company.

(3) Determination of Meet Point Billed Local Transport and Channel Mileage Charges

Each Telephone Company's portion of the Local Transport and Channel mileage will be determined as follows:

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(3) Determination of Meet Point Billed Local Transports and Channel Mileage Charges (Cont'd)

- (a) Determine the appropriate Local Transport or Channel Mileage by computing then number of airline miles between the Telephone Company premises (end office, access tandem or serving wire centers for Switched Access or serving wire centers for Special Access) using the V&H method set forth respectively in 6.4.6 and 7.2.5 following.
- (b) Determine the billing percentage (BP), as set forth in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4, which represents the portion of the service provided by each Telephone Company.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(3) Determination of Meet Point Billed Local Transport Channel Mileage Charges (Cont'd)

- (c) For Feature Groups A, B, C and D Tandem Switched Transport, (1) multiply the number of originating and terminating access minutes of use routed over the facility times the number of airline miles, as set forth in (a) preceding, times the BP for each Telephone Company, as set forth in (b) preceding, times the Tandem-Switched Transport Facility rate; (2) multiply the Tandem-Switched Termination rate times the number of originating and terminating access minutes routed over the facility.

When a tandem office is located within the Telephone Company's operating territory, multiply the Tandem Switching rate times the number of originating and terminating access minutes that are switched at the tandem.

The Tandem-Switched Termination rate is applied as set forth in 6.1.3(A) following. The Switched Access Nonrecurring Charges are applied as set forth in 6.4.1(B) following. (Note: The BP is not applied to the Switched Access Tandem Switching rate, Tandem Switched Termination rate or any Nonrecurring Charge.)

- (d) For Feature Groups A, B, C and D Direct-Trunked Transport:

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(3) Determination of Meet Point Billed Local Transport Channel Mileage Charges (Cont'd)

(d) (Cont'd)

- Multiply the number of airline miles, as set forth in (a) preceding, times the BP for each Telephone Company, as set forth in (b) preceding, times the Direct-Trunked Facility rate.
- The Direct-Trunked Termination rate is applied as set forth in 6.1.3(A) following. The Switched Access Nonrecurring Charges are applied as set forth in 6.4.1(B) following. (Note: The Billing Percentage (BP) is not applied to either the Switched Access Direct-Trunked Termination rate or any Nonrecurring Charge.)

(e) For Feature Groups A, B, C and D:

- Multiply the Residual Interconnection Charge rate times the number of originating and terminating access minutes of use that are switched at the end office (which may be a Remote Switching Module or WATS Serving Office) located in the Telephone Company's territory. The Billing Percentage (BP) is not applicable to the Residual Interconnection Charge.
- Entrance Facility and/or Multiplexing charges apply for equipment which is located within the Telephone Company's territory. The Billing Percentage (BP) is not applicable to the Entrance Facility or Multiplexing charges.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(3) Determination of Meet Point Billed Local Transport and Channel Mileage Charges (Cont'd)

- (f) For Special Access, multiply the number of airline miles, as set forth in (a) preceding, times the BP for each Telephone Company, as set forth in (b) preceding, times the Channel Mileage Facility rate and add the Channel Mileage Termination rate.

The Special Access Channel Mileage Termination rate and nonrecurring charges are applied as set forth in 7.2.1(B)(2) and 7.2.2(B) following. (Note: The BP is not applied to either the Channel Mileage Termination Recurring Rate or any Nonrecurring Charge.)

- (g) When three or more Telephone Companies are involved in providing an Access Service, the intermediate Telephone Company(s) will determine the appropriate charges as set forth in (c) through (f) preceding. The Tandem Switched Termination, Direct-Trunked Termination or Channel Mileage Termination rates are also applied at the intermediate Telephone Company(s) offices when a segment of the Tandem Switched Facility, Direct-Trunked Facility or Channel Mileage Facility is measured to the intermediate offices.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

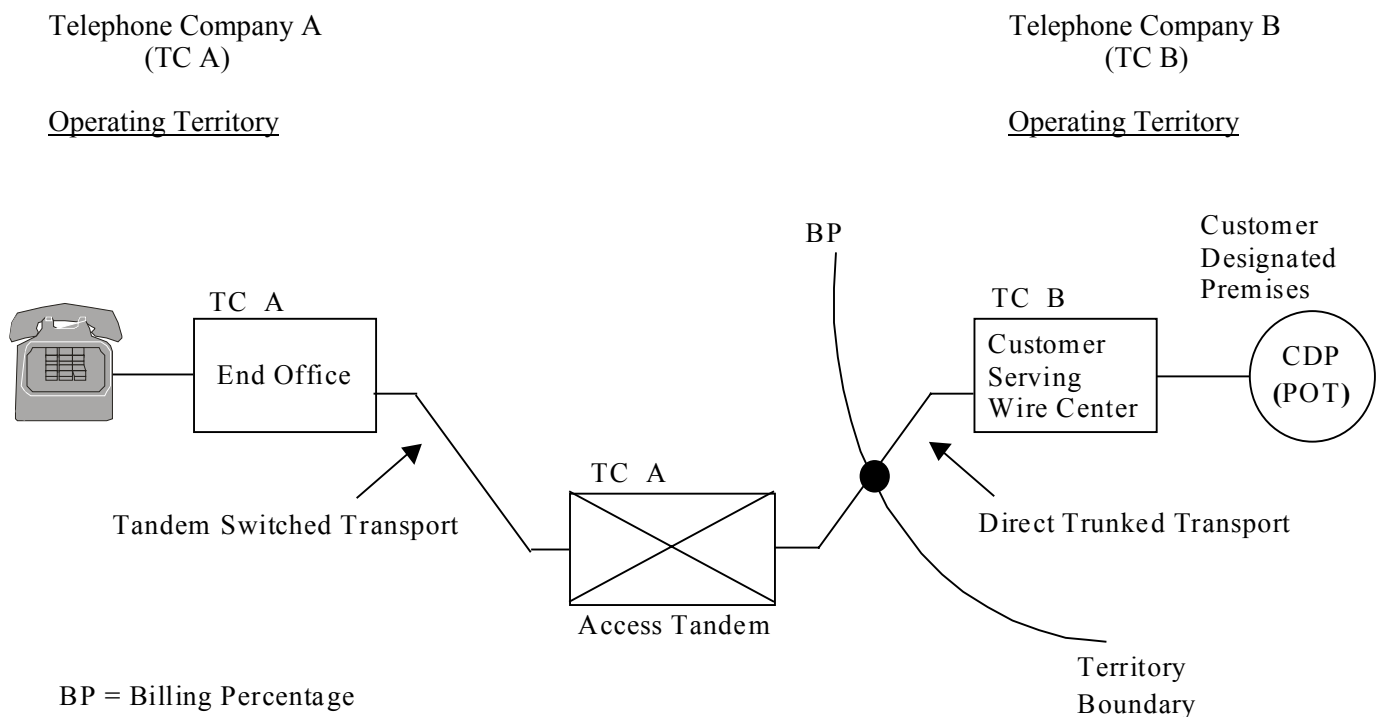
2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(C) Example - Switched Access

(1) Layout

- a) Feature Group D Switched Access is ordered to End Office A.
- b) End Office A is in operating territory of Telephone Company A.
- c) Customer designated premises is in operating territory of Telephone Company B.



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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(C) Example 1- Switched Access (Cont'd)

The following example reflects the rate calculations for end office company (TC A). Rates for the other company (TC B) would appear in that company's access tariff.

(2) Assume:

End Office to Access Tandem:
Airline miles from TC A End Office to TC A
Access Tandem = 22.1, rounded = 23.

