
ACCESS SERVICE

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 service it provides.
- (C) The Telephone Company will, for maintenance purposes, test its services only to the extent necessary to detect and/or clear troubles.
- (D) Services are provided twenty-four (24) hours daily, seven (7) days per week, except as set forth in other 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.

2.1.2 Limitations

- (A) The customer may assign or transfer the use of services under this tariff if there is no interruption in or relocation of services. The assignee or transferee must agree to assume all outstanding indebtedness for services provided under this tariff and any termination liability associated with the services provided. The customer will remain jointly liable with the assignee or transferee for any obligations existing at the time of the assignment. Prior to assignment, the Telephone Company must acknowledge in writing that all requirements have been met. Acknowledgement will be made within fifteen days after the Telephone Company has been notified of the proposed assignment.
- (B) All services offered in this tariff will be provided on a first-come first-served basis except as described below. The regulations for the installation and restoration of Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System Services shall be subject to Part 64.401, Appendix A, of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules and Section 8 following.
- (C) When an end office is scheduled to be converted to an equal access end office, and a shortage of facilities exists, the Telephone Company will allocate available resources to participating ICs as set forth in Section 5.2.2 following.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)2.1.3 Liability

- (A) Except in the case of willful misconduct for which the Telephone Company's liability is not limited by this tariff, the Telephone Company's liability for damages shall not exceed an amount equal to the proportionate tariff charge for the period during which the service was affected. This liability for damages shall be in addition to any amounts that may be due the customer as described in 2.4.3 following.
- (B) 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) 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) The Telephone Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the end user and by the customer against any claim, loss or damage arising from the end user's use of services offered under this tariff, involving:
 - (1) Claims for libel, slander, invasion of privacy, or infringement of copyright arising from the end user's own communications;
 - (2) 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 IC or;
 - (3) 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.

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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) 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 2.4.3 following.
- (F) 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.
- (G) Except in the case of willful misconduct, under no circumstances whatever shall the Telephone Company be liable for indirect, incidental, special or consequential damages; and this disclaimer shall be effective notwithstanding any other provisions hereof.
- (H) No license under patents is granted by the Telephone Company to the customer or shall be implied or arise by estoppel in the customer's favor with respect to any circuit, apparatus, system or method used by the customer in connection with services provided under this tariff. With respect to claims of patent infringement made by third persons, the Telephone Company will defend, indemnify, protect and save harmless the customer from and against all claims arising out of the use by the customer of services provided under this tariff.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.4 Provision of Services

The Telephone Company's obligation to furnish the services described in this tariff is dependent upon its ability to provide such service after provision has been made for the Telephone Company's exchange services.

Services provided to a customer under this tariff may be connected directly to customer facilities and/or may be connected to access facilities of another telephone company or companies in the joint provision of interstate access.

2.1.5 Installation and Termination of Services

Except as provided for Expanded Interconnection Service specified in Section 16, the services provided under this tariff (A) 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 location at the customer-designated premises and (B) will be installed by the Telephone Company to such Point of Termination. The Telephone Company will work cooperatively with the customer to determine the location of the Point of Termination in accordance with the Telephone Company's standard operating procedures.

Each Access Service has only one Point of Termination per customer premises. Any additional terminations beyond such Point of Termination are the sole responsibility of the customer. Moves of the Point of Termination are handled as set forth in Section 6.7.1(A) and Section 7.2.1 following.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.6 Maintenance of Services

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.

Customer provided transmission facilities and equipment terminating in the Telephone Company wire center for purposes of physical Expanded Interconnection Service (EIS), as set forth in Section 16, will not be maintained by the Telephone Company. Customer provided facilities and equipment terminating in Telephone Company manhole or similar location for virtual EIS will be maintained by the Telephone Company.

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, (A) change any facilities used in providing service under this tariff, (B) change minimum protection criteria, (C) change operating or maintenance characteristics of facilities or (D) change operations or procedures of the Telephone Company. The Telephone Company shall not be responsible if the change renders customer furnished services obsolete or requires modification of the customer-furnished services. If such change 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 changes made. The Telephone Company will work cooperatively with the customer to determine reasonable notification procedures.

Should a major change occur, the Telephone Company shall notify the customer at least one year in advance. A major change is described as any change in telephone plant which will affect the technical parameters of the interface (e.g., level, impedance, signaling, interface, bandwidth, two-wire, four-wire, etc.).

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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

(A) Unless the provisions of 2.2.1 or 2.5.1 following apply, if a customer fails to comply with the regulations set forth in: 2.1.6 Maintenance of Service; 2.2.2., Unlawful Use; 2.3.1, Damages; 2.3.4, Availability for Testing; 2.3.5, Balance; and 2.4, Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances or, if applicable, 2.5.3, 2.5.4, and Section 16, Expanded Interconnection Service (EIS) or fails to make any payment to be made by it on the dates and times herein specified, the Telephone Company may, on thirty (30) days written notice by Certified U.S. Mail to the person designated by that customer to receive such notices of noncompliance:

- (1) Refuse additional applications for service and/or refuse to complete any pending orders for service by the noncomplying customer; and/or
- (2) Discontinue the provision of the services to the noncomplying customer. In the case of such discontinuance, all applicable charges including termination charges shall become due.

If the Telephone Company does not discontinue the provision of the services involved on the date specified in the thirty (30) days' notice, and the customer's noncompliance continues, nothing contained herein shall preclude the Telephone Company's right to discontinue the provision of the services to the noncomplying customer without further notice.

If the Telephone Company does not refuse additional applications for service on the date specified in the thirty (30) days' notice, and the customer's noncompliance continues, nothing contained herein shall preclude the Telephone Company's right to refuse additional applications for service to the noncomplying customer without further notice.

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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)

- (B) 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 end office Telephone Company shall apply for joint service discontinuance.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.9 Limitation of Use of Metallic Facilities

Signals applied to a metallic facility shall conform to the limitations set forth in Technical Reference Publication AS No. 1. In the case of applications of dc telegraph signaling systems, the customer shall be responsible, at its expense, for the provision of current limiting devices to protect the Telephone Company facilities from excessive current due to abnormal conditions and for the provision of noise mitigation networks when required to reduce excessive noise.

2.1.10 Notification of Service-Affecting Activities

The Telephone Company will provide the customer reasonable notification of service-affecting activities that may occur in normal operation of its business. Such activities may include, but are not limited to, 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, they affect many customer services. No specific advance notification period is applicable to all service-affecting activities. The Telephone Company will work cooperatively with the customer to determine the notification requirements.

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 months notice, by Certified U.S. Mail, of the effective date and an explanation of the reason(s) for such change(s).

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.1 Undertaking of the Telephone Company (Cont'd)

2.1.12 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.

2.1.13 Preemption of Services

In certain instances, i.e., when spare facilities and/or equipment are not available, it may be necessary to preempt existing services to provision or restore National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP) Services. If, in its best judgment, the Telephone Company deems it necessary to preempt, then the Telephone Company will ensure that:

- (A) A sufficient number of public switched services are available for public use if preemption of such services is necessary to provision or restore NSEP Service.
- (B) The service(s) preempted have a lower or do not contain NSEP assigned priority levels.
- (C) A reasonable effort is made to notify the preempted service customer of the action to be taken.
- (D) A credit allowance for any preempted service shall be made in accordance with the provisions in 2.4.3 following.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.2 Use

2.2.1 Interference or Impairment

- (A) The characteristics and methods of operation of any circuits, facilities or equipment provided by other than the Telephone Company, including customer transmission equipment and facilities used with Expanded Interconnection Services, 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.
- (B) If interference as described in (A) above exists, except for equipment subject to the FCC Part 68 rules in 47 C.F.R. Section 68.108, when practicable, the Telephone Company will notify the customer that service will be temporarily disconnected until the problem is corrected. When prior notice is not practical, the Telephone Company may temporarily disconnect services without prior notification to the customer. The customer will be notified of the action as soon as possible and given the opportunity to correct the problem. During the period of discontinuance, the credit allowance for service interruptions as set forth in 2.4.3 following does not apply.

2.2.2 Unlawful Use of Services

The services are furnished subject to the condition that they will not be used for an unlawful purpose. Services will be discontinued if any law enforcement agency, acting within its apparent jurisdiction, advises in writing that such services are being used in violation of law. The Telephone Company will refuse to furnish services when it has reasonable grounds to believe that such services will be used in violation of law.

ACCESS SERVICE

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 the 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. The amount of reimbursement shall be the actual cost of repair to the damaged facilities including labor costs as specified in Section 9.2.

2.3.2 Ownership of Facilities

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 following the request in as good condition as reasonable wear will permit. Any cost of repair or replacement for unreasonable wear or damage will be billed to the customer who utilized the equipment.

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 space at reasonable times for installing, testing, repairing or removing Telephone Company services.

Where available, the Telephone Company shall make available wire center floor space and electrical power by the customer for the provision of Expanded Interconnection Service at charges set forth in Section 20.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.4 Availability for Testing

The services provided 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. No credit will be allowed for any interruptions involved during such tests and adjustments.

2.3.5 Balance

All signals for transmission over the services provided under this tariff shall be delivered by the customer balanced to ground except for ground start, duplex (DX) and McCulloh-Loop (Alarm System) type signaling and dc telegraph transmission at speeds of 75 baud or less.

2.3.6 Design of Customer Services

Subject to the provisions of 2.1.7 preceding, 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 Reference 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.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.8 Claims and Demands for Damages

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 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, Workmen'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 tortious conduct of the customer, its officers, agents or employees. 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 or omission of the customer in the course of using services provided under this tariff.

