

NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC.
REVISIONS TO ACCESS TARIFF FCC NO. 5
LOCAL NUMBER PORTABILITY CHARGES
TRANSMITTAL NO. 1041
September 16, 2004

DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

1. INTRODUCTION

The National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. proposes to modify its Access Tariff F.C.C. No. 5 to reflect the addition of Local Number Portability (LNP) End User Charges for Northeast Louisiana Telephone Company, Inc. (Northeast), which has received a bonafide request for number portability. The services provided by Northeast are consistent with Section 13.14, Local Number Portability Services, of NECA's Tariff F.C.C. No. 5.

2. LNP DEMAND, COST AND RATE DEVELOPMENT

The demand for LNP capable access lines and queried calls were projected over five years. Northeast does not currently have PBX or ISDN-PRI lines; however, a PBX End User Charge and a ISDN-PRI End User Charge have been calculated for it, at nine times and five times the End User Charge, respectively.

Costs provided by the company include switch upgrade investments required to support wireline and wireless LNP capability, and projected ongoing expenses over five years. LNP End User Charges were set to equate the present value of revenues to the present value of cost outlays. Present values of total costs were obtained using a discount factor of 15.21%, which is the after-tax cost of money (11.25%) grossed up for the tax rate (35%). This gross-up is only applied to the equity portion of the cost of money, because the debt portion is already tax-deductible, but the equity portion is taxable.

The circuit switching costs used in the development of the LNP End User Charges are only those direct costs required to implement LNP. In identifying which of these LNP costs could be included in the rate, the companies used two criteria to isolate LNP costs, based on the FCC guidelines: (1) the costs would not have been incurred by the telephone company if number portability was not implemented, and (2) the costs were incurred "for the provision of" number portability. Using these criteria yielded an investment amount of \$26,214. This amount includes switch manufacturer LNP software fees, AMA enhancement package fees, installation fees & taxes.

Beginning year one, expenses recovered by the End User Charge range from \$900 to \$1,750 per year, and fall into the following categories: a) projected charges to be paid to the query provider for queries that the Telephone Company initiates in its capacity as an N-1 carrier, and b) operating support system expenses for service order administration. Query expenses are only for queries necessary to complete local and Extended Area Service (EAS) calls originated from the company's end users. End user query expenses were obtained by multiplying query projections by the per query rate, paid by the telephone company to its query provider.

The demand and costs used to develop LNP End User Charges for the company are detailed in Exhibit 1A. (See Exhibit 1A attached.)

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DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

1. INTRODUCTION

The National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. proposes to modify its Access Tariff F.C.C. No. 5 to reflect the addition of Local Number Portability (LNP) End User Charges for Granite State Telephone Company (Granite), which has received a bonafide request for number portability. The services provided by Granite are consistent with Section 13.14, Local Number Portability Services, of NECA's Tariff F.C.C. No. 5.

2. LNP DEMAND, COST AND RATE DEVELOPMENT

The demand for LNP capable access lines and queried calls were projected over five years. Granite does not currently have PBX or ISDN-PRI lines; however, a PBX End User Charge and a ISDN-PRI End User Charge have been calculated for it, at nine times and five times the End User Charge, respectively.

Costs provided by the company include switch upgrade investment required to support wireline and wireless LNP capability, and projected ongoing expenses over five years. LNP End User Charges were set to equate the present value of revenues to the present value of cost outlays. Present values of total costs were obtained using a discount factor of 15.21%, which is the after-tax cost of money (11.25%) grossed up for the tax rate (35%). This gross-up is only applied to the equity portion of the cost of money, because the debt portion is already tax-deductible, but the equity portion is taxable.

The circuit switching costs used in the development of the LNP End User Charges are only those direct costs required to implement LNP. In identifying which of these LNP costs could be included in the rate, the companies used two criteria to isolate LNP costs, based on the FCC guidelines: (1) the costs would not have been incurred by the telephone company if number portability was not implemented, and (2) the costs were incurred "for the provision of" number portability. Using these criteria yielded an investment amount of \$61,869. This amount includes switch manufacturer LNP software upgrade costs, translation costs, and engineering fees.