Access Tandem to Service Wire Center:
Airline Miles from TC A Access
Tandem to TC B Serving Wire
Center = 25.6, rounded = 26

Billing Percentage (BP)
TC A = 80%
TC B = 20%

Access Minutes = 9000

Tandem Switched Facility Rate = TSF
Tandem Switched Termination Rate = TST
Tandem Switching Rate = TS
Residual Interconnection Charge = RIC
Carrier Common Line Charge = CCL
End Office Charges = EO
Direct Trunked Facility Rate = DTF
Direct Trunked Termination Rate = DTT

(3) Calculation

Telephone Company A charges are:

Tandem Switched Facility charge
= 9,000 min. X 23 mi. X TSF rate

Tandem Switched Termination charge
= 9,000 min. X 2 Terminations X TST rate

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(C) Example 1 - Switched Access with Tandem Switched Transport (Cont'd)

(3) Calculation (Cont'd)

Tandem Switching charge
= 9,000 min. X TS rate

Residual Interconnection Charge
= 9,000 min. X RIC rate

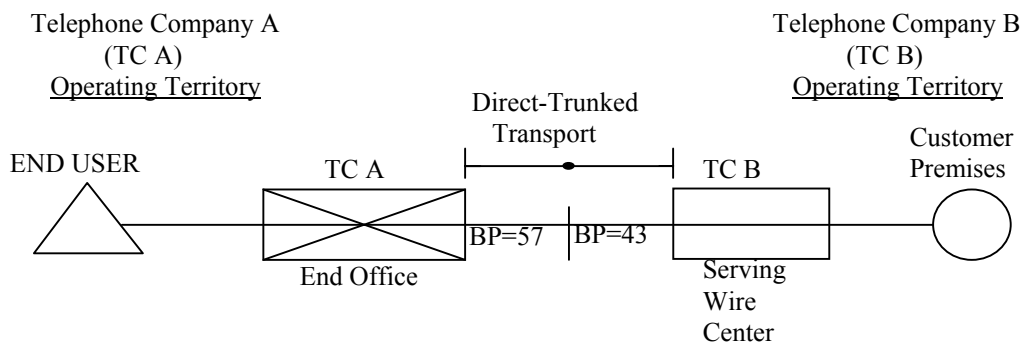
Carrier Common Line charge
= 9,000 min. X CCL rate

End Office Charges
= 9,000 min. X EO rates

Direct Trunked Facility charge
= 26 miles X DTF rate X 80%

Direct Trunked Termination charge
= 1 termination X DTT rate

(D) Example 2- Switched Access with Direct-Trunked Transport



(1) Layout

(a) Feature Group D Switched Access is ordered to End Office A.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances (Cont'd)

2.4.7 Access Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

(D) Example 2- Switched Access (Cont'd)

(1) Layout (Cont'd)

(b) End Office A is in operating territory of Telephone Company A.

(c) Customer Designated Premises is in operating territory of Telephone Company B.

The following example reflects the rate calculations for end office company (TC A). Rates for the other company (TC B) would appear in that company's access tariff.

(2) Assume:

Airline miles From TC A premises to TC B Serving Wire Center = 22.1, rounded = 23

TC A Billing Percentage (BP) is 57

Access Minutes = 9,000

Direct-Trunked Termination - DTT

Direct-Trunked Facility - DTF

Residual Interconnection Charge - RIC

(3) Calculation

Direct-Trunked Transport
= (23 mi. X DTF X 57%) + DTT

Residual Interconnection Charge
= 9,000 min. X RIC rate

Carrier Common Line charge
= 9,000 min. X CCL rate

End Office charges
= 9,000 min. X EO rate

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.5 Connections

Equipment and Systems (i.e., terminal equipment, multiline terminating systems and communications systems) may be connected with Switched and Special Access Service furnished by the Telephone Company where such connection is made in accordance with the provisions specified in Technical Reference Publication AS No. 1 and in 2.1 preceding.

2.6 Definitions

Certain terms used herein are defined as follows:

Access Minutes

For the purpose of calculating chargeable usage, the term "Access Minutes" denotes customer usage of exchange facilities in the provision of interstate or foreign service. On the originating end of an interstate or foreign call, usage is measured from the time the originating end user's call is delivered by the Telephone Company to and acknowledged as received by the customer's facilities connected with the originating exchange. On the terminating end of an interstate or foreign call, usage is measured from the time the call is received by the end user in the terminating exchange. Timing of usage at both originating and terminating ends of an interstate or foreign call shall terminate when the calling or called party disconnects, whichever event is recognized first in the originating and terminating exchanges, as applicable.

Access Tandem

The term "Access Tandem" denotes a Telephone Company that provides a concentration and distribution function for originating or terminating traffic between end offices and a customer designated premises.

Aggregator

Any person that, in the normal course of its operations, makes telephones available to the public or to transient users of its premises, for interstate telephone calls using a provider of Operator services.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Answer/Disconnect Supervision

The term "Answer/Disconnect Supervision" denotes the transmission of the switch trunk equipment supervisory signal (off-hook or on-hook) to the customer's point of termination as an indication that the called party has answered or disconnected.

Asymmetrical Digital Subscriber Line (ADSL)

The term "Asymmetrical Digital Subscriber Line (ADSL)" denotes an access technology that allows voice and high speed data to be sent simultaneously over local exchange service copper facilities.

Attenuation Distortion

The term "Attenuation Distortion" denotes the difference in loss at specified frequencies relative to the loss at 1004 Hz, unless otherwise specified.

Balance (100 Type) Test Line

The term "Balance (100 Type) Test Line" denotes an arrangement in an end office which provides for balance and noise testing.

Bit

The term "Bit" denotes the smallest unit of information in the binary system of notation.

Business Day

The term "Business Day" denotes the times of day that a company is open for business. These hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., respectively, with an hour for lunch, Monday through Friday, resulting in a standard forty (40) hour work week.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity (BHMC)

The term "Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity (BHMC)" denotes the customer specified maximum amount of Switched Access Service access minutes the customer expects to be handled in an end office switch during any hour in an 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. period for the Feature Group Service ordered. This customer specified BHMC quantity is the input data the Telephone Company uses to determine the number of transmission paths for the Feature Group Service ordered.

Call

The term "Call" denotes a customer attempt for which complete address information (e.g., 0-, 911, or 10 digits) is provided to the serving dial tone office.

Carrier or Common Carrier

See Interexchange Carrier.

CCS

The term "CCS" denotes a hundred call seconds, which is a standard unit of traffic load that is equal to 100 seconds of usage or capacity of a group of servers (e.g., trunks).

Central Office

See End Office.

Central Office Maintenance Technician

The term "Central Office Maintenance Technician" denotes a Telephone Company employee who performs installation and/or repair work, including testing and trouble isolation, within the Telephone Company Central Office.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Central Office Prefix

The term "Central Office Prefix" denotes the first three digits (NXX) of the seven digit telephone number assigned to a customer's Telephone Exchange Service when dialed on a local basis.

Channel(s)

The term "Channel(s)" denotes an electrical or photonic, in the case of fiber optic-based transmission systems, communications path between two or more points of termination.

Channel Service Unit

The term "Channel Service Unit" denotes equipment which performs one or more of the following functions: termination of a digital facility, regeneration of digital signals, detection and/or correction of signal format error, and remote loop back.

Channelize

The term "Channelize" denotes the process of multiplexing-demultiplexing wider bandwidth or higher speed channels into narrower band-width or lower speed channels.

Clear Channel Capability

The term "Clear Channel Capability" denotes the ability to transport twenty-four 64 Kbps over a DS1 Mbps High Capacity service via a B8ZS line code format.

C-Message Noise

The term "C-Message Noise" denotes the frequency weighted average noise within an idle voice channel. The frequency weighting, called C-message, is used to simulate the frequency characteristic of the 500-type telephone set and the hearing of the average subscriber.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

C-Notched Noise

The term "C-Notched Noise" denotes the C-message frequency weighted noise on a voice channel with a holding tone, which is removed at the measuring end through a notch (very narrow band) filter.

Coin Station

See Pay Telephone.

Committed Bit Rate

The term "Committed Bit Rate" denotes the transmission speed specified by the customer at which the Frame Relay Access Service network commits to transfer data between two ports.

Common Channel Signaling

The term "Common Channel Signaling" (CCS) denotes a high speed packet switched communications network which is separate (out of band) from the public packet switched and message networks. Its purpose is to carry addressed signaling messages for individual circuits and/or database related services between Signaling Points in the CCS network.

Common Line

The term "Common Line" denotes a line, trunk, pay telephone line or other facility provided under the general and/or local exchange service tariffs of the Telephone Company, terminated on a central office switch. A common line-residence is a line or trunk provided under the residence regulations of the general and/or local exchange service tariffs. A common line-business is a line provided under the business regulations of the general and/or local exchange service tariffs.

Communications System

The term "Communications System" denotes channels and other equipment provided by other than the Telephone Company.

Customer(s)

The term "Customer(s)" denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, corporation, or governmental entity or other entity which subscribes to the services offered under this tariff, including both Interexchange Carriers (ICs) and End Users.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Customer Designated Premises

The term "Customer Designated Premises" denotes the premises specified by the customer for the provision of Access Service.

Data Transmission (107 Type) Test Line

The term "Data Transmission (107 Type) Test Line" denotes an arrangement which provides for a connection to a signal source which provides test signals for one-way testing of data and voice transmission parameters.

Decibel

The term "Decibel" denotes a unit used to express relative difference in power, usually between acoustic or electric signals, equal to ten (10) times the common logarithm of the ratio of two signal powers.

Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Weighting

The term "Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Weighting" denotes noise power measurements with C-Message Weighting in decibels relative to a reference 1000 Hz tone of 90 dB below 1 milliwatt.

Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Referenced to O

The term "Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Referenced to O" denotes noise power in "Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Weighting" referred to or measured at a zero transmission level point.

Detail Billing

The term "Detail Billing" denotes the listing of each message and/or rate element for which charges to a customer are due on a bill prepared by the Telephone Company.