In the event that a customer files a claim for an access billing or revenue adjustment with the Telephone Company, the Telephone Company will have thirty (30) days from the notification date to resolve the customer's claim or negotiate a mutually agreeable time frame for resolution of the claim.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)2.3.9 Jurisdictional Report Requirements(A) Jurisdictional Reports

- (1) (a) When a customer orders Feature Group A and/or Feature Group B Switched Access Service the customer shall, in its order, state the projected interstate percentage for interstate usage for each Feature Group A and/or Feature Group B Switched Access Service group ordered. If the customer discontinues some but not all of the Feature Group A and/or Feature Group B Switched Access Services in a group, it shall provide the projected interstate percentage for such services which are remaining.
- (b) Pursuant to Federal Communications Commission Order FCC 85-145 adopted April 16, 1985, interstate usage is to be developed as though every call that enters a customer network at a point within the same state as that in which the called station (as designated by the called station telephone number) is situated is an intrastate communication and every call for which the point of entry is in a state other than that where the called station (as designated by the called station telephone number) is situated is an interstate communication.
- In addition to the requirements specified below, separate PIU's are required by Entrance Facility, for Direct Trunked Transport, and for Tandem Switched Transport. The PIU to be applied to Multiplexers will be the same as the PIU that is applied to the high capacity facility that is being multiplexed to a lower speed.
- (c) The projected interstate percentages will be used by the Telephone Company to apportion the usage between interstate and intrastate until a revised report is received as set forth in (6) following.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)2.3.9 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (Cont'd)(A) Jurisdictional Reports (Cont'd)

- (2) All single line Feature Group A and B Switched Access Service usage and charges will be apportioned by the Telephone Company between interstate and intrastate. The projected interstate percentage reported as set forth in 1(a) and 1(b) preceding will be used to make such apportionment.
- (3)
 - (a) For multiline hunt group or trunk group arrangements where either the interstate or the intrastate charges are based on measured usage, the interstate Feature Group A and/or Feature Group B Switched Access Service(s) information reported as set forth in (1) preceding will be used to determine the charges as follows:
 - (b) For all groups, the number of access minutes (either measured or assumed) for a group will be multiplied by the projected interstate percentage to develop the interstate access minutes. The number of access minutes for the group minus the developed interstate access minutes for the group will be the developed intrastate access minutes.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.9 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (Cont'd)

(A) Jurisdictional Reports (Cont'd)

- (4) When a customer orders Feature Group C or Feature Group D Switched Access Service(s), the customer may provide the projected interstate percentage for interstate usage for each end office group in its order. This percentage is subject to audit by the Telephone Company as set forth in 2.3.9(A)(7) following.

If the customer does not provide the projected interstate percentage for interstate usage, the Telephone Company will, where the jurisdiction can be determined from the call detail, determine the projected interstate percentage as follows. For originating access minutes, the projected interstate percentage will be developed on a monthly basis by end office when the Feature Group C or Feature Group D Switched Access Service access minutes are measured by dividing the measured interstate originating 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 access minutes when the call detail is adequate to determine the appropriate jurisdiction. For terminating access minutes, the data used by the Telephone Company to develop the projected interstate percentage for originating access minutes will be used to develop projected interstate percentage for such terminating access minutes. When originating call details are insufficient to determine the jurisdiction for the call, the customer shall supply the projected interstate percentage or authorize the Telephone Company to use the Telephone Company developed percentage. This percentage shall be used by the Telephone Company as the interstate percentage for such call detail. The Telephone Company will designate the number obtained by subtracting the projected interstate percentage for originating and terminating access minutes calculated by the Telephone Company from 100 (100 - Telephone Company calculated projected interstate percentage = intrastate percentage) as the projected intrastate percentage of use.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.9 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (Cont'd)

(A) Jurisdictional Reports (Cont'd)

- (5) Except where Telephone Company measured access minutes are used as set forth in (4) preceding, the customer reported interstate percentage of use as set forth in (1) or (4) preceding will be used until the customer reports a different projected interstate percentage for an in service end office group. When the customer adds BHMC lines or trunks to an existing end office group, the customer shall furnish a projected interstate percentage that applies to the added BHMC lines or trunks. When the customer discontinues BHMC, lines or trunks from an existing group, the customer shall furnish a projected interstate percentage for the discontinued BHMC lines or trunks in the end office group. The revised report will serve as the basis for future billings and will be effective on the next bill date. No prorating or back billing will be done based on the report.

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)2.3.9 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (Cont'd)(A) Jurisdictional Reports (Cont'd)

- (6) Effective on the first of January, April, July and October of each year, the customer shall update the interstate and intrastate jurisdictional report. The customer shall forward to the Telephone Company, to be received no later than fifteen (15) 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 Switched Access Service arranged for interstate use. Additionally, where the customer utilizes FGA Switched Access Service for calls between a Primary Exchange Carrier and a Secondary Exchange Carrier within the same Extended Area Service calling area, where the Primary and Secondary Exchange Carriers are not the same Telephone Company and do not provide service under the same access service tariff, a copy of the revised report will be provided by the customer to each Secondary Exchange Carrier. The revised report will serve as the basis for the next three (3) months' billing and will be effective on the bill date for that service. No prorating or back billing will be done based on the report.

If the customer does not supply the reports, the Telephone Company will assume the percentages to be the same as those provided in the last quarterly report. For those cases in which a quarterly report has never been received from the customer, the Telephone Company will assume the percentages to be the same as those provided in the order for service as set forth in (1) preceding.

- (7) For Switched Access, if a billing dispute arises concerning the projected interstate percentage, the Telephone Company will ask the customer to provide the data the customer uses to determine the projected interstate percentage. The Telephone Company will not request such data more than once a year. The customer shall supply the data within thirty (30) days of the Telephone Company request.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.9 Jurisdictional Report Requirements (Cont'd)

(B) Special Access Jurisdictional Certification

(1) Certification Requirements

When the customer orders Special Access Service, and the customer certifies to the Telephone Company in writing that more than ten percent (10%) of the traffic is interstate, the service is considered to be interstate and is provided under this Tariff. 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.

(2) Disputes Involving Jurisdictional Certification

If a dispute arises concerning the certification of projected interstate traffic as described in (1) above, the Telephone Company will ask the customer to provide the data the customer used to determine that more than ten percent (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 Determination of Interstate Charges for Mixed Interstate and Intrastate Switched Access Service

When mixed interstate and intrastate Access Service is provided, all charges (i.e., nonrecurring, monthly and/or usage) will be prorated between interstate and intrastate. The percentage provided in the reports as set forth in 2.3.9 preceding will serve as the basis for prorating the charges.

The percentage of an Access Service to be charged as interstate is applied in the following manner:

- (A) For monthly and nonrecurring chargeable rate elements, multiply the percent interstate use times the quantity of chargeable elements times the stated tariff rate per element.
- (B) For usage sensitive (i.e., access minutes and calls) chargeable rate elements, multiply the percent interstate use times actual use times the stated tariff rate.

The interstate percentage will change as revised usage reports are submitted as set forth in 2.3.9.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.11 Provision for Customer Audits

Upon thirty (30) days' written notice, the customer shall have the right to access all information, data and records necessary to audit, trace and verify the accuracy of access bills rendered to the customer for usage in connection with MTS, Private Line, WATS and other services. Such information will be provided in a mutually agreeable format and shall include, but not be limited to, call details (e.g., messages and minutes of use summarized by jurisdiction, call type, end office and state). A comprehensive audit of this nature can be conducted by the customer not more than once per year. Examinations of specific questions and issues may be undertaken more frequently.

Each party shall bear its own expenses in connection with the conduct of an comprehensive Audit (review) or a specific examination. Special data extractions required by the customer to conduct an audit or examination will be paid for by the customer. For purposes of this regulation, a "special data extraction" shall mean the creation of records that cannot normally be created by the Telephone Company's currently available software programs. If the Telephone Company changes software programs and as a result of this change previously available data records would be considered special extractions, the Telephone Company must retain the ability to extract that data for one year at no charge to the customer. After that time, the use of those data records would be considered a special data extraction, cost to be borne by the customer.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)

2.3.12 Theft

The customer shall reimburse the Telephone Company for any loss through theft of facilities, apparatus, or equipment utilized to provide services under this tariff as the customer designated location or at the end user's premises. The amount of reimbursement shall be the actual cost for replacement of facilities, apparatus, or equipment lost, plus labor costs as specified in Section 9.2.

2.3.13 Sectionalization and Trouble Reporting

The customer will be responsible for reporting troubles sectionalized to Telephone Company facilities and/or equipment. When trouble cannot be clearly sectionalized to the Telephone Company facilities and/or equipment, the Telephone Company will test cooperatively or independently to assist in trouble sectionalization.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)2.3.14 Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic(A) Scope

VoIP-PSTN Traffic is defined as traffic exchanged between the Telephone Company end user and the customer in time division multiplexing ("TDM") format that originates and/or terminates in Internet protocol ("IP") format. This section governs the identification of VoIP-PSTN Traffic that is required to be compensated at interstate access rates by the Federal Communications Commission in its Report and Order in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, etc., FCC Release No. 11-161 (Nov. 18, 2011) ("FCC Order"). Specifically, this section establishes the method of separating VoIP-PSTN Traffic from the customer's traditional intrastate access traffic, so that such VoIP-PSTN Traffic can be billed in accordance with the FCC Order.

(B) Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic

Interstate and Intrastate VoIP-PSTN Traffic identified in accordance with this tariff section will be billed at rates equal to the Telephone Company's applicable tariffed interstate switched access rates as specified in Section 20 following.

(C) Calculation and Application of Percent-VoIP-Usage Factor

The Telephone Company will determine the number of VoIP-PSTN Traffic minutes of use ("MOU") to which interstate rates will be applied under subsection (B), above, by applying a Percent VoIP Usage ("PVU") factor to the total terminating intrastate access MOU received by The Telephone Company from the customer. The PVU will be derived and applied as follows:

- (1) The customer will calculate and furnish to the Telephone Company a factor (the "PVU") representing the percentage of the total intrastate and interstate access MOU that the customer terminates to the Telephone Company in the State, that is sent to the Telephone Company and that originated in IP format. This PVU shall be based on information such as traffic studies, actual call detail, or other relevant and verifiable information. The customer shall retain the call detail, work papers, and information used to develop the PVU factor for a minimum of one year.

(N)

(N)

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2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)2.3.14 Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic (Cont'd)

(N)

(C) Calculation and Application of Percent-VoIP-Usage Factor (Cont'd)

- (2) The customer shall not modify their reported PIU factor to account for VoIP-PSTN Traffic.
- (3) The Telephone Company will apply the PVU factor to the total terminating intrastate access MOU received from the customer to determine the number of VoIP-PSTN Traffic MOUs.
- (4) If the customer does not furnish the Telephone Company with a PVU pursuant to the preceding paragraph 1, the Telephone Company will utilize a PVU equal to zero.

(D) Initial PVU Factor

If the PVU factor is not available and/or cannot be implemented in the Telephone Company's billing systems by December 31, 2011, once the factor is available and can be implemented the Telephone Company will adjust the customer's bills to reflect the PVU retroactively to December 31, 2011. This retroactive adjustment will be made to December 31, 2011, provided that the customer provides the factor to the Telephone Company no later than April 15, 2012; otherwise, it will set the initial PVU equal to zero, as specified in subsection (C)(4), above.

The Telephone Company may choose to provide credits based on the reported PVU factors until such time as billing system modifications can be implemented.

(E) PVU Factor Updates

The customer may update the PVU factor quarterly using the method set forth in subsection (C)(1), above. If the customer chooses to submit such updates, it shall forward to the Telephone Company, no later than 15 days after the first day of January, April, July and/or October of each year, a revised PVU factor based on data for the prior three months, ending the last day of December, March, June and September, respectively. The revised PVU factor will apply prospectively and serve as the basis for billing until superseded by a new PVU. No prorating or back billing will be done based on the updated PVU factor.