Beginning year one, expenses recovered by the End User Charge range from \$4,800 to \$5,000 per year, and fall into the following categories: a) projected charges to be paid

to the query provider for queries that the Telephone Company initiates in its capacity as an N-1 carrier, b) database administrator charges, c) consulting costs, d) operating support system expenses for service order administration, and e) training and implementation costs. Query expenses are only for queries necessary to complete local and Extended Area Service (EAS) calls originated from the company's end users. End user query expenses were obtained by multiplying query projections by the per query rate, paid by the telephone company to its query provider.

The demand and costs used to develop LNP End User Charges for the company are detailed in Exhibit 2A. (See Exhibit 2A attached.)

Local Number Portability - Northeast Louisiana Telephone Company, Inc.

EXHIBIT 1A

September 16, 2004

End User Charge Rate Development

LINE		Year					
		0	1	2	3	4	5
	<u>Investment</u>						
1	LNP End User Investment	\$26,214	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2	Present Value Factors	1.0000	0.8680	0.7534	0.6539	0.5676	0.4927
3	Present Value of Investment	\$26,214	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4	Sum of Present Value of Investment	\$26,214					
	<u>Expenses</u>						
5	LNP End User Expenses	\$550	\$940	\$1,700	\$1,710	\$1,720	\$1,730
6	Present Value of Expenses	\$550	\$816	\$1,281	\$1,118	\$976	\$852
7	Sum of Present Value of Expenses	\$5,593					
	<u>Access Lines</u>						
8	PBX		0	0	0	0	0
9	ISDN-PRI		0	0	0	0	0
10	Other		1,040	1,100	1,150	1,200	1,250
11	Total Chargeable Lines ¹		1,040	1,100	1,150	1,200	1,250
12	Present Value of Chargeable Lines		903	829	752	681	616
13	Sum of Present Value of Chargeable Lines	3,780					
14	LNP End User Basic Charge ²	\$0.70					
15	LNP End User ISDN-PRI Charge ³	\$3.50					
16	LNP End User PBX Charge ⁴	\$6.30					

NOTES

1. Line 11 = (Line 8 * 9) + (Line 9 * 5) + Line 10
2. Line 14 = ((Line 4 + Line 7) / Line 13) / 12
3. Line 15 = 5 * Line 14
4. Line 16 = 9 * Line 14

Local Number Portability - Granite State Telephone Company

EXHIBIT 2A

September 16, 2004

End User Charge Rate Development

LINE		Year					
		0	1	2	3	4	5
	<u>Investment</u>						
1	LNP End User Investment	\$61,869	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
2	Present Value Factors	1.0000	0.8680	0.7534	0.6539	0.5676	0.4927
3	Present Value of Investment	\$61,869	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4	Sum of Present Value of Investment	\$61,869					
	<u>Expenses</u>						
5	LNP End User Expenses	\$29,555	\$4,891	\$4,912	\$4,934	\$4,955	\$4,977
6	Present Value of Expenses	\$29,555	\$4,245	\$3,701	\$3,226	\$2,812	\$2,452
7	Sum of Present Value of Expenses	\$45,992					
	<u>Access Lines</u>						
8	PBX		0	0	0	0	0
9	ISDN-PRI		0	0	0	0	0
10	Other		10,785	10,881	11,044	11,210	11,406
11	Total Chargeable Lines ¹		10,785	10,881	11,044	11,210	11,406
12	Present Value of Chargeable Lines		9,361	8,198	7,222	6,363	5,619
13	Sum of Present Value of Chargeable Lines	36,763					
14	LNP End User Basic Charge ²	\$0.24					
15	LNP End User ISDN-PRI Charge ³	\$1.20					
16	LNP End User PBX Charge ⁴	\$2.16					

NOTES

1. Line 11 = (Line 8 * 9) + (Line 9 * 5) + Line 10
2. Line 14 = ((Line 4 + Line 7) / Line 13) / 12
3. Line 15 = 5 * Line 14
4. Line 16 = 9 * Line 14