Direct-Trunked Transport

The term "Direct-Trunked Transport" denotes transport from the serving wire center to an end office or from the serving wire center to the access tandem on circuits dedicated to the use of a single customer.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Dual Tone Multifrequency Address Signaling

The term "Dual Tone Multifrequency Address Signaling" denotes a type of signaling that is an optional feature of Switched Access Feature Group A. It may be utilized when Feature Group A is being used in the terminating direction (from the point of termination with the customer to the local exchange end office). An office arranged for Dual Tone Multifrequency Signaling would expect to receive address signals from the customer in the form of Dual Tone Multifrequency signals.

Echo Control

The term "Echo Control" denotes the control of reflected signals in a telephone transmission path.

Echo Path Loss

The term "Echo Path Loss" denotes the measure of reflected signal at a 4-wire point of interface without regard to the send and receive Transmission Level Point.

Echo Return Loss

The term "Echo Return Loss" denotes a frequency weighted measure of return loss over the middle of the voiceband (approximately 500 to 2500 Hz), where talker echo is most annoying.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Effective 2-Wire

The term "Effective 2-Wire" denotes a condition which permits the simultaneous transmission in both directions over a channel, but it is not possible to insure independent information transmission in both directions. Effective 2-wire channels may be terminated with 2-wire or 4-wire interfaces.

Effective 4-Wire

The term "Effective 4-Wire" denotes a condition which permits the simultaneous independent transmission of information in both directions over a channel. The method of implementing effective 4-wire transmission is at the discretion of the Telephone Company (physical, time domain, frequency-domain separation or echo cancellation techniques). Effective 4-wire channels may be terminated with a 2-wire interface at the customer's premises. However, when terminated 2-wire, simultaneous independent transmission cannot be supported because the two wire interface combines the transmission paths into a single path.

End Office

The term "End Office" denotes a local Telephone Company switching system where Telephone Exchange Service customer station loops are terminated for purposes of interconnection to each other and to trunks. This term includes Remote Switching Modules/Systems served by a Host Central Office in a different wire center.

End User

The term "End User" means any customer of an interstate or foreign telecommunications service that is not a carrier, except that a carrier other than a telephone company shall be deemed to be an "end user" when such carrier uses a telecommunications service for administrative purposes, and a person or entity that offers telecommunications service exclusively as a reseller shall be deemed to be an "end user" if all resale transmissions offered by such reseller originate on the premises of such reseller.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Enhanced Service

The term "Enhanced Service", as defined in Part 64 of the F.C.C.'s Rules and Regulations, are services "...offered over common carrier transmission facilities used in interstate communications, which employ computer processing applications that act on the format, content, code, protocol or similar aspects of the subscriber's transmitted information; provide the subscriber additional, different, or restructured information; or involve subscriber interaction with stored information."

Entrance Facility

The term "Entrance Facility" denotes a Switched Access Service dedicated Local Transport facility between the customer's serving wire center and the customer designated premises.

Entry Switch

See First Point of Switching.

Envelope Delay Distortion

The term "Envelope Delay Distortion" denotes a measure of the linearity of the phase versus frequency of a channel.

Equal Level Echo Path Loss

The term "Equal Level Echo Path Loss (ELEPL)" denotes the measure of Echo Path Loss (EPL) at a 4-wire interface which is corrected by the difference between the send and receive Transmission Level Point (TLP). $[ELEPL = EPL - TLP(\text{send}) + TLP(\text{receive})]$.

Exchange

The term "Exchange" denotes a unit generally smaller than a local access and transport area, established by the Telephone Company for the administration of communications service in a specified area which usually embraces a city, town or village and its environs. It consists of one or more central offices together with the associated facilities used in furnishing communications service within that area. The exchange includes any Extended Area Service area that is an enlargement of a Telephone Company's exchange area to include nearby exchanges. One or more designated exchanges comprise a given local access and transport area.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Exit Message

The term "Exit Message" denotes an SS7 message sent to an end office by the Telephone Company's tandem switch to mark the Carrier Connect Time when the Telephone Company's tandem switch sends an Initial Address Message to an interexchange customer.

Expected Measured Loss

The term "Expected Measured Loss" denotes a calculated loss which specifies the end-to-end 1004-Hz loss on a terminated test connection between two readily accessible manual or remote test points. It is the sum of the inserted connection loss and test access loss including any test pads.

Extended Area Service

See Exchange.

First Point of Switching

The term "First Point of Switching" denotes the first Telephone Company location at which switching occurs on the terminating path of a call proceeding from the customer designated premises to the terminating end office and, at the same time, the last Telephone Company location at which switching occurs on the originating path of a call proceeding from the originating end office to the customer designated premises.

Frame

The term "Frame" denotes a group of data bits in a specific format, which enables network equipment to recognize the meaning and purpose of the specific bits.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Frame Relay Access Point Link

The term "Frame Relay Access Point Link" denotes the physical location in the Telephone Company switching office where the Special Access facility of the customer connects to Multiplexar equipment. This is only applies to Frame Relay Service speeds 56 Kbps, 64 Kbps, 128 Kbps, 256 Kbps, 384 Kbps and 768 Kbps.

Frame Relay Network to Network Interface (NNI) Port

The term "Frame Relay Network to Network Interface (NNI) Port" denotes the physical location in the Telephone Company's Frame Relay Service network connects to another Frame Relay Service network of the customer or carrier. It specifies how a frame relay switch sends and receives data from another Frame Relay Service network.

Frame Relay Access Service

The term "Frame Relay Access Service" denotes a medium-speed, connection-oriented packet-switched data service that allows for the interconnection of Local Area Networks or other compatible end user customer premises equipment for the purpose of connecting to an access customer's interstate network.

Frame Relay User Network Interface (UNI) Port

The term "Frame Relay User Network Interface (UNI) Port" denotes the physical location in the Telephone Company switching office where the Special Access facility of the customer connects to the Frame Relay Service network. It specifies how a frame relay switch sends and receives data from a frame relay end user customer's Local Area Network or other compatible CPE devices.

Frame Relay Network Link

The term "Frame Relay Network Link" denotes an interexchange facility connecting a customer in one exchange of the Company to frame relay service in another contiguous Company exchange.

Frame Relay Virtual Link

The term "Frame Relay Virtual Link" denotes a software defined communications path between two port connections within the Frame Relay Service network.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Frequency Shift

The term "Frequency Shift" denotes the change in the frequency of a tone as it is transmitted over a channel.

Grandfathered

The term "Grandfathered" denotes Terminal Equipment, Multiline Terminating Systems and Protective Circuitry directly connected to the facilities utilized to provide services under the provisions of this tariff, and which are considered grandfathered under Part 68 of the F.C.C.'s Rules and Regulations.

Host Central Office

The term "Host Central Office" denotes an electronic local Telephone Company End Office where Telephone Exchange Service customer station loop are terminated for purposes of interconnection to each other and to trunks. Additionally, this type of End Office contains the central call processing functions which service itself and its Remote Switching Modules/Systems.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Immediately Available Funds

The term "Immediately Available Funds" denotes a corporate or personal check drawn on a bank account and funds which are available for use by the receiving party on the same day on which they are received and include U.S. Federal Reserve bank wire transfers, U.S. Federal Reserve notes (paper cash), U.S. coins, U.S. Postal Money Orders and New York Certificates of Deposit.

Impedance Balance

The term "Impedance Balance" denotes the method of expressing Echo Return Loss and Singing Return Loss at a 4-wire interface whereby the gains and/or loss of the 4-wire portion of the transmission path, including the hybrid, are not included in the specification.

Impulse Noise

The term "Impulse Noise" denotes any momentary occurrence of the noise on a channel over a specified level threshold. It is evaluated by counting the number of occurrences which exceed the threshold.

Individual Case Basis

The term "Individual Case Basis" denotes a condition in which the regulations, if applicable, rates and charges for an offering under the provisions of this tariff are developed based on the circumstances in each case.

Initial Address Message

The term "Initial Address Message" denotes an SS7 message sent in the forward direction to initiate trunk set up, reserve an outgoing trunk and process the information about that trunk along with other data relating to the routing and handling of the call to the next switch.

Inserted Connection Loss

The term "Inserted Connection Loss" denotes the 1004 Hz power difference (in dB) between the maximum power available at the originating end and the actual power reaching the terminating end through the inserted connection.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Installation and Repair Technician

The term "Installation and Repair Technician" denotes a Telephone Company employee who performs installation and/or repair work, including testing and trouble isolation, outside of the Telephone Company Central Office and generally at the customer designated premises.

Interexchange Carrier (IC) or Interexchange Common Carrier

The terms "Interexchange Carrier" (IC) or "Interexchange Common Carrier" denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged for hire in interstate or foreign communication by wire or radio, between two or more exchanges.