(N)

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)2.3.14 Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic (Cont'd)(F) PVU Factor Verification

- (1) Not more than four times in any year, the Telephone Company may request from the customer an overview of the process used to determine the PVU factors, the call detail records, description of the method for determining how the end user originates or terminates calls in IP format, and other information used to determine the customer's PVU factor furnished to the Telephone Company in order to validate the PVU factor supplied. The customer shall comply, and shall reasonably supply the requested data and information within 15 days of the Telephone Company's request.
- (2) The Telephone Company may dispute the customer's PVU factor based upon:
 - (a) A review of the requested data and information provided by the customer.
 - (b) The Telephone Company's reasonable review of other market information, FCC reports on VoIP lines, such as FCC Form 477 or state level results based on FCC Local Competition Report or other relevant data.
 - (c) A change in the reported PVU factor by more than five percentage points from the preceding quarter.
- (3) If after review of the data and information, the customer and the Telephone Company establish a revised PVU factor, the customer and the Telephone Company will begin using that revised PVU factor with the next bill period.

(N)

(N)

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.3 Obligations of the Customer (Cont'd)2.3.14 Identification and Rating of VoIP-PSTN Traffic (Cont'd)(F) PVU Factor Verification (Cont'd)

- (4) If the dispute is unresolved, the Telephone Company may initiate an audit. The Telephone Company shall limit audits of the customer's PVU factor to no more than four times per year. The customer may request that the audit be conducted by an independent auditor. In such cases, the associated auditing expenses will be paid by the customer.
- (a) In the event that the customer fails to provide adequate records to enable the Telephone Company or an independent auditor to conduct an audit verifying the customer's PVU factors, the Telephone Company will bill the usage for all contested periods using the most recent undisputed PVU factors reported by the customer. These PVU factors will remain in effect until the audit can be completed.
- (b) During the audit, the undisputed PVU factors from the previous reporting period will be used by the Telephone Company.
- (c) The Telephone Company will adjust the customer's PVU factors based on the results of the audit and implement the revised PVU in the next billing period or quarterly report date, whichever is first. The revised PVU factors will apply for the next two quarters before new factors can be submitted by the customer.
- (d) If the audit supports the customer's PVU factors, the usage for the contested periods will be adjusted to reflect the customer's audited PVU factors.

(N)

(N)

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance

2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits

- (A) The Telephone Company will require a deposit from all customers with a proven history of late payments to the Telephone Company and all customers who do not have established credit unless the customer is a successor of a company which has established credit and has no history of late payments to the Telephone Company. The deposit may be required prior to or after establishment of service. The total deposit may not exceed the estimated charges for service for a two-month period.

The fact that a deposit has been made does not relieve the customer from the responsibility of complying with the Telephone Company's regulations regarding prompt payment of bills. Annual interest at the rate described in 2.4.1(B)(3)(b) will be paid on all deposits held from the date the deposit is received up to and including the date the deposit is returned or credited to the customer's account. The deposit will be refunded after the customer has established a record of prompt payment for one year. When service is terminated, any deposit held will be credited on the final bill.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

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

(B) The Telephone Company will bill all usage charges monthly in arrears. All nonusage-sensitive access services, including End User Access Service and Presubscription Service, will be billed monthly in advance. Nonrecurring charges will be billed in the month following the provision of service.

(1) The bill day for End User Access Service and Presubscription Service will be the same day established for the provision of local service.

(2) The bill day(s) for all access services other than End User Access Service and Presubscription Service will be established by the Telephone Company for each customer account and shall appear on the carrier access bill. If the Telephone Company advises the customer in writing, an alternate billing schedule may be established. Alternate billing schedules shall not be established on less than sixty (60) days' notice or initiated by the Telephone Company more than twice in any consecutive twelve (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 that period after the last bill day through the current bill day. Any known unbilled usage charges for prior periods and any known unbilled adjustments will be applied to this bill.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

(B) (Cont'd)

- (3) (a) Payment for service is due thirty-one (31) days 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 twenty (20) days prior to the thirty-one (31) day payment due date, then the bill shall be considered delayed. When a 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 by the customer must be accompanied by proof of the late bill receipt. If such payment date would cause payment to be due on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday (i.e., New Year's Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Veteran's Day and the days when Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, and Columbus Day are legally observed), payment for such bills will be due as follows:

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

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)2.4.1 Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

(B) (Cont'd)

(3) (Cont'd)

- (b) 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 (a) 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 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.
- (c) In the event that a billing dispute arises, the customer shall pay the total amount billed by the due date or be subject to the last payment penalty beginning ten (10) days after the payment date. The customer shall notify the Telephone Company of his intent to dispute all or part of the amount due. If the dispute is resolved in favor of the customer, the Telephone Company will refund the disputed amount in question plus interest. The penalty interest period shall begin ten (10) days following the due date or on the date the disputed amount was actually paid, whichever is later. Interest will be calculated as described in (b) above.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

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

- (C) For services provided on a monthly basis, the charge for the provision of a fractional month's service will be determined by dividing the number of days that service was provided by thirty (30) and multiplying the result times the monthly rate. This calculation will be made subject to any minimum service periods required for specific services.
- (D) When a rate as set forth in this tariff is shown to more than two (2) 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 (2) decimal places).

The Telephone Company will, upon reasonable request and if available, furnish) such detailed information as may be required for verification of any bill.

The customer will receive its monthly bills in a standard paper format, or at the customer's option, on magnetic tape in standard industry format for those access services for which the Telephone Company is technically capable of providing magnetic tape billing. Additional copies of the customer's bill may be provided in standard paper format at the rates and charges set forth in Section 20 following. When the customer requests a paper copy of the customer's bill in addition to the customer bill provided on magnetic tape, the rate set forth in Section 20 following shall apply per page.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

2.4.2 Minimum Periods

The minimum period for which services are provided are for which rates and charges are applicable is one month except as otherwise specified. The minimum periods for which Expanded Interconnection Services are provided and for which rates are applicable are specified in Section 16. 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 20. 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.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

2.4.3 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions

(A) General

A service is interrupted when it becomes unusable to the customer because of a failure of facilities 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. An interruption period starts when an inoperative service is reported to the Telephone Company, and ends when the service is operative.

An allowance for interruption will apply only when the interruption is not due to the negligence of the customer. The credit allowance for an interruption or for a series of interruptions shall not exceed the monthly rate for the service interrupted in any one monthly billing period.

(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 as follows:

- (1) For Special Access services other than Program Audio and Videoband and Expanded Interconnect- ion, and for Switched Access Entrance Facilities, Direct-Trunked Transport and multiplexing services, a credit allowance will be made for an interruption period of 30 minutes or more. The allowance will be calculated at the rate of 1/1440 of the monthly charge for the portion of the service affected, for each 30 minutes or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues. A major fraction is considered to be sixteen minutes or more beyond the 30 minute period.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)2.4.3 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)(B) When a Credit Allowance Applies (Cont'd)

(1) (Cont'd)

(a) For two-point service, the monthly charge shall be the total of all the monthly rate element charges associated with the service (i.e., a channel termination per customer designated premises, channel mileage and optional features and functions).

(b) If a portion of a service such as a portion of a multipoint special access facility can still be utilized during the service interruption, the credit allowance will only apply to the services which are inoperative (i.e., a channel termination per customer designated premises, channel mileage and optional features and functions).

(2) For Program Audio and Videoband Special Access services, a credit allowance will be made for an interruption of 30 seconds or more. Two or more such interruptions occurring during a period of 5 consecutive minutes shall be considered as one interruption. The allowance will be calculated as follows:

(a) For Program Audio Service provided at monthly rates, the credit will be at the rate of 1/8640 of the monthly service rate.

(b) For Program Audio Service provided at daily rates, the credit will be at the rate of 1/288 of the daily rate.

(c) For Temporary Videoband Service provided at hourly rates, the credit will be at 1/12 of the hourly rate.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

2.4.3 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

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

- (3) For DS1 and DS3 Special Access service, a credit allowance will be made for each occurrence of a service interruption period of three or more consecutive hours.

This credit allowance is in addition to the credit allowance in 2.4.3. The credit allowance will be \$200.00 for each out of service condition within the Telephone Company's facilities. The credit allowance will not be applied more than once per calendar month and will not exceed the monthly charge for the interrupted service. This credit allowance is applicable in the jurisdictions of:

Arizona
California

(D)
(D)

Nevada
New Mexico
New York

(D)

Tennessee
Utah
West Virginia

A credit allowance will not be extended in accordance with conditions in 2.1.3(E) and 2.4.3(C) for repair of Telephone Company owned facilities used to provide DS1 and DS3 service.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

2.4.3 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

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

- (4) For Switched Access Service, other than Entrance Facilities, Direct-Trunked Transport and Multiplexing, 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 charge, assumed usage, or minimum monthly usage charge for each period of 24 hours or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues.
- (5) For Common Channel Signaling System 7 (CCS7) Access Service, described in Section 6.3.11, a credit allowance will be made for an interruption period of 30 minutes or more. The allowance will be calculated at the rate of 1/1440 of the monthly charge for the portion of the service affected, for each 30 minutes or major fraction thereof that the interruption continues. A major fraction is considered to be 16 minutes or more beyond the 30 minute period.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

2.4.3 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

(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 service during any period in which the Telephone Company is not afforded access to the premises where the service is terminated.
- (4) Interruptions of 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 2.4.3(B)(3) preceding applies.
- (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 the applicable Interstate Special Construction 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. (C)
(C)
- (6) Periods when the customer elects not to release the service of 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, for amounts less than one dollar.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

2.4.3 Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

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

- (8) Periods when the Telephone Company must temporarily interrupt an EIS, as defined in Section 16, in order to prevent damage or disruption to the Telephone Company's network due to the customer's equipment.
- (9) For EIS elements, specified in Section 16, no credit allowance will be made.

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.

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 1/440 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.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

2.4.4 Re-establishment of Service Following Fire, Flood, or Other Occurrences

(A) Nonrecurring Charges Do Not Apply

Charges do not apply for the re-establishment of service for the same customer following an interruption resulting from 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 interruption.
- (2) The service is at the same location on the same premises.
- (3) The re-establishment of service begins within sixty (60) days after Telephone Company service is available.

(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.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

2.4.5 Access Services Provided by More Than One Telephone Company

When Switched Transport or Special Transport service is provided by more than one telephone company, the telephone companies involved will mutually agree upon one of the billing methods based upon the type of access service and the interconnection arrangements between the telephone companies.

The Telephone Company will notify the customer which billing method will be used. The customer will place the ASR as in Section 5.3.

(A) Single Company Billing

The Single Company Billing method may be applied to FGA Switched Access Service.

The Telephone Company receiving the ASR from the customer, as specified in Section 5.3, will arrange to provide the service, determine the applicable charges and bill the customer for the entire service in accordance with its Access tariff. The airline mileage is determined using the V&H method in the Exchange Carrier Association (ECA) Tariff FCC No. 4.