Intermodulation Distortion

The term "Intermodulation Distortion" denotes a measure of the nonlinearity of a channel. It is measured using four tones, and evaluating the ratios (in dB) of the transmitted composite four-tone signal power to the second-order products of the tones (R2), and the third-order products of the tones (R3).

Interstate Communications

The term "Interstate Communications" denotes both interstate and foreign communications.

Intrastate Communications

The term "Intrastate Communications" denotes any communications within a state subject to oversight by a state regulatory commission as provided by the laws of the state involved.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Legal Holiday

The term "Legal Holiday" denotes days other than Saturday or Sunday for which the Telephone Company is normally closed. These include New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and a day when Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day or Columbus Day legally observed and other locally observed holidays when the Telephone Company is closed.

Line Side Connection

The term "Line Side Connection" denotes a connection of a transmission path to the line side of a local exchange switching system.

Local Access and Transport Area (LATA)

The term "Local Access and Transport Area" denotes a geographic area established for the provision and administration of communications service. It encompasses one or more designated exchanges, which are grouped to serve common social, economic and other purposes.

Loss Deviation

The term "Loss Deviation" denotes the variation of the actual loss from the designed value.

Major Fraction Thereof

The term "Major Fraction Thereof" denotes any period of time in excess of 1/2 of the stated amount of time. As an example, in considering a period of 24 hours, a major fraction thereof would be any period of time in excess of 12 hours exactly. Therefore, if a given service is interrupted for a period of thirty-six hours and fifteen minutes, the customer would be given a credit allowance for two twenty-four hour periods for a total of forty-eight hours.

Message

The term "Message" denotes a "call" as defined preceding.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Milliwatt (102 Type) Test Line

The term "Milliwatt (102 Type) Test Line" denotes an arrangement in an end office which provides a 1004 Hz tone at 0 dBm0 for one-way transmission measurements towards the customer's premises from the Telephone Company end office.

Network Control Signaling

The term "Network Control Signaling" denotes the transmission of signals used in the telecommunications system which perform functions such as supervision (control, status, and charge signals), signaling (e.g., dialing), calling and called number identifications, rate of flow, service selection error control and audible tone signals (call progress signals indicating re-order or busy conditions, alerting, coin denominations, coin collect and coin return tones) to control the operation of the telecommunications system.

Nonsynchronous Test Line

The term "Nonsynchronous Test Line" denotes an arrangement in step-by-step end offices which provides operational tests which are not as complete as those provided by the synchronous test lines, but can be made more rapidly.

North American Numbering Plan

The term "North American Numbering Plan" denotes a three-digit area code (Numbering Plan Area - NPA) and a seven-digit telephone number made up of a three-digit Central Office prefix plus a four-digit station number.

Off-hook

The term "Off-hook" denotes the active condition of Switched Access or a Telephone Exchange Service line.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

On-hook

The term "On-hook" denotes the idle condition of Switched Access or a Telephone Exchange Service line.

Open Circuit Test Line

The term "Open Circuit Test Line" denotes an arrangement in an end office which provides an ac open circuit termination of a trunk or line by means of an inductor of several Henries.

Originating Direction

The term "Originating Direction" denotes the use of access service for the origination of calls from an End User Premises to an IC Premises.

Pay Telephone

The term "Pay Telephone" denotes a location where Telephone Company equipment is provided in a public or semipublic place where Telephone Company customers can originate telephonic communications and pay the applicable charges by (1) inserting coins into the equipment, or (2) using a credit card, or (3) third party billing or (4) calling collect.

Pay Telephone Coin Supervision

A central office provided feature that controls the disposition of coins deposited in a pay telephone incapable of providing such control ("dumb" pay telephone). This feature provides coin collect and coin refund functionality.

Phase Jitter

The term "Phase Jitter" denotes the unwanted phase variations of a signal.

Point of Termination

The term "Point of Termination" denotes the point of demarcation within a customer-designated premises at which the Telephone Company's responsibility for the provision of Access Service ends.

Premises

The term "Premises" denotes a building or buildings on continuous property (except Railroad Right-of-Way, etc.) not separated by a public highway.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Primary Exchange Carrier

The term "Primary Exchange Carrier" denotes the Local Exchange Telephone Company in whose exchange a customer's first point of switching (i.e., dial tone office for FGA, access tandem for FGB) is located.

Release Message

The term "Release Message" denotes an SS7 Message sent in either direction to indicate that a specific circuit is being released.

Remote Switching Modules/Systems

The term "Remote Switching Modules/Systems" denotes small, remotely controlled electronic end office switches which obtain their call processing capability from an electronic Host Central Office. The Remote Switching Modules/Systems cannot accommodate direct trunks to an IC.

Return Loss

The term "Return Loss" denotes a measure of the similarity between the two impedances at the junction of two transmission paths. The higher the return loss, the higher the similarity.

Registered Equipment

The term "Registered Equipment" denotes the customer's premises equipment which complies with and has been approved within the Registration Provisions of Part 68 of the F.C.C.'s Rules and Regulations.

Secondary Exchange Carrier

The term "Secondary Exchange Carrier" denotes the Local Exchange Telephone Company in whose exchange a customer's end users end office is located and where the customer's first point of switching is provided by a Primary Exchange Carrier who is not the same Exchange Carrier as the Secondary Exchange Carrier.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Service Access Code

The term "Service Access Code" denotes a 3 digit code in the NPA format which is used as the first three digits of a 10 digit address and which is assigned for special network uses. Whereas NPA codes are normally used for identifying specific geographical areas, certain Service Access Codes have been allocated in the North American Numbering Plan to identify generic services or to provide access capability. Examples of Service Access Codes include the 800 and 900 codes.

Service Switching Point (SSP)

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

Serving Wire Center

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

Seven Digit Manual Test Line

The term "Seven Digit Manual Test Line" denotes an arrangement which allows the Customer to select balance, milliwatt and synchronous test lines by manually dialing a seven digit number over the associated access connection.

Shortage of Facilities or Equipment

The term "Shortage of Facilities or Equipment" denotes a condition which occurs when the Telephone Company does not have appropriate cable, switching capacity, bridging or, multiplexing equipment, etc., necessary to provide the Access Service requested by the customer.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Short Circuit Test Line

The term "Short Circuit Test Line" denotes an arrangement in an end office which provides for an ac short circuit termination of a trunk or line by means of a capacitor of at least four microfarads.

Signal-to-C-Notched Noise Ratio

The term "Signal-to-C-Notched Noise Ratio" denotes the ratio in dB of a test signal to the corresponding C-Notched Noise.

Signaling Point (SP)

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

Signaling System 7 (SS7)

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

Signal Transfer Point (STP)

The term "Signal Transfer Point (STP)" denotes a packet switch which provides access to the Telephone Company's SS7 network and performs SS7 message signal routing and screening.

Signal Transfer Point (STP) Port

The term "Signal Transfer Point (STP) Port" denotes the point of termination and interconnection to the STP.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Signaling Return Loss

The term "Signaling Return Loss" denotes the frequency weighted measure of return loss at the edges of the voiceband (200 to 500 Hz and 2500 to 3200 Hz), where singing (instability) problems are most likely to occur.

Subtending End Office of an Access Tandem

The term "Subtending End Office of an Access Tandem" denotes an end office that has final trunk group routing through that tandem.

Synchronous Test Line

The term "Synchronous Test Line" denotes an arrangement in an end office which performs marginal operational tests of supervisory and ring-tripping functions.

Tandem Switched Transport

The term "Tandem Switched Transport" denotes transport from the tandem to the end office that is switched at an access tandem.

Terminating Direction

The term "Terminating Direction" denotes the use of Access Service for the completion of calls from an IC premises to an End User Premises.

800 (Toll Free Service Access Codes (SAC)) Data Base Basic Query

The term Toll Free SAC or 800 Data Base Basic Query denotes a query associated with a basic Toll Free SAC record that does not require any complex handling, (i.e., vertical services). The 10 digit translation of the Toll Free SAC number to determine the Carrier Identification Code (CIC) for an Interexchange Carrier is provided.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

800 (Toll Free Service Access Codes (SAC)) Data Base Enhanced Query

The term Toll Free SAC or 800 Data Base Enhanced Query" denotes a query normally associated with an enhanced Toll Free SAC record in which information is provided such as vertical services (time of day or day of week routing, POTS Translation, etc.).

800 (Toll Free Service Access Codes (SAC)) Data Base Service

The term Toll Free SAC or 800 Data Base Service denotes a Toll Free SAC which allows a Toll Free SAC subscriber to use any carrier (or more than one carrier) with any Toll Free SAC number, and to change carriers without changing its Toll Free SAC number; in effect it allows portability of Toll Free SAC numbers.

800 (Toll Free Service Access Codes (SAC)) Service

The term Toll Free SAC or 800 service denotes a code utilized for service in which subscribers agree in advance to pay for all calls made to them using a predesignated toll free number (e.g. 1-SAC-NXX-XXXX; could be 800, 888 or another SAC designated for toll free calling).

Transmission Measuring (105 Type) Test Line/Responder

The term "Transmission Measuring (105 Type) Test Line/Responder" denotes an arrangement in an end office which provides far-end access to a responder and permits two-way loss and noise measurements to be made on trunks from a near end office.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Transmission Path

The term "Transmission Path" denotes an electrical path capable of transmitting signals within the range of the service offering, e.g., a voice grade transmission path is capable of transmitting voice frequencies within the approximate range of 300 to 3000 Hz. A transmission path is comprised of physical or derived facilities consisting of any form or configuration of plant typically used in the telecommunications industry.

Trunk

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

Trunk Group

The term "Trunk Group" denotes 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.

Trunk Side Connection

The term "Trunk Side Connection" denotes the connection of a transmission path to the trunk side of a local exchange switching system.

Two-Wire to Four-Wire Conversion

The term "Two-Wire to Four-Wire Conversion" denotes an arrangement which converts a four-wire transmission path to a two-wire transmission path to allow a four-wire facility to terminate in a two-wire entity (e.g., a central office switch).

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

V and H Coordinates Method

The term "V and H Coordinates Method" denotes a method of computing airline miles between two points by utilizing an established formula which is based on the vertical and horizontal coordinates of the two points.

WATS Serving Office

The term "WATS Serving Office" denotes a Telephone Company designated serving wire center where switching, screening and/or recording functions are performed in connection with the closed-end of WATS or WATS-type services.

Wire Center

The term "Wire Center" denotes a building in which one or more central offices, used for the provision of Telephone Exchange Services, are located.

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3. Federal Universal Service Charge and ISDN Line Ports

3.1 Federal Universal Service Charge

Regulations, rates and charges for the Federal Universal Service charge are the same as those set forth in the NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION (NECA) TARIFF FCC NO 5.

3.2 ISDN Line Ports

Regulations, rates and charges for ISDN Line Ports are the same as those set forth in the NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION (NECA) TARIFF FCC NO 5.

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ACCESS SERVICE

4. End User Access Service

4.1 General

End User Access Service provides for the use of an End User Common Line (EUCL).

4.2 Regulations, Rates and Charges

Regulations, Rates and Charges for End User Access Service are the same as those set forth in Section 4 of the NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. (NECA) TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 5.

4.3 Lifeline Service

The Federal Lifeline Service program is designed to provide a credit to monthly end user access charges for qualifying low income residential subscribers. TXU Communication Companies are designated as eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) and when an eligible residential end user qualifies for Lifeline Service in association with local residential exchange service, the EUCL residence rate as set forth in NECA TARIFF FCC NO. 5 is waived.

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ACCESS SERVICE

5.0 Access Ordering

5.1 General

This section sets forth the regulations and order related charges for services set forth in other sections of this tariff. Order related charges are in addition to other applicable charges for the services provided.

An Access Order is an order to provide the customer with Switched and Special Access and Public Packet Data Network or Access Related Service or to provide changes to existing services.

The regulations, rates and charges for special construction are set forth in Section 19 of this tariff, and are in addition to the regulations, rates and charges specified in this section.

A customer may order any number of services of the same type and between the same premises on a single Access Order. All details for services for a particular order must be identical except for those for multipoint service.

The customer shall provide to the Telephone Company the order information required in 5.2 following, and in addition the customer must also provide:

- Customer name and premises address(es).
- Billing name and address (when different from customer name and address).
- Customer contact name(s) and telephone number(s) for the following provisioning activities: order negotiation, order confirmation, interactive design, installation and billing.

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ACCESS SERVICE

5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.1 General (Cont'd)

5.1.1 Service Installation

The Telephone Company will provide the Access Service in accordance with the customer's requested service date, subject to the constraints established by the Telephone Company schedule of applicable service dates.

The Telephone Company shall make available to all customers, upon request, a schedule of applicable service intervals for Switched and Special Access Services and Public Packet Data Network Services. The schedule shall specify the applicable service interval for services and the quantities of services that can be provided by a requested service date. Any associated material will be provided upon request and within a reasonable period of time.

The Telephone Company will not accept orders for service dates which exceed the applicable service date by more than six months.

Access Services will be installed during Telephone Company business days. If a customer requests that installation be done outside of scheduled work hours, and the Telephone Company agrees to this request, the customer will be subject to applicable Additional Labor Charges as set forth in 17.4.3(A) and 18.4.3(A), following.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.1 General (Cont'd)

5.1.2 Expedited Orders

When placing an Access Order, a customer may request a service date that is prior to the applicable service date. Additionally, a customer may also request an earlier service date on a pending Access Order. In this case, an Access Order modification as set forth in 5.4 following would be required. If the Telephone Company determines that the service can be provided on the requested date and that additional labor cost or extraordinary costs are required to meet the requested service date the customer will be notified and will be provided with an estimate of the additional charges involved. Charges will be billed at actual cost, not to exceed 10 percent over estimated charges. Such additional charges will be determined and billed to the customer as explained following.

To calculate the additional labor charges, the Telephone Company will, upon authorization from the customer to incur the additional labor charges, keep track of the additional labor hours used to meet the request of the customer and will bill the customer at the applicable Additional Labor charges as set forth in 17.4.3(A) and 18.4.3(A), following.

To develop, determine and bill the customer the extraordinary costs which may be involved, the Special Construction terms and conditions as set forth in Section 19 of this Tariff, will be used by the Telephone Company. Authorization to incur the costs and to bill the customer will be in accordance with the terms and conditions of Section 19.

When the request for expediting occurs subsequent to the issuance of the Access Order, a Service Date Change Charge as set forth in 17.4.1(B) and 18.4.1(B), following also applies.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.1 General (Cont'd)

5.1.3 Selection of Facilities for Access Orders

The option to request a specific transmission path or channel is provided for High Capacity Facilities Special Access, or as provided for under Special Facilities Routing as set forth in Section 11 following.

When there are High Capacity facilities to a hub on order or in service for the customer's use, the customer may request a specific channel or transmission path be used to provide the Switched or Special Access Service requested in an Access Order. The Telephone Company will make a reasonable effort to accommodate the customer request.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.2 Ordering Requirements

5.2.1 Switched Access Service

When ordering Switched Access service, the customer must specify whether the service is to be provided as (1) Direct-Trunked Transport from the serving wire center to the end office, (2) Direct-Trunked Transport from the serving wire center to a tandem which connects with Tandem Switched Transport from the tandem to the end office. When service is ordered directly to an end office the customer must specify the type and quantity of Direct-Trunked Transport facility (e.g., Voice Grade or High Capacity DS1 or DS3).

The customer must also specify the type of Entrance Facility (e.g., Voice Grade or High Capacity) to be used for Switched Access. For High Capacity Entrance Facility, the customer must specify the facility assignment and the channel assignment.

Direct-Trunked Transport is available at all tandems and end offices except those identified in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4 as not having the capability to provide Direct-Trunked Transport. Those offices are: (1) End offices that lack recording or measurement capability, and (2) Non-Service Switching Point (SSP) equipped end offices that cannot accommodate direct trunking of originating 800 calls.

When the customer has both Tandem Switched Transport and Direct-Trunked Transport at the same end office, the customer will be provided Alternate Traffic Routing as set forth in 6.4.6 following.

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ACCESS SERVICE

5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.2 Ordering Requirements

5.2.1 Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

At customer request, their Local Transport may be connected to the Entrance Facility of another customer, providing the other customer submits a Letter of Authorization for this connection and assumes full responsibility for the cost of the Entrance Facility.

(A) Feature Group A

Orders for Feature Group A Switched Access Service shall be in lines. When placing an order for Feature Group A Switched Access Service, the customer shall provide the following information in addition to that set forth in 5.1 preceding:

- The number of lines and the first point of switching (i.e., Dial Tone Office)
- Optional Features
- Whether the Off-hook Supervisory Signaling is provided by the customer's equipment before the called party answers, or is forwarded by the customer's equipment when the called party answers
- Lines to be provided as single lines
- Lines to be arranged in multiline hunt group arrangements
- Directionality (1-way, 2-way, etc.)
- A projected percentage of interstate use (PIU) as set forth in 2.3.10 preceding
- The Interexchange Carrier to which the service is connected or, in the alternative, specify the means by which the FGA access communications are transported to another state.

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ACCESS SERVICE

5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.2 Ordering Requirements (Cont'd)

5.2.1 Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

(B) Feature Group B

Orders for Feature Group B Switched Access Service shall be in trunks.