(B) Meet Point Billing

Meet Point Billing is required when an access service is provided by multiple Telephone Companies* for FGB, FGC and FGD Switched Access services and Special Access. It is optional for FGA Switched Access Services.

*Meet Point Billing option guidelines, as contained in the MECAB document, may also be applied to services provided by one exchange carrier in two or more states within a single LATA.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

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

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

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),
- 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 an ASR is placed requesting access service. Additionally, the Telephone Company shall provide this notice in writing 30 days in advance of any change.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

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

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(1) Single Bill Option

The Single Bill Option allows the customer to receive one bill from one telephone company or its billing agent for access services.

The Telephone Company(s) that renders the bill to the customer may provide to the customer cross references to the other Telephone Company(s) service and/or the common circuit identifiers based upon industry standards as contained in the MECAB document. Should a billing dispute arise, the terms and conditions of the Billing Company(s) will apply.

For usage rated access services the access minutes of use will be compiled by the Initial Billing Company and used by the Initial Billing Company and any subsequent Billing Company(s) for the development of access charges.

- The Initial Billing Company for FGB, FGC and FGD Switched Access services is normally the end user's serving office and 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, the Telephone Company will notify the customer.
- The Subsequent Billing Company(s) is any Telephone Company(s) in whose territory a segment of the Switched Transport Facility is provided and/or where the CDP is located.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

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

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(1) Single Bill Option (Cont'd)

The Single Bill option provides three billing alternatives, Single Bill/Single Tariff, Single Bill/Pass-Through Billing and Single Bill/Multiple Tariff which are described in the following:

(a) Single Bill/Single Tariff

Each Telephone Company will receive an ASR or a copy of the ASR from the customer as specified in Section 5.3 and arrange to provide the service. The Initial Billing Company will:

- determine the applicable charges and bill in accordance with its tariff;
- include all recurring and nonrecurring rates and charges of its tariff; and
- forward the bill to the customer.

The customer will remit the payment to the Initial Billing Company.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)2.4.5 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 ASR or a copy of the ASR from the customer as specified in Section 5.3 and arrange to provide the service. Each Telephone Company will:

- determine its portion of Switched Transport and/or Special Transport as in 2.4.5(B)(2)(a) and 2.4.5(B)(2)(b).
- determine the applicable charges and bill in accordance with its tariff;
- include all recurring and nonrecurring rates and charges of its tariff; and
- forward the bill to the Initial Billing Company for meet point billed access services.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)2.4.5 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 Initial Billing 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 Initial Billing Company. If payments are to be sent directly to the Initial Billing Company, the Subsequent Billing Company(s) will provide the customer with written authorization for the payment arrangement.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)2.4.5 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/Multiple Tariff

Each Telephone Company will receive an ASR or a copy of the ASR from the customer as specified in Section 5.3 and arrange to provide the service. The Initial Billing Company will:

- determine each Telephone Company's portion of switched transport and/or special transport as set forth in 2.4.5(B)(2)(a) and 2.4.5(B)(2)(b).
- determine the applicable charges and bill in accordance with each Telephone Company's tariff;
- include all recurring and nonrecurring charges for each involved Telephone Company;
- identify each involved Telephone Company's 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 Initial Billing Company. If payments are to be sent directly to the Initial Billing Company, the Subsequent Billing Company(s) will provide the customer with written authorization for the payment arrangement.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

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

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(2) Multiple Bill Option

(a) Switched Access

Multiple Bill - The customer will receive a bill from each Telephone Company providing the access service. Multiple bills will include all charges applicable to the individual portion of the access service provided by each Telephone Company. Such bills will include the following information in accordance with the MECAB Guidelines:

- Billing Account Reference (BAR)
- Billing Account Cross Reference (BACR)
- Billing Account Number (BAN)
- End office NPA/NXX or End Office CLLI Code
- Common EC Circuit Identifiers (Special Access)
- Billing Percentages as listed in NECA Tariff No. 4
- Percent Interstate Usage (PIU)
- Usage "from" and "through" dates

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)2.4.5 Access Services Provided by More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)(2) Multiple Bill Option (Cont'd)(a) Switched Access (Cont'd)

For Switched Access Tandem-Switched Transport Services, the Telephone Company will determine the applicable charges as follows:

Note: The following companies have nondistance sensitive Local Transport rates:

Citizens Utilities Rural Company

Determine the distance in airline miles using the V&H method set forth in National Exchange Carrier Association Tariff FCC No. 4, between the Telephone Company's end office switch and the customer's serving wire center, or between the Telephone Company access tandem and the end office switch if Direct-Trunked Transport is ordered directly to the tandem.

The airline distance in miles will be multiplied by the Tandem-Switched Transport Facility rate times the number of access minutes of use times the billing percentage to determine the appropriate Local Transport charges. The billing percentage is that portion of local transport to be billed by each company and is mutually agreed upon by the Telephone Companies involved in providing Access Services to the customer. Billing percentages are listed in National Exchange Carrier Association Tariff FCC No. 4.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

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

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(2) Multiple Bill Option (Cont'd)

(a) Switched Access (Cont'd)

When Terminating Tandem Switched Transport is provided through a Frontier Telephone ILEC access Tandem and the Terminating End Office is not owned by a Frontier Telephone ILEC Company or through an ILEC Access Tandem not owned by a Frontier Telephone ILEC Company and the Terminating End Office is owned by a Frontier Telephone ILEC Company, Terminating – Tandem 3rd Party rates are applicable, otherwise Terminating – Tandem End Office rates are applicable. When originating Tandem Switched Transport is provided, Originating rates are applicable.

(N)
 |
 (N)

Where the Tandem-Switched Transport-Facility is provided by more than one telephone company, the Tandem-Switched Transport-Termination rate applies for the termination (i.e., the first point of switching and/or the end office serving the end user) at the Telephone Company end of the Tandem-Switched Transport. The Tandem Switched Transport Termination rate will not apply when the Telephone Company is the intermediate provider of the Switched Transport Facility.

All other appropriate recurring and nonrecurring charges in each Telephone Company's access tariff are applicable. The Nonrecurring Charges for Switched Access, as set forth in Section 20 following, apply in full.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

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

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

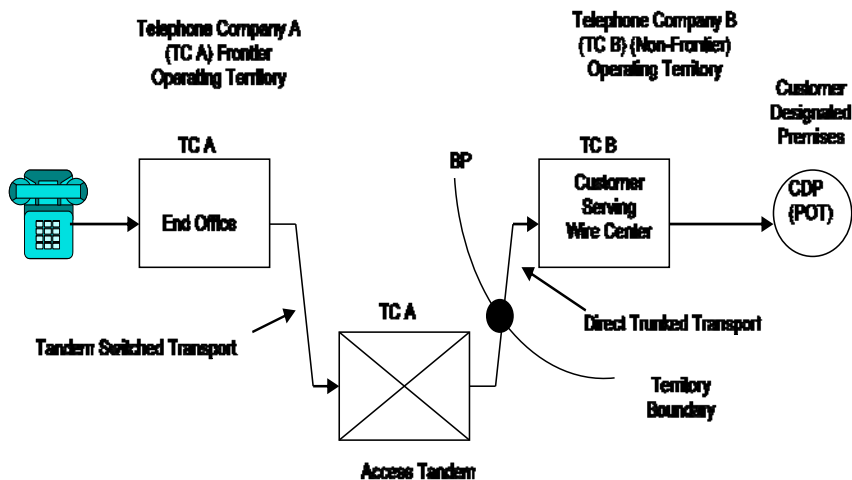
(2) Multiple Bill Option (Cont'd)

(a) Switched Access (Cont'd)

Example 1: Originating Switched Access
(See Diagram 1)

- Feature Group D Switched Access is ordered to End Office.
- Originating End Office and Access Tandem are in the operating territory of a Telephone Company (TC-A).
- Customer Designated Premises is in the operating territory of a Telephone Company (TC-B)
- Assumptions:
 - TC-A Direct Trunk Transport BP = 40%
 - TC-B Direct Trunk Transport BP = 60%
 - Direct Trunked Transport mileage = 26 mi.
 - Tandem Switched Transport mileage = 23 mi.

- Diagram 1



(N)

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)2.4.5 Access Services Provided by More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)(2) Multiple Bill Option (Cont'd)(a) Switched Access (Cont'd)Example 1: Originating Switched Access (Cont'd)
(See Diagram 1)

- Telephone Company A charges are:
 - End Office charges = 9,000 min. x EO rate
 - Tandem Switched Transport Facility charge = 9,000 min. x 23 mi. x TSF rate
 - Tandem Switched Transport Termination charge = 2 terminations x 9,000 min. x TST rate
 - Tandem Switching Rate = 9,000 min. x TS rate
 - Direct Trunked Facility charge = 26 mi. x DTF rate x 40%
 - Direct Trunked Termination charge = 1 termination x DTT rate
 - Shared Multiplexing charge = 9,000 min. x SM rate

Example 2: Terminating Switched Access – Tandem 3rd Party

(See Diagram 2A and 2B)

- Feature Group D Switched Access is ordered to End Office.
- Terminating Access Tandem is owned by Frontier Telephone ILEC Companies (TC-A) and End Office is owned by a non-Frontier Telephone Company (TC –B).
- Assumptions:
 - *TC-A Direct Trunk Transport BP = 40%
 - *TC-B Direct Trunk Transport BP = 60%
 - Direct Trunk Transport mileage = 26 mi.
 - TC-A Tandem Switched Transport BP = 20%
 - TC-B Tandem Switched Transport BP = 80%
 - Tandem Switched Transport mileage = 23 mi.

*Where applicable see Diagram 2A

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Vice President, Government and Regulatory Affairs
180 S. Clinton Ave., Rochester, NY 14646

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

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

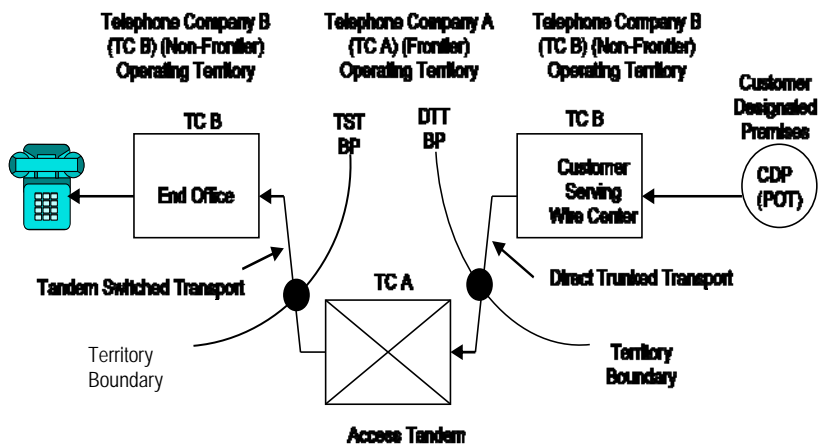
(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(2) Multiple Bill Option (Cont'd)

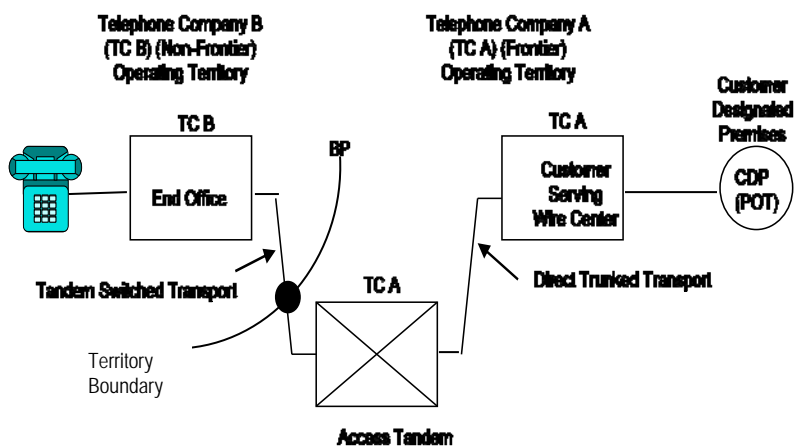
(a) Switched Access (Cont'd)

Example 2: Terminating Switched Access – Tandem 3rd Party (Cont'd)
(See Diagram 2A and 2B)

- Diagram 2A



- Diagram 2B



(N)

(N)

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)2.4.5 Access Services Provided by More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)(2) Multiple Bill Option (Cont'd)(a) Switched Access (Cont'd)Example 2: Terminating Switched Access – Tandem 3rd Party (Cont'd)

(See Diagram 2A and 2B)

- Telephone Company A charges are:
 - Tandem Switched Transport Facility-3rd Party charge = 9,000 min. x 23 mi. x TSF-3rd Party rate x 20%
 - Tandem Switched Transport Termination-3rd Party charge = 1 termination x 9,000 min. x TST – 3rd Party rate
 - Tandem Switching-3rd Party Rate = 9,000 min. x TS-3rd Party rate
 - Direct Trunked Facility charge
 - 2A = 26 miles. x DTF rate x 40%
 - 2B = 26 miles. x DTF rate
 - Direct Trunked Termination charge
 - 2A = 1 termination x DTT rate
 - 2B = 2 termination x DTT rate
 - Shared Multiplexing 3rd Party Charge = 9,000 min. x SM-3rd Party rate

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

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

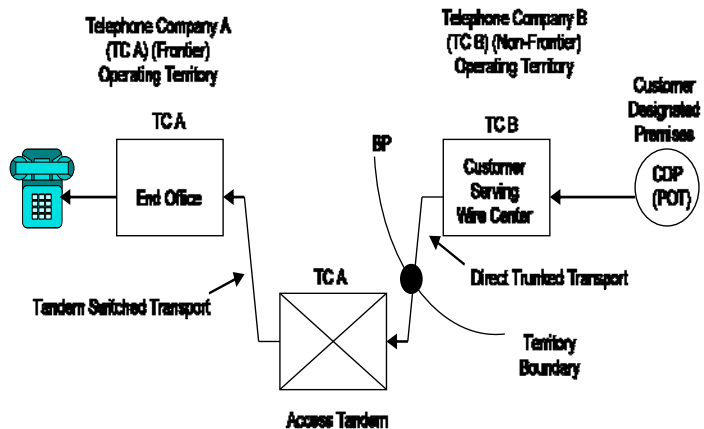
(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(2) Multiple Bill Option (Cont'd)

(a) Switched Access (Cont'd)

Example 3: Terminating Switched Access - Tandem End Office (Cont'd)
(See Diagram 3)

- Feature Group D Switched Access is ordered to End Office.
- Terminating End Office and Access Tandem are both owned by Frontier Telephone ILEC Companies (TC-A).
- Assumptions:
 - TC-A Direct Trunk Transport BP = 40%
 - TC-B Direct Trunk Transport BP = 60%
 - Direct Trunk Transport mileage = 26 mi.
 - Tandem Switched Transport mileage = 23 mi.
- Diagram 3



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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)2.4.5 Access Services Provided by More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)(2) Multiple Bill Option (Cont'd)(a) Switched Access (Cont'd)Example 3 –Terminating Switched Access Tandem End Office (Cont'd)
(See Diagram 3)

- Telephone Company A charges are:
 - End Office Charges = 9,000 min. x EO rate
 - Tandem Switched Facility – End Office charge
= 9,000 min. x 23 mi. x TSF-End Office rate.
 - Tandem Switched Transport Termination –End Office charge
= 2 terminations x 9.000 min. x TST-End Office rate.
 - Tandem Switching – End Office charge
= 9,000 min. x TS-End Office rate
 - Direct Trunked Facility Charge
= 26 miles x DTF rate x 40%
 - Direct Trunked Termination charge
= 1 termination x DTT rate
 - Shared Multiplexing charge
= 9,000 min. x SM-End Office rate

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

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

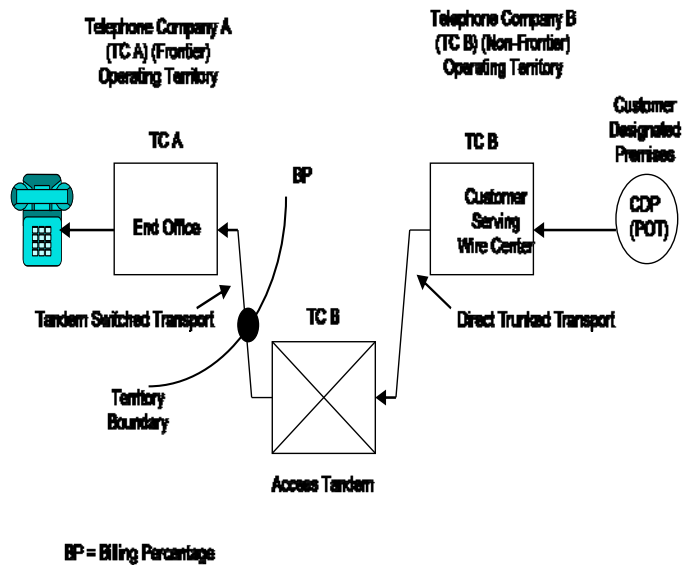
(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(2) Multiple Bill Option (Cont'd)

(a) Switched Access (Cont'd)

Example 4: Terminating Switched Access-Tandem 3rd Party
(See Diagram 4)

- Feature Group D Switched Access is ordered to End Office.
- End Office is owned by Frontier Telephone Company (TC-A).
- Access Tandem is owned by a non-Frontier Telephone ILEC Company (TC-B).
- Diagram 4



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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

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

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(2) Multiple Bill Option (Cont'd)

(a) Switched Access (Cont'd)

Example 4 –Terminating Switched Access-Tandem 3rd Party (Cont'd)
(See Diagram 4)

- Telephone Company A charges are:
 - End Office charges = 9,000 min x EO rate
 - Tandem Switched Facility -3rd Party charge = 9,000 min. x 23 mi. x TSF-3rd Party rate x 80%
 - Tandem Switched Termination -3rd party charge = 1 termination x 9,000 min. x TST-3rd Party rate

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

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

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

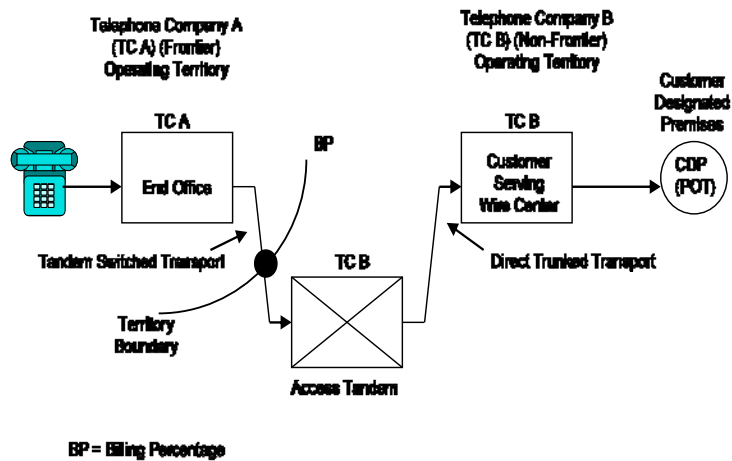
(2) Multiple Bill Option (Cont'd)

(a) Switched Access (Cont'd)

Example 5: Originating Switched Access - Frontier Telephone ILEC Company owns only the End Office.
(See Diagram 5)

- Feature Group D Switched Access is ordered to End Office.
- End Office is owned by Frontier Telephone Companies (TC-A).
- Access Tandem is owned by a non-Frontier Telephone ILEC Company (TC-B)
- Assumptions:
 - Direct Trunk Transport mileage = 26 mi.
 - TC-A Tandem Switched Transport BP = 80%
 - TC-B Tandem Switched Transport BP = 20%
 - Tandem Switched Transport mileage = 23 mi.

- Diagram 5



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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

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

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(2) Multiple Bill Option (Cont'd)

(a) Switched Access (Cont'd)

Example 5: Originating Switched Access Frontier Telephone ILEC Company owns only the End Office.
(See Diagram 5)

- Telephone Company A charges are:
 - End Office charges = 9,000 min. x EO rate
 - Tandem Switched Transport Facility charge = 9,000 min. x 23 mi. x TSF rate x 80%.
 - Tandem Switched Transport Termination charge = 1 termination x 9.000 min. x TST rate.

(N)

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

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

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(2) Multiple Bill Option (Cont'd)

(b) Special Access

For Special Access Services and Switched Access Direct-Trunked Transport, the Telephone Company will determine the applicable charges as follows:

Determine the distance in airline miles using the V&H method set forth in National Exchange Carrier Association Tariff No. 4 between the locations involved; i.e., the serving wire center associated with a customer designated premise and an end office, or a Telephone Company hub, or two Telephone Company hubs, a hub to an end office, or a hub to a tandem.

The airline distance in miles will be multiplied by the Special Access Channel Mileage-Facility or Switched Access Direct-Trunked Transport Facility rate element times the billing percentage to determine the appropriate charges. The billing percentage is that portion of circuit mileage to be billed by each company involved in providing Access Services to the customer. Billing percentages are listed in National Exchange Carrier Association Tariff FCC No. 4.