When placing an order for Feature Group B Service, the customer shall provide the following information in addition to that set forth in 5.1 preceding:

- The number of trunks
- The end office when direct routing is desired
- The access tandem office when tandem routing is desired
- Optional Features
- Trunks to be provided as single trunks
- Trunks to be arranged in trunk group arrangements
- Directionality (1-way, 2-way, etc.)
- A projected percentage of interstate use (PIU) as set forth in 2.3.10 preceding
- The Interexchange Carrier to which the service is connected or, in the alternative, specify the means by which the FGB access communications are transported to another state.
- The access code dialing arrangement (i.e., a uniform access code of 950-1XXX or 950-OXXX).
- For Feature Group B switched access service to a Wireless Switching Center directly interconnected to a Telephone Company access tandem office, the customer shall provide information to the Telephone Company indicating the NXX code(s) to be accessed.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.2 Order Requirements (Cont'd)

5.2.1 Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

- (C) Feature Group C, Feature Group D, Interim NXX Translation, Operator Transfer Service and SS7 Signaling

When placing an order for Feature Group C and D Switched Access Service, the customer shall provide, in addition to the information required in Section 5.1:

- The number of BHMC from the customer designated premises to the end office or Operator Transfer Service location by Feature Group and by type of BHMC, or
- The number of trunks desired between customer designated premises and an entry switch or Operator Transfer Service location.
- The number of BHMC or trunks (for customers other than providers of MTS or WATS) required for or to be converted to an SS7 Signaling capability
- Optional Features
- Interim NXX Translation options.
- Operator Transfer Service option
- A projected percentage of interstate use (PIU) as set forth in 2.3.10 preceding.
- For Feature Group D switched access service to a Wireless Switching Center (WSC) directly interconnected to a Telephone Company access tandem office, the customer shall provide information to the Telephone Company indicating the NXX code(s) to be accessed.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.2 Order Requirements (Cont'd)

5.2.1 Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

- (C) Feature Group C, Feature Group D, Interim NXX translation, Operator Transfer Service and SS7 Signaling (Cont'd)

When BHMC information is provided it is used to determine the number of transmission paths as set forth in 6.2.5 following.

The BHMC may be determined by the customer in the following manner. For each day (8 am to 11 pm, Monday through Friday, excluding national holidays), the customer shall determine the highest number of minutes of use for a single hour (e.g., 55 minutes in the 10-11 am hour). The customer shall, for the same hour period (i.e., busy hour) for each of twenty consecutive business days, pick the twenty consecutive business days in a calendar year which add up to the largest number of minutes of use. Both originating and terminating minutes shall be included. The customer shall then determine the average busy hour minutes of capacity (i.e., BHMC) by dividing the largest number of minutes of use figure for the same hour period for the consecutive twenty business day period by 20. This computation shall be performed for each end office the customer wishes to serve. These determinations thus establish the forecasted BHMC for each end office.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.2 Ordering Requirements (Cont'd)

5.2.1 Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

- (C) Feature Group C, Feature Group D, Interim NXX Translation, Operator Transfer Service and SS7 Signaling (Cont'd)

Customers may, at their option, order FGD by specifying the number of trunks desired between customer designated premises and an end office, access tandem or operator services location. When ordering by trunk quantities rather than BHMC quantities to an access tandem, the customer must also provide the Telephone Company an estimate of the amount of traffic it will generate to and/or from each end office subtending the access tandem to assist the Telephone Company in its own efforts to project further facility requirements.

When Feature Group C or D is ordered with the Interim NXX Translation optional feature, the customer shall specify the Service Access Code(s) (e.g., 800 or 900) and their associated NXX code(s) to be translated within the entire LATA or Market Area. The initial and subsequent orders to add, change, or delete Interim NXX Translation codes shall be placed separately or in combination with orders to change Feature Group C or D Switched Access BHMC or trunks. Customer assigned NXX codes which have not been ordered will be blocked.

Orders for the Interim NXX Translation optional feature shall not be required until such time as a customer other than an MTS/WATS provider requests Interim NXX Translation of Service Access Codes. Upon receipt of such order, the Telephone Company shall notify the MTS/WATS provider of the activation of the Interim NXX Translation Service for the Service Access Code. Following such initial activation, all customers are required to place orders for Interim NXX Translation of the Service Access Code and the Interim NXX Translation charge for the Service Access Code shall apply as set forth in 17.2.1(C) and 18.2.1(B), following.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.2 Ordering Requirements (Cont'd)

5.2.1 Switched Access Service (Cont'd)

- (C) Feature Group C, Feature Group D, Interim NXX Translation, Operator Transfer Service and SS7 Signaling (Cont'd)

For the Operator Transfer Service Option ordered in conjunction with Feature Group C or Feature Group D Switched Access Service as set forth in 6.1.3(C)(2), 6.7.1(I) and 6.8.1(K), following, the customer must specify the number of trunks or BHMCs desired between its premises and the Telephone Company operator services location.

Operator Transfer Service is provided at operator services locations as set forth in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4.

- (D) SS7 Optional Feature

When Feature Group C or D is ordered with the SS7 optional feature, in addition to information listed above, the customer shall specify a reference to existing signaling connections or reference a related SS7 Signaling connection order. When ordering SS7 Signaling, the customer shall provide the Signaling Transfer Point codes, location identifier codes and circuit identifier codes. In addition, the customer shall work cooperatively with the Telephone Company to determine the number of SS7 Signaling connections required to handle its signaling traffic.

For 800 Data Base Access Service, as described in 6.1.3(A) & (C) following, the customer must order FGC or FGD to those access tandems or end offices designated as Service Switching Points (SSP) for 800 data base service or to those non-SSP equipped end offices that can accommodate direct trunking of originating 800 calls. SSP equipped end offices and access tandems and non-SSP equipped end offices that can accommodate direct trunking of originating 800 calls are designated in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4, WIRE CENTER INFORMATION. All traffic originating from end offices not equipped to provide SS7 signaling and routing or not able to accommodate direct trunking of originating 800 calls require routing via an access tandem where SSP functionality is available.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.2 Ordering Requirements (Cont'd)

5.2.2 Special Access Service

When placing an order for Special Access Service the customer must specify:

- the customer designated premises or hubs involved;
- type of service (e.g., Voice Grade, High Capacity, etc.);
- the channel interface(s);
- technical specification package;
- options desired;
- for multipoint services, the channel interface at each customer designated premises may, at the request of the customer, be different but all such interfaces shall be compatible; and
- that the traffic consists of more than ten percent interstate traffic.

All part-time Program Audio services are subject to a service inquiry. A service inquiry is a request to the Telephone Company to determine if facilities exist to provide the service ordered and to determine the service date on which service can be provided to the customer.

Where the Special Access Service is exempt from the Special Access Surcharge, as set forth in 7.3 following the customer shall furnish written certification to that effect as set forth in 7.3 following.

When ordering bridging and/or multiplexing, the Customer must specify the telephone company hub(s) from which they desire service. The Customer must specify only those hubs that provide the type of service ordered and interconnect with the wire center(s) from which the customer requires service. The Wire Center section of NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4 identifies hub types (e.g., Digital Data, High Capacity Multiplexing, etc.) and hub levels (i.e., Hub, Terminus Hub, Intermediate Hub and Super-Intermediate Hub). Additionally, the Subtending section of TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4 identifies wire centers and the Intermediate and/or Super-Intermediate Hubs with which they interconnect.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.2 Ordering Requirements (Cont'd)

5.2.2 Special Access Service (Cont'd)

When ordering High Capacity Optional Rate plans or upgrades to the plans, discontinuance charges, as specified in 7.2.8 following, will not apply if the conditions set forth in 7.2.8 following are met and the customer provides the following ordering information:

Term Discounts-Upgrades in Capacity (DS1 to DS3)

- The customer's order for the disconnect of the existing DS1 Service and the installation of the new DS3 Service are received at the same time and specifically reference the application of upgrade in capacity.
- The customer's disconnect order for the existing DS1 Service must reference the DS3 Service installation order.

Customer orders to install and disconnect DS1 or DS3 services provided under a Term Discount plan where the number of DS1s or DS3s remains constant and the customer wishes to maintain the existing Term Discount period and minimum service period must:

- Be received at the same time; and
- Reference continuation of the existing Term Discount period and the minimum service period on both the installation and disconnect orders.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.2 Ordering Requirements (Cont'd)

5.2.3 WATS or WATS-Type Services

Special Access Service may be ordered for connection with FGA, FGB, FGC, or FGD Switched Access Service at Telephone Company designated WATS Serving Offices (WSOs) for the provision of WATS or WATS-type Services and may be ordered separately by a customer other than the customer which orders the FGA, FGB, FGC or FGD Switched Access Service. For the Special Access Service the customer shall specify:

- the customer designated premises at which the Special Access service terminates
- the type of line (i.e., two-wire or four-wire)
- the type of calling (i.e., originating, terminating or two-way)
- type of Supervisory Signaling.

When the optional screening, switching and/or recording functions are not provided at the customer serving wire center, Channel Mileage, as set forth in 7.2.1(B), following, must be ordered between that wire center and the nearest WSO where the screening, switching and/or recording functions can be provided.