For Special Access, the total Channel Mileage charges shall be the Channel Mileage-Facility charge plus the Channel Mileage-Termination charges. The Channel Mileage-Termination Charge is always applied in full, once per channel mileage termination. The Channel Mileage-Termination rate does not apply when the Telephone Company provides an intermediate portion of a circuit mileage facility and no circuit mileage terminations.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)2.4.5 Access Services Provided by More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)(2) Multiple Bill Option (Cont'd)(b) Special Access (Cont'd)

For Switched Access, the total Direct-Trunked Transport charges shall be the Direct-Trunked Transport Facility charge determined in 2.4.5(B)(2)(a) preceding plus the Direct-Trunked Transport-Termination charges. The Termination charge is always applied in full, once per Direct-Trunked Transport Termination. The Termination charge does not apply when the Telephone Company provides an immediate portion of a Direct-Trunked Transport Facility and no Terminations.

All other appropriate recurring and nonrecurring charges in each Telephone Company's access tariff are applicable. The Special Access Nonrecurring Charge for circuit installation applies in full once per Circuit Termination provided by the Telephone Company.

(c) Transitional Interconnection Charge (TIC)

The Transitional Interconnection Charge for Switched Transport shall be billed by the Telephone Company in whose territory the end office is located.

(d) End Office Shared Trunk Port

The End Office Shared Trunk Port for Tandem Switched Transport shall be billed by the Telephone Company in whose territory the end office is located.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

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

(B) Meet Point Billing (Cont'd)

(2) Multiple Bill Option (Cont'd)

(e) Dedicated Trunk Ports

For tandem routed trunks, the Access Tandem Trunk Port shall be billed by the Telephone Company owning the tandem. For end office direct routed trunks, the End Office Dedicated Trunk Port shall be billed by the Telephone Company owning the end office on a single bill, single tariff or multiple bill, multiple tariff meet point billing arrangement.

(f) Shared Multiplexing

The Shared Multiplexing Charge is assessed at both the Access Tandem and the End Office.

The Shared Multiplexing Charge at the Access Tandem will be assessed to the interexchange carrier by the Telephone Company owning the access tandem under the multiple bill, multiple tariff meet point billing option, and to the initial billing company, by the Telephone Company owning the access tandem, under the single bill, single tariff meet point billing option.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

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

(C) EAS Arrangements

Where a customer utilizes FGA Switched Access Services to originate or terminate calls within an Extended Area Service (EAS) calling area provided by more than one telephone company, the Telephone Company may apply additional Switched Access Service charges as set forth in (1) and (2) following, provided the following criteria are met:

- The Telephone Companies involved are not the same Telephone Company and do not provide service under the same Access Service tariff,
 - The Telephone Companies do not have a revenue sharing arrangement where one Telephone Company bills the total cost of access which includes the other Telephone Company's cost of access,
 - The Telephone Companies involved do not bill Switched Access charges in accordance with the Multiple Company Billing Arrangement for subtending end offices of a Telephone Company access tandem as set forth in (B) preceding.
- (1) For FGA usage which originates or terminates at a Telephone Company end office within an EAS calling area where the first point of switching (dial tone office) is provided by a different Telephone Company, the Telephone Company will apply Local Transport and Circuit Connection rates to originating access minutes, plus end office rates to originating and terminating access minutes as set forth in Section 20 following. Such Switched Access charges will be in addition to those charges assessed by the Telephone Company in whose exchange the first point of switching (dial tone office) is located. Such usage will be determined as set forth in (2) following.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)2.4.5 Access Services Provided by More Than One Telephone Company (Cont'd)(C) EAS Arrangements (Cont'd)

- (2) FGA usage originating or terminating at Telephone Company end offices in EAS arrangements shall be determined as follows:
 - (a) Where end office specific usage data are available, such data will be used to determine the charges.
 - (b) Where end office specific usage data is not available, the total originating and/or terminating usage will be the measured usage or assumed usage at the first point of switching (i.e., dial tone office for FGA). Originating and/or terminating usage will be determined based upon the ratios of the total number of subscriber lines in the Telephone Company exchange to the total number of subscriber lines in the EAS calling area. These ratios will be applied to the total number of originating and/or terminating access minutes to determine the access minutes for the Telephone Company exchange.
- (3) The ratio used to calculate the access minutes as set forth in (2) preceding will be determined by the Telephone Company and provided to the customer upon request.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

2.4.6 Cancellation of an Order for Service

Provisions for the cancellation of an order for service are set forth in Section 5.3.3 following.

2.4.7 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.

2.4.8 Reserved for Future Use

(C)

(C)

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.4 Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowance (Cont'd)

2.4.8 Reserved for Future Use (Cont'd)

(C)

(C)

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.5 Connections

2.5.1 General

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 or interconnection is made in accordance with the provisions specified in Technical Reference Publication AS No. 1 and in 2.1 preceding.

2.5.2 Standard Access Service Connections

Access services are provided by means of wire, fiber optics, radio or any other suitable technology or a combination thereof. Special Access service connections are made directly or through a Telephone Company hub where bridging or multiplexing functions are performed. These connections can either be analog or digital.

2.5.3 Expanded Interconnection Service (EIS) - Fiber Optic

Fiber Optic EIS provides a customer with space and associated requirements such as power and environmental conditioning within or near a Telephone Company wire center to locate certain fiber optic facilities and equipment, and an interconnection with certain Telephone Company provided facilities.

EIS will be provided subject to the regulations and rates and charges set forth in Section 16.

2.5.4 Expanded Interconnection Service (EIS) - Microwave

Microwave EIS provides a customer with space and associated requirements such as power and environmental conditioning within a Telephone Company wire center to locate certain microwave facilities and equipment, and a connection to certain Telephone Company provided facilities.

Customer-provided microwave facilities, equipment and support structures may be located in, on or above the exterior walls and roof of Telephone Company wire center. Such interconnection must be made in accordance with the provisions specified in 2.1. These interconnections will be provided subject to the regulations set forth in Section 16.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions

Access Area

The term "Access Area" denotes a specific calling area serviced by one or more Central Offices associated with the various Switched Access Services offered under this tariff. The size and configuration of the Access Area a customer obtains is dependent upon the Feature Group type and the specific characteristics of the Central Office or Telephone Company Access Tandem Network in which the connection is made.

Access Code

The term "Access Code" denotes a uniform five or seven digit code assigned by the Telephone Company to an individual customer. The five digit code has the form 10XXX, and the seven digit code has the form 101XXXX, 950-1/0XXX, or 1+950-1/0XXX.

Access Minute

The unit of usage of exchange facilities in interstate or foreign service for the purpose of calculating chargeable usage. 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 end exchanges, as applicable.

Access Service Request

The term "Access Service Request" (ASR) denotes a document (i.e., order) used by the Telephone Company to process a customer's request for Access Services as offered throughout this tariff.

Access Tandem

A Telephone Company or centralized equal access provider switching system that provides a concentration and distribution function for originating or terminating traffic between end offices and a customer's premises.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Access Tandem Network

The term "Access Tandem Network" denotes the network of trunk groups that provide a concentration and distribution function for originating and/or terminating Switched Access traffic between a single access tandem and Telephone Company subtending end offices.

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Agent

The term "Agent" is defined as that person or entity that the Telephone Company acknowledges as the possessor of authority to make decisions pertaining to instrument placement, subscription authorization, and access or usage control of Public or Semipublic Pay Telephone Service or, that person or entity duly authorized to act in that capacity by the owner of the premises.

Aggregator

The term "Aggregator" denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust or corporation that, in the ordinary 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.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Alternate Billing Service

The term "Alternate Billing Service" (ABS) denotes the ability of the end user to bill calls to an account not necessarily associated with the originating line, including calling card, collect and third number billing.

Annual Underutilization Liability

The term "Annual Underutilization Liability" denotes a per unit amount which may be billed annually if fewer services are in use utilizing specially constructed facilities at filed tariff rates than were originally specially constructed.

Answer Message

The term "Answer Message" denotes an SS7 message sent in the backward direction to indicate that the call has been answered.

Answer/Disconnect Supervision

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.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)Area of Service

The term "Area of Service" (AOS) routing denotes the ability to ensure that 800/888 calls originate from subscribed service areas.

Attempt

The term "Attempt" denotes a call in the originating direction from an end user to a CDP which is completed (answered) or not completed (not answered) and a call in the terminating direction from a CDP to a customer which is completed (answered) or not completed (not answered).

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 a standard feature of FGA, FGB, FGC, FGD, and 800/888 Access Service and refers to the end office termination provided for balance and noise testing. The termination provides off-hook supervision to the calling end, and terminates the line or trunk in a resistive and capacitive arrangement which simulates the characteristic impedance of the end office.

BHMC

See Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)Billed Number Screening

The term "Billed Number Screening" (BNS) denotes the process of utilizing a line information data base to determine billing number acceptance for collect and third number calls and to perform public telephone line number checks to prevent the alternate billing of calls to public coin telephone lines.

Bit

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

Bridging

The term "Bridging" denotes the connection of one or more circuits in parallel with another circuit without interrupting the continuity of the first circuit.

Bridging Wire Center

The term "Bridging Wire Center" denotes the telephone company designated wire center in which bridging is accomplished.

Business Day

The times of day that a company is open for business. Business day hours for the Telephone Company may be determined by contacting the business office.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Busy Hour Minutes of Capacity (BHMC)

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 Switched Access Service ordered. This customer furnished BHMC quantity is the input data the Telephone Company uses to determine the number of transmission paths for the Switched Access Service ordered.

Busy Season

The term "Busy Season" denotes the four consecutive weeks of the calendar year having the highest daily busiest hour traffic load based on a five day week. Normally the five-day week consists of Monday through Friday. Where weekend traffic is greater than weekday traffic, one or both weekend days may be used as a substitute for a weekday as long as a consistent five-day week is maintained for the four consecutive weeks.

Byte

The term "Byte" denotes a sequence or group of eight bits that represents one character.

C-Conditioning

The term "C-Conditioning" denotes a telephone company special treatment of the transmission path in order to control attenuation and envelope delay distortion.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)C-Message Noise

The term "C-Message Noise" denotes the frequency weighted average noise within an idle voice circuit. 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.

C-Notched Noise

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

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 lines or trunks.

Call

A customer attempt for which the complete address code (e.g., 0-, 911, or 10 digits) is provided to the serving dial tone office.

Call Branding

Call Branding is the act of providing customer identification, audibly and distinctly, to the caller at the beginning of a Preferred Directory Assistance call.

Carrier or Common Carrier

See Interexchange Carrier.

Carrier Identification Code

The term "Carrier Identification Code ("CIC") identifies the interexchange carrier.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)Cellular Mobile Carrier (CMC)

The term "Cellular Mobile Carrier" (CMC) denotes a Common Carrier authorized by the Federal Communications Commission to provide cellular mobile radio telecommunications services.

Central Office

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.

Central Office Loop Around Test Line

The term "Central Office Loop Around Test Line" denotes equipment in the Telephone Company's end office which provides a means for making two-way transmission tests for Switched Access services. These transmission tests are normally for the measurement of level and noise tests. This arrangement has two terminations, each reached by means of a separate seven digit number.

Central Office Prefix

The term "Central Office Prefix" denotes the first three digits (NXX) of the telephone number assigned to a telephone company subscriber's local service.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Centralized Automatic Reporting on Trunks (CAROT) Testing

The term "Centralized Automatic Reporting on Trunks (CAROT) Testing" denotes a type of testing which includes the capacity for measuring the 1000 Hz loss, C-message weighted noise, C-notched noise, loss slope, and the provision of a balance termination.

Channel Service Unit

The term "Channel Service Unit" denotes customer premises 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 narrow bandwidth or lower speed channels.

Circuit

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

Circuit Code

The term "Circuit Code" denotes the service class routing of an SS7 call that indicates the interexchange carrier trunk group to which the traffic will be routed (e.g. 0+, 0-, 500, 900, etc).

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Coin Station

A location where telephone equipment is provided in a public place where end users can originate telephonic communications and pay the applicable charges by inserting coins into the equipment.

Commingling

The term "Commingling" means the connecting, attaching, or otherwise linking of an unbundled network element (UNE), or a combination of unbundled network elements (UNEs), to one or more facilities or services that a requesting telecommunications carrier has obtained at wholesale from an incumbent LEC, or the combining of an UNE, or a combination of UNEs, with one or more such facilities or services.

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 trunk circuits and/or database related services between Signaling Points in the CCS network.

Common Channel Signaling System 7 Network (CCS7)

The term "Common Channel Signaling System 7 Network" (CCS7) denotes a dedicated out-of-band signaling network which utilizes Signaling System 7 (SS7) protocol to provide call handling and data base access services.

Common Line

The term "Common Line" denotes a line, trunk, coin line or other facility provided under the Telephone Company General and/or Local Tariffs, terminated on a Central Office switch. A Common Line - Residence is a line or trunk provided under the residence regulations of the Telephone Company General and/or Local Tariffs. A Common Line - Business is a line or trunk provided under the business regulations of the Telephone Company General and/or Local Tariffs. A coin line is a line provided under the public and/or semi-public service regulations of the Telephone Company General and/or Local Tariffs.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Communications System

The term "Communications System" denotes circuits and other facilities which are capable of communications between terminal equipment provided by other than the Telephone Company or Telephone Company stations.

Competitive County

The term "Competitive County" denotes that the geographic unit of a county or county-equivalent that passes or has passed a competitive market test specified by the FCC. Competitive County also denotes a county or county-equivalent that failed a competitive market test specified by the FCC, but was granted Phase II, Level 2 pricing flexibility prior to June 1, 2017.

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Confirmed ASR

The term "Confirmed ASR" denotes a customer's ASR for a) Switched Access service which the Telephone Company has processed with the Engineering Department to confirm for the customer and the Telephone Company the availability of facilities and/or equipment, and b) Special Access service for which the Telephone Company confirms to the customer that the established due date can be met. The date the ASR is confirmed, the standard service date interval commences.

Confirming Design Layout Report Date

The term "Confirming Design Layout Report (CDLR) Date" identifies the date that the Telephone Company is scheduled to receive confirmation that the Design Layout Report provided by the Telephone Company for a confirmed ASR is acceptable.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Conventional Signaling

The term "Conventional Signaling" denotes the inter-machine signaling system which has been traditionally used in North America for the purpose of transmitting the called number's address digits from the originating end office to the switching machine which will terminate the call. In this system, all of the dialed digits are received by the originating switching machine, a path is selected, and the sequence of supervisory signals and outpulsed digits is initiated. No overlap outpulsing, ten-digit ANI, ANI information digits, or acknowledgement wink are included in this signaling sequence.

Customer

The term "Customer" denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, corporation, or governmental entity or any other entity which subscribes to the services offered under this tariff, including Interexchange Carriers (ICs), alternative access providers, facility based carriers, end users, Information and Enhanced Service Providers.

Customer Designated Location

The term "Customer Designated Premises" (CDP) denotes a location specified by the customer for the purpose of terminating services. The Telephone Company must have access to the location to perform installation, testing, and maintenances functions. The customer may or may not have access to the location. CDPs include locations such as customer premises, end user premises, customer repeater stations, customer microwave towers, a Telephone Company's first point of switching, some other point where Telephone Company testing can occur, etc. A CDP may be designated by the customer for Switched Access, Special Access, or both in combination. Customer transmission facilities and equipment terminated in Telephone Company central offices under EIS arrangements, as defined in Section 16 are not considered a CDP. However, Telephone Company Special Access Services may be interconnected to such customer equipment using a Cross Connect arrangement.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Customer Designated Premises

The premises specified by the customer for the provision of Access Service.

Customer Message

A completed interstate call originated by a customer's end user. A customer message begins when answer supervision from the premise of the ordering customer is received by Telephone company recording equipment indicating that the called party has answered. A message ends when disconnect supervision is received by Telephone Company recording equipment from either the premise of the ordering customer or the customer's end user premise from which the call originated.

D-Conditioning

The term "D-Conditioning" denotes a Telephone Company special treatment of the transmission path in order to control C-notched noise and intermodulation distortion.

Daily Busiest Hour

The term "Daily Busiest Hour" denotes the highest usage hour for each day with the reading taken on the clock hour or half hour. The clock hour or half hour selection varies from day to day, depending upon the usage measured. The Daily Busiest Hour is also known as the Bouncing Busy Hour.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Data Transmission (107 Type) Test Line

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 differences 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 Referenced to 0

The term "Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Referenced to 0" denotes noise power in "Decibel Reference Noise C-Message Weighting" referred to or measured at a zero transmission level point.

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.

Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) Service

Digital Subscriber Line Service (DSL) is a high-speed data access service that uses asymmetrical digital subscriber line technology

Digital Switched 56 Service

A switched access optional feature available with Feature Group D Access, which provides for data transmission at up to 56 Kilobits per second

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)Direct-Trunked Transport

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

DS-1

Digital Signal level one (DS1) provides a high capacity channel interface for use in providing point to point digital transmission. It handles simultaneous two-way transmission at the rate of 1.544 Mbps.

DS-3

Digital signal level three (DS3) provides a high capacity channel interface for use in providing point to point digital transmission. It handles simultaneous two way transmission at the rate of 44.736 Mbps.

Dual Tone Multifrequency Address Signaling

The term "Dual Tone Multifrequency (DTMF) Address Signaling" denotes a type of signaling that is an optional feature of FGA. It may be utilized when FGA is being used in the terminating direction. An office arranged for signaling would expect to receive address signals from the IC in the form of DTMF format.

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 four-wire interface without regard to the send and receive Transmission Level Point (TLP).

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)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.

Effective Four-Wire (4)

A condition which permits the simultaneous independent transmission of information in both directions over a channel. The method of implementing effective four-wire (4) transmission is at the discretion of the Telephone Company (physical, time domain, frequency-domain separation or echo cancellation techniques).

Effective Two-Wire (2)

A condition which permits the simultaneous transmission in both directions over a channel, which does not insure independent information transmission in both directions. Effective two-wire (2) channels may be terminated with two-wire (2) or four-wire (4) interfaces.

End Office Switch

A local Telephone Company switching system where Telephone Exchange Service customer common lines are terminated for purposes of interconnection to trunks. Included are Remote Switching Modules and Remote Switching Systems served by a host office in a different wire center.

End User

Any customer of an interstate or foreign telecommunications service that is not a carrier, except that a carrier shall be deemed to be an "end user" to the extent that such carrier uses a telecommunications service for administrative purposes, without making such service available to others, directly or indirectly.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Engineering Review

The term "Engineering Review" denotes the examination of an ASR with a customer requested change to determine if a design change is required. It includes, but is not limited to, the review for possible change requirements in equipment, interfaces, circuit configurations, engineering records, and billing.

Enhanced Service Provider

The term "Enhanced Service Provider" denotes a customer who offers the capability for generating, acquiring, storing, transforming, processing, retrieving, utilizing, or making available information which may be conveyed via telecommunications, except that such service does not include, 1) any use of any such capability for the management, control, or operation of a telecommunications system or the management of a telecommunications system, or 2) the provision of time, weather, and such other similar audio services that are offered by any Telephone Company.

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.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

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 = TLP (send) + TLP (receive)]

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Excess Capacity

The term "Excess Capacity" denotes a quantity of services requested by the customer which is greater than that which the Telephone Company would construct to fulfill the customer's ASR.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Exchange

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.

Exchange Access Signaling

The term "Exchange Access Signaling" denotes the signaling system used by equal access end offices to transmit originating information and address digits to the customer's premises and includes the means of verifying the receipt of these address digits. Features of this system include overlap outpulsing (in suitable equipped end offices), identification of the type of call, identification of the ten-digit telephone number of the calling party, and acknowledgement wink supervisory signals.

Existing Suitable Space

The term "Existing Suitable Space" denotes a space in which ac/dc power, heat and air conditioning, battery and generator back-up power, and other requirements necessary for provision of wire center equipment currently exists.

ACCESS SERVICE

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 tandem switch to mark the connect time when the Telephone Company's tandem switch sends an Initial Address Message to a customer.

Expanded Interconnection Service (EIS)

The term "Expanded Interconnection Service" (EIS) denotes services which provide customers with the capability of terminating basic fiber optic and microwave transmission facilities, including optical terminating equipment and multiplexers in the Telephone Company central offices (physical) or outside the central office in a manhole or other similar location (virtual).

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.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Extended Area Service

The term "Extended Area Service" (EAS) denotes an arrangement whereby a customer in one exchange can call a local number in another exchange that is part of the extended area without paying a toll charge.

Facility

The term "Facility" denotes generically the various transmission media used for the transmission of telecommunications service. This included, but is not limited to, cable (copper pair, coaxial and fiber optic) and microwave radio equipment.

Field Identifier

The term "Field Identifier" denotes two to four characters that are used on service orders to convey specific instructions. Field Identifiers may or may not have associated data. Selected Field Identifiers are used in Telephone Company billing systems to generate nonrecurring charges.

Firm Order Confirmation Date

The term "Firm Order Confirmation (FOC) Date" denotes the date that the Telephone Company will provide the schedule of dates for the provisioning activities associated with the customer's request for service.

First Come - First Served

The term "First Come - First Served" denotes a procedure followed by the Telephone Company to process fully completed Access Orders according to the sequence in which they are received.

First Point of Switching

The first Telephone Company or centralized equal access provider location at which switching occurs on the terminating path of a call proceeding from the customer premises to the terminating end office and, at the same time, the last Telephone Company or centralized equal access provider location at which switching occurs on the originating path of a call proceeding from the originating end office to the IC or customer premises.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)Four-Wire to Two-Wire Conversion

The term "Four-Wire to Two-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 such as a central office switch trunk circuit or switching system.

Frequency Shift

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

Gateway Switch

The switch through which communication passes between public packet switched networks.