5.2.4 Mixed Use Facilities - Switched and Special Access

Mixed use is the provision of both Switched and Special Access Services over the same High Capacity facilities. Mixed use facilities to a hub will be ordered and provided as Special Access Service. Where mixed use is employed, individual services utilizing these facilities must be ordered either as Switched Access Service or Special Access Service as further elaborated and set forth in 6.4.7 and 7.2.7 following. When placing the order for the individual service(s), the customer must specify a channel assignment for each service ordered.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.2 Ordering Requirements (Cont'd)

5.2.5 Miscellaneous Services

Testing Service, Additional Labor, Restoration Priority and Special Facilities Routing shall be ordered with an Access Order or may subsequently be added to a pending order at any time up to and including the service date for the access service. When miscellaneous services are added to a pending order a service date change may be required. When a service date change is required, the service date change charge as set forth in 17.4.1(B) and 18.4.1(B), following will apply. When miscellaneous services are added to a pending order, charges for a design change as set forth in 17.4.1(C) and 18.4.1(C), following will apply when an engineering review is required. If both a service date change and an engineering review are required, both the Service Date Change Charge and the Design Change Charge will apply as set forth in 5.4.3 following.

The rates and charges for these services, as set forth in Section 17 and 18 of this tariff, will apply in addition to the ordering charges set forth in Section 17 and 18 and the rates and charges for the Access Service with which they are associated.

Additional Engineering is not an ordering option, but will be applied to an Access Order when the Telephone Company determines that Additional Engineering is necessary to accommodate a customer request. Additional Engineering will only be required as set forth in 13.1 following. When it is required, the customer will be so notified and will be furnished with a written statement setting forth the justification for the Additional Engineering as well as an estimate of the charges. If the customer agrees to the Additional Engineering, a firm order will be established. If the customer does not want the service or facilities after being notified that Additional Engineering of Telephone Company facilities is required, the order will be withdrawn and no charges will apply. Once a firm order has been established, the total charge to the customer for the Additional Engineering may not exceed the estimated amount by more than 10%.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.2 Ordering Requirements (Cont'd)

5.2.6 Frame Relay Access Service

When ordering Frame Relay Access Service, a minimum of two port connections are required for data to be transported between customer designated premises.

When placing an order for Frame Relay Access Service the customer must specify:

- the number of Permanent Virtual Connections (PVCs) required;
- the location of the ports for each PVC;
- the Committed Information Rates (CIRs) that will be associated with each PVC;
- that the traffic consists of more than ten percent interstate traffic.

The port connecting the special access facility to the telephone company frame relay switch must be ordered and provided at the same speed as the special access facility.

When connecting to the port of another customer, the ordering customer must obtain authorization from the other customer.

When an extended PVC is ordered, the customer is responsible for placing the order with all telephone companies involved.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.3 Access Orders For Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company

Access Services provided by more than one Telephone Company are services where one end of the Local Transport or Channel Mileage element is in the operating territory of one Telephone Company and the other end of the element is in the operating territory of a different Telephone Company or where the Interim NXX Translation service and the end office are not provided by the same Telephone Company.

The ordering procedure for this service to be used by the Telephone Companies involved in providing the Access Service is described as follows:

5.3.1 Non Meet Point Billing Ordering

(A) Single Company Billing Ordering

The Telephone Company receiving the order from the customer will arrange to provide the service and bill the customer as set forth in 2.4.7(A)(1). The customer will place the order with the Telephone Company as follows:

For FGA Switched Access Service the customer will place the order with the Telephone Company in whose territory the first point of switching is located. The first point of switching is the dial tone office

When the first point of switching is not in the same Telephone Company's territory as the Interexchange Carrier premises, the customer must supply a copy of the order to the Telephone Company in whose territory the Interexchange Carrier premises is located and any other Telephone Company(s) involved in providing the service. When service is provided through a centralized equal access provider, the customer must supply a copy of the order to that provider

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.3 Access Orders For Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

5.3.2 Meet Point Billing Ordering

Each Telephone Company will provide its portion of the Access Service within its operating territory to an interconnection point(s) with the other Telephone Company(s). Billing percentages will be determined by the Telephone Companies involved in providing the Access Service and listed in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4. Each Telephone Company will bill the customer for its portion of the service as set forth in 2.4.7(B). All other appropriate charges in each Telephone Company tariff are applicable.

For the service(s) ordered as set forth following, the customer must also supply a copy of the order to the Telephone Company in whose operating territory a customer designated premises is located and any other Telephone Company(s) involved in providing the service. Additionally, when service is provided through a centralized equal access provider, the customer must supply a copy of the order to that provider.

- (A) For Feature Group A and B Switched Access Services, the customer must place an order with the Telephone Company in whose territory the first point of switching is located, (i.e., FGA - dial tone office, FGB - access tandem or end office).). The Telephone Company will designate the first point(s) of switching for FGB Services where the Telephone Company elects to provide equal access through a centralized equal access arrangement. Those Telephone Company offices providing equal access through centralized arrangements are identified in NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC. TARIFF F.C.C. NO. 4.
- (B) For Feature Group C and D Switched Access Services, the customer must place an order with the Telephone Company in whose territory the end office is located. Customers may, at their option, order FGD to the access tandem. When ordered to the access tandem, and the access tandem and the end office are not in the same Telephone Company operating territory, the customer must also supply a copy of the order to each additional Telephone Company subtending the access tandem.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.3 Access Orders For Services Provided By More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)

5.3.2 Meet Point Billing Ordering (Cont'd)

- (C) Customers ordering Special Access Service to be interconnected with Switched Access Services at Telephone Company designated WATS Serving Offices for the provision of WATS or WATS-type Services must place an order with each Telephone Company in whose territory the end office and the WATS Serving Office are located, if they are not collocated.
- (D) Except for Special Access Service as set forth in (C) above or as set forth in (E) below, the customer may place the order for a Special Access Service with either Exchange Telephone Company.
- (E) For Special Access Service involving a hub(s) the customer must place the order with the Telephone Company(s) in whose territory the hub(s) is located.
- (F) For initiation, additions, changes or deletions to the Interim NXX Translation code(s), the customer must place an order with the Telephone Company who provides the Interim NXX Translation. The customer must also provide a copy of the order to the Telephone Companies subtending the Interim NXX Translation office.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.4 Charges Associated with Access Ordering

5.4.1 Access Order Charge

The Access Order Charge is applied to all customer requests for new Special Access, Public Packet Data Network, and Switched Access Service. In addition, the Access Order Charge is applicable to customer requests for additions, changes or rearrangements to existing Special Access, Public Packet Data Network, and Switched Access Service with the following exceptions:

The Access Order Charge does not apply:

- When a Service Date Change Charge is applicable;
- When a Design Change Charge is applicable;
- To administrative changes as set forth in 6.4.1(B)(3) and 7.2.2(B)(3) following;
- 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 the Interim NXX Translation charge is applicable;
- When a Miscellaneous Service Order Charge is applicable;
- When a Presubscription Charge is applicable;
- When Payphone Service Providers (PSPs) obtain Coin Supervision Additive Service in conjunction with local exchange service lines for the provision of pay telephone service;
- When a Telephone Company initiated network reconfiguration requires a customer's existing access service to be reconfigured;
- When a service with an ICB rate is converted to a similar service with a non-ICB tariff rate prior to the expiration of the ICB;
- When a Billing Name and Address Order charge is applicable;
- When a 900 Blocking Service charge is applicable.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.4 Charges Associated with Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.4.1 Access Order Charge (Cont'd)

The Access Order Charge will be applied on a per order basis to each order received by the Telephone Company or copy of an order received by the Telephone Company pursuant to 5.3.1 preceding and 5.3.2 preceding except by the Telephone Company applying the Interim NXX Translation charge, and is in addition to other applicable charges as set forth in this and other sections of this tariff.

The Access Order Charge will be applied on a per order basis for any change, rearrangement or addition to the delivery of signaling to an existing STP Port.

5.4.2 Miscellaneous Service Order Charge

A Miscellaneous Service Order Charge, as set forth in forth in 17.4.1(D) and 18.4.1(D), following, applies to any service, or combination of services ordered simultaneously from Section 13. of the Tariff for which a service order is not already pending (with the exception of Presubscription (13.4), Billing Name and Address Service (13.3.4), and 900 Blocking Service (13.3.7) which do not have the charge applied). The Miscellaneous Service Order Charge is an administrative charge designed to compensate for the expenses associated with service order issuance.

The charge always applies to the following services since a pending service order would not exist:

- Overtime Repair (13.2.2),
- Standby Repair (13.2.3),
- Testing and Maintenance with Other Telephone Companies other than when in conjunction with Acceptance Testing (13.2.4),
- Other Labor (13.2.5),
- Maintenance of Service (13.3.2),
- Originating Line Screening (OLS) Service (13.3.5).

The Miscellaneous Service Order Charge will also apply to the following services if they are ordered subsequent to the initial installation of the associated access service, thereby necessitating the issuance of another service order:

- Telecommunications Service Priority (13.3.3),
- Pay Telephone Coin Supervision (13.3.6).

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.4 Charges Associated with Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.4.2 Miscellaneous Service Order Charge (Cont'd)

The charge does not apply to the following services since there would exist a pending service order:

- Additional Engineering (13.1),
- Overtime Installation (13.2.1),
- Standby Acceptance Testing (13.2.3),
- Testing and Maintenance with Other Telephone Companies when in conjunction with Acceptance Testing (13.2.4),
- Additional Cooperative Acceptance Testing [13.3.1(A)(1) and 13.3.1(B)(1)],
- Coin Supervision Additive Service (13.3.6).

5.4.3 Access Order Change Charges

Access Order changes involve service date changes and design changes. The customer may request a change of its Access Order prior to the service date. The Telephone Company will make every effort to accommodate a requested change when it is able to do so with the normal work force assigned to complete such an order within normal business hours. If the change cannot be made with the normal work force during normal business hours, the Telephone Company will notify the customer. If the customer still desires the Access Order change, the Telephone Company will schedule a new service date as set forth in 5.1.2 preceding. All charges for Access Order change as set forth in 17.4.1(B) and (C) and 18.4.1(B) and (C), will apply on a per occurrence basis.

Any increase in the number of Special Access Service channels or Switched Access Service lines, trunks or busy hour minutes of capacity or Frame Relay Ports and/or PVCs or CCS/SS7 Port Terminations will be treated as a new Access Order (for the increased amount only).

If order changes are necessary to satisfy the transmission performance for a Special Access Service ordered by a customer, these changes will be made without order change charges being incurred by the customer.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.4 Charges Associated with Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.4.3 Access Order Change Charges (Cont'd)

(A) Service Date Change

The customer may request a change of service date on a pending Access Order prior to the service date. A change of service date is a change of the scheduled service date by the customer to either an earlier date or a later date which does not exceed 30 calendar days from the original service date.

If the Telephone Company determines that the customer's request can be accommodated without delaying the service dates for orders of other customers, the service date will be changed and the Service Date Change Charge, as set forth in 17.4.1(B) and 18.4.1(B), following, will be applied to the order.

If the service date is changed to an earlier date, and the Telephone Company determines additional labor or extraordinary costs are necessary to meet the earlier service date requested by the customer, the customer will be notified by the Telephone Company that Expedited Order Charges as set forth in 5.1.2 preceding apply. Such charges will apply in addition to the Service Date Change Charge.

If the requested service date exceeds 30 calendar days following the original service date, and the Telephone Company determines that the customer's request can be accommodated, the Telephone Company will cancel the original order and apply the Cancellation Charges as set forth in 5.5.3 following. A new Access Order with a new service date will be issued. The Service Date Change Charge will not apply, however, the Access Order Charge will apply to the new order.

If the service date is changed due to a design change as set forth in (B) following, the Service Date Change Charge will apply.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.4 Charges Associated with Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.4.3 Access Order Change Charges (Cont'd)

(B) Design Change

The customer may request a design change to the service ordered prior to the requested service date. A design change is any change to an Access Order which requires engineering review. An engineering review is a review by Telephone Company personnel, of the service ordered and the requested changes to determine what changes in the design, if any, are necessary to meet the changes requested by the customer. Design changes include such things as the addition or deletion of optional features or functions or a change in the type of Transport Termination (Switched Access only), type of channel interface, type of Interface Group or technical specification package, or a change in the destination of PVC, speed of PVC or speed of the end user port. Design changes do not include a change of customer designated premises, first point of switching, Feature Group type or Special Access Service channel type. Changes of this nature will require the issuance of a new order and the cancellation of the original order with appropriate cancellation charges applied.

The Telephone Company will review the requested change, notify the customer whether the change is a design change, if the change can be accommodated and if a new service date is required. If the customer authorizes the Telephone Company to proceed with the design change, a Design Change Charge as set forth in 17.4.1(C) and 18.4.1(C), following will apply in addition to the charge for Additional Engineering as set forth in 17.4.2 and 18.4.2, following. If a change of service date is required, the Service Date Change Charge as set forth in 17.4.1(B) and 18.4.1(B), following, will also apply. The Access Order Charge as specified in 17.4.1 and 18.4.1, following, does not apply.

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Senior Director, Regulatory and Industry Relations
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ACCESS SERVICE

5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.5 Minimum Periods and Cancellations

5.5.1 Minimum Periods

The minimum period for part-time Program Audio Special Access Services is one month even though the service will be provided only for the duration of the event specified on the order (e.g., one-half hour, two hours, five hours, etc.). The minimum period for Switched Access High Capacity DS3 Entrance Facilities and Direct Trunked Transport is as set forth in 6.1.3 following. The minimum period for High Capacity DS1 and DS3 Special Access Services and the Frame Relay Access Service 1.544 Mbps Port is as set forth in 7.2.8 following.

Switched Access usage rated services (e.g., End Office, Common Line, Tandem Switched Transport and Residual Interconnection Charge) have no minimum period. The minimum period for which all other Access Service is provided and for which charges are applicable, is one month.

5.5.2 Development of Minimum Period Charges

When Access Service is disconnected after commencement of service but prior to the expiration of the minimum period, charges are applicable for the balance of the minimum period. A disconnect constitutes facilities being returned to available inventory.

The Minimum Period Charge for monthly billed services will be determined as follows:

- (A) For Switched Access Service, the charge for a month or fraction thereof is equal to the applicable recurring charges plus any nonrecurring and/or special construction charge(s) that may be due.
- (B) For Special Access Service, flat rated Switched Access Service, and Public Packet Data Network Service the charge for a month or fraction thereof is the applicable monthly rates for the appropriate channel type plus any optional features, nonrecurring and/or special construction charge(s) that may apply.

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ACCESS SERVICE

5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.5 Minimum Period and Cancellations (Cont'd)

5.5.2 Development of Minimum Period Charges (Cont'd)

The Minimum Period Charge for part-time Program Audio Services is the applicable monthly rate for the appropriate channel type as set forth in 7.2.4 following.

5.5.3 Cancellation of an Access Order

(A) A customer may cancel an Access Order for the installation of service on any date prior to the service date. The cancellation date is the date the Telephone Company receives written or verbal notice from the customer that the order is to be canceled. The verbal notice must be followed by written confirmation within 10 days. If a customer or a customer's end user is unable to accept Access Service within 30 calendar days after the original service date, the customer has the choice of the following options:

- The Access Order shall be canceled and charges set forth in (B) following will apply or,
- Billing for the service will commence.

In such instances, the cancellation date or the billing date, depending on which option is selected by the customer, shall be the 31st day beyond the original service date of the Access Order.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.5 Minimum Period and Cancellations (Cont'd)

5.5.3 Cancellation of an Access Order (Cont'd)

- (B) When a customer cancels an Access Order for the installation of service, a Cancellation Charge will apply as follows:
 - (1) Installation of Switched or Special Access Service facilities is considered to have started when the Telephone Company incurs any cost in connection therewith or in preparation thereof which would not otherwise have been incurred.
 - (2) Where the customer cancels an Access Order prior to the start of installation of access facilities, no charges shall apply.
 - (3) Where installation of access facilities has been started prior to the cancellation, the charges specified in (a) or (b) following, whichever is lower, shall apply.
 - (a) A charge equal to the costs incurred in such installation, less estimated net salvage. Such costs include the nonrecoverable cost of equipment and material ordered, provided or used, plus the nonrecoverable cost of installation and removal including the costs of engineering, labor, supervision, transportation, rights-of-way and other associated costs;
 - (b) The minimum period charges for Switched Access, Special Access, or Public Packet Data Network Service ordered by the customer, as set forth in 5.5.2 preceding.
- (C) When a customer cancels an order for the discontinuance of service, no charges apply for the cancellation.

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5. Access Ordering (Cont'd)

5.5 Minimum Period and Cancellations (Cont'd)

5.5.3 Cancellation of an Access Order (Cont'd)

- (D) If the Telephone Company misses a service date by more than 30 days and such delay is not requested or caused by the customer (excluding those circumstances where the date is missed due to acts of God, governmental requirements, work stoppages and civil commotions), the customer may cancel the Access Order without incurring cancellation charges.

5.5.4 Partial Cancellation Charge

Any decrease in the number of ordered Special Access Service channels or Switched Access Service lines, trunks, busy hour minutes of capacity or Frame Relay Ports and/or PVCs or CCS/SS7 Port Terminations will be treated as a partial cancellation and charges will be determined as set forth in 5.5.3(B) preceding.

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