Geographically Aggregated Rate (GAR)

The term "Geographically Aggregated Rate" denotes a situation in which the rates and charges for a service offering, for which there is currently no demand, are developed based upon the aggregated revenue requirement and demand for more than one study area. Upon receipt of a request for service, the current geographically averaged rates will be redeveloped to include the new study area.

Example: Study areas A, B and C have been geographically aggregated. Geographically averaged rates for A and B were developed based upon their aggregated revenue requirement and demand, while Area C, marked "GAR", has no current demand. Should C receive a request for service, the current geographically averaged rates will be redeveloped to include C's revenue and demand. The redeveloped rates and charges will now be applicable to customers on A, B, and C.

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.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Ground Start Supervisory Signaling

The term "Ground Start Supervisory Signaling" denotes a type of signaling which provides for the application of ground on the tip side at the point of termination (assuming no signaling conversion has been provided by the Telephone Company) as an initial seizure signal before the application of ringing in the originating direction (towards the customer from the end office).

Host Office

An electronic switching system which provides call processing capabilities for one or more Remote Switching Modules or Remote Switching Systems.

Immediately Available Funds

A corporate or personal check drawn on a bank account for which funds 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 (ICB)

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.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Information Service Provider

The term "Information Service Provider" denotes one who offers a capability for generating, acquiring, storing, transforming, processing, retrieving, utilizing, or making available information which may be conveyed via telecommunications, except that such service does not include (1) any use of any such capability for the management, control, or operation of a telecommunications system or the management of a telecommunications service, or (2) the provision of time, weather, and such other similar audio services that are offered by the Telephone Company.

Initial Address Message (IAM)

The term "Initial Address Message" (IAM) denotes an SS7 message sent in the forward direction to initiate trunk set up with the busying of an outgoing trunk which carries the information about that trunk along with other information relating to the routing and handling of the call to the next switch.

Initial Liability Period

The term "Initial Liability Period" denotes the initial planning period during which the customer expects to place specially constructed facilities in service.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Inserted Connection Loss

The term "Inserted Connection Loss" denotes the 1004 H2 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.

Installed Cost

The term "Installed Cost" denotes the total cost (estimated or actual) by the Telephone Company to provide facilities for the offered services.

Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN)

Integrated services digital network (ISDN) permits digital transmission over ordinary local loops through the use of advanced hardware and software. ISDN offers data transmission at higher speeds than standard analog service.

Basic Rate Interface (BRI)-ISDN service allows subscribers to obtain two voice grade equivalent channels and one data signaling channel over two pairs of twisted copper wires.

Primary Rate Interface (PRI)-ISDN service allows subscribers to obtain 23 voice grade equivalent channels and one data signaling channel over two pairs of twisted copper wires.

Interconnection

The term "Interconnection" denotes the termination of a customer's basic transmission facilities, including optical terminating equipment and multiplexers at or near Telephone Company wire center. Interconnection may be provided as either physical or virtual.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Interexchange Carrier (IC) or Interexchange Common Carrier

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 circuit. It is measured using four tones, and evaluating the ratios (in dBs) 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 Call

A term which 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.

Internet Digital Access Service (IDAS)

Internet Digital Access Service (IDAS) is the Telephone Company's Digital Channel Service offering (T-1/DS-1 equivalent) which is a wholesale business offering to provide one way digital service for Internet Service providers (ISPs).

Internet Service Provider (ISP)

Internet Service Providers (ISPs) are communications providers who link end-user customers with the internet/world wide web through their servers. Normally, this occurs as a dial-up service using modems, but can also utilize high speed digital services.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Kilosegment

The term "Kilosegment" denotes a unit of packet transmission defined as 64,000 bytes of data; one thousand segments.

Line

The term "Line" denotes a communications path connecting an end office switch with an end user's premises or a CDP for the provision for FGA.

Line Group

The term "Line Group" denotes a grouping of lines which are traffic engineered as a unit for the establishment of connections between end office switches and customers in which all of the communications paths are interchangeable.

Line Information Data Base

The term "Line Information Data Base" (LIDB) denotes a data base containing billing validation data providing the ability to screen billed numbers to support Alternate Billing services.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Line Side Connection

A connection of a transmission path to the line side of a local exchange switching system.

Local Access and Transport Area

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.

Logical Channel

The term "Logical Channel" denotes a communication channel which allows two-way simultaneous transmission of data packets through the network. No circuit capability is preassigned to a logical channel. Capacity is made available as the data is transmitted. Each virtual connection utilizes one logical channel.

Loop Around Test Line

An arrangement utilizing a Telephone Company central office to provide a means to make certain two-way transmission tests on a manual basis. This arrangement has two central office terminations, each reached by means of separate telephone numbers and does not require any specific customer premises equipment. Equipment subject to this test arrangement is at the discretion of the customer.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Loss Deviation

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

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Message

See "Call".

Mid Link

The term "Mid Link" denotes the Special Transport facilities between Hub Wire Centers where the circuit is bridged and/or where switching devices such as a loop transfer arrangement are located.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Milliwatt (102 Type) Test Line

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.

Mobile Telephone Switching Office (MTSO)

The term "Mobile Telephone Switching Office" (MTSO) denotes a Cellular Mobile Carrier (CMC) switching facility that is used to originate or terminate calls on the CMC network, or originate or terminate calls between the CMC and the public switched telephone network.

Multicarrier Access Area

The term "Multicarrier Access Area" denotes an EAS for FGA or an area for FGB where services are provided by more than one telephone company in which a customer obtains access to an entire EAS or FGB area by obtaining a FGA or FGB access tandem arrangement that connects its switch with the First Point of Switching of the Primary Exchange Carrier.

National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP) Services

The term "National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP) Services" denotes telecommunications services which are used to maintain a state of readiness or to respond to and manage any event or crisis (local, national or international), which causes or could cause injury or harm to the population, damage to or loss of property, or degrades or threatens the NSEP posture of the United States.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Net Salvage

The estimated scrap, sale, or trade-in value, less the estimated cost of removal. Cost of removal includes the costs of demolishing, or otherwise disposing of the material and any other applicable costs. Since the cost of removal may exceed salvage value, net salvage may be negative.

Network Address

The term "Network Address" denotes the alphanumeric character string used to specify the destination of each switched connection made within the network.

Network Channel Interface Code

The "Network Channel Interface" (NCI) code is an ordering code that provides an indication of the generic channel type. The NCI code provides the technical characteristics of the interface and describes the physical and electrical characteristics of the special access interface to the customer designated locations.

Network Control Signaling

The transmission of signals used in the telecommunications system which perform functions such as supervision (control, status, and charge signals), address signaling (e.g., dialing), calling and called number identifications, rate of flow, service selection error control and audible tone signals (call progress signals indicating reorder or busy conditions, alerting, coin denomination, coin collect and coin return tones) to control the operation of the telecommunications system.

Non-Competitive County

The term "Non-Competitive County" denotes a geographic unit of a county or county-equivalent that failed a competitive market test specified by the FCC (excluding those that were granted Phase II, Level 2 pricing flexibility prior to June 1, 2017 and thus are defined as "Competitive Counties").

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Non-Overlap Outpulsing

The term "Non-Overlap Outpulsing" is the feature of the exchange access signaling system which provides initiation of pulsing to the customer's premises after the calling subscriber has completed dialing an originating call.

Nonrecoverable Cost

The term "Nonrecoverable Cost" denotes the cost of specially constructed facilities for which the Telephone Company has no foreseeable use should the customer terminate service.

Nonsynchronous Test Line

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.

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ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)North American Numbering Plan

A three-digit (3) area (Numbering Plan Area) code and a seven-digit (7) number made up of a three-digit (3) Central Office code plus a four-digit (4) station number.

NSEP Treatment

The term "NSEP Treatment" denotes the provisioning of a telecommunications service before others based on the provisioning priority level assigned by the Executive Office of the President.

Octet

The term "Octet" denotes a group of eight binary digits operated upon as an entity.

Off-Hook

The active condition of Switched Access or a Telephone Exchange Service line.

On-Hook

The idle condition of Switched Access or a Telephone Exchange Service line.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Open Circuit Test Line

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.

Order Interval

The term "Order Interval" denotes the interval between the Scheduled Issue Date and the Service Date.

Originating Direction

The use of access service for the origination of calls from an end user premises to an IC premises.

Originating Point Code

The term "Originating Point Code" (OPC) denotes the identity assigned to each Operator Service System (OSS) location.

Overlap Outpulsing

The feature of the exchange access signaling system which permits initiation of pulsing to the customer's premises before the calling subscriber has completed dialing an originating call.

OZZ Code

The term "OZZ Code" identifies the interexchange carrier trunk group to which the traffic should be routed.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)Packet

The term "Packet" denotes a continuous sequence of binary digits of information which is switched through the network as an integral unit. The user data is divided into segments for billing purposes. The number of segments contained in a packet is dependent upon the packet size.

Packet Switch

The term "Packet Switch" denotes a central office based switch that establishes a virtual connection between two data network addresses for the transmission of discrete amounts of information.

Packet Switching Office

The term "Packet Switching Office" denotes the central office where the packet switching functions are performed and access to the packet network is accomplished.

Pay Telephone

Telephone instruments and related facilities that are available to the general public for public convenience and necessity, including public and coinless telephones.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)Permanent Facilities

The term "Permanent Facilities" denotes facilities providing service for one month or more.

Phase Jitter

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

Physical EIS

The term "Physical EIS" denotes an offering that enables customers to place equipment needed to terminate basic transmission facilities, including optical terminating equipment and multiplexers, within or upon the Telephone Company's central office buildings, to use such equipment to connect customer's fiber optic systems or microwave radio transmission facilities (where reasonably feasible) with the local exchange carrier's equipment and facilities used to provide interstate special access services.

Plant Test Date

The term "Plant Test Date" denotes the date on which installation is completed and the Telephone Company to customer testing can begin.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Point of Termination

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

Premises

A building or buildings on continuous property (except Railroad Right-of-Way, etc.) not separated by a public highway.

Pre-Service Testing

The term "Pre-Service Testing" denotes tests performed on services to assure standard transmission performance/parameters meet specifications prior to acceptance testing.

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).

Prime Service Vendor

The term "Prime Service Vendor" denotes the status of the Telephone Company when contracting directly with the user of TSP service.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)Protocol

The term "Protocol" denotes a set of rules governing the format to be followed when transmitting information between communicating devices.

Public Pay Telephone

The term "Public Pay Telephone" denotes a switched coin line provided under the Public Telephone Service regulations of the Telephone Company General Exchange and/or Local Exchange Tariffs.

Query

The term "Query" denotes the inquiry to a Telephone Company data base to obtain information, processing instructions or service data.

Recoverable Cost

The term "Recoverable Cost" denotes the cost of specially constructed facilities for which the Telephone Company has a foreseeable reuse, either in place or elsewhere should the customer terminate service.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Regional Signal Transfer Point (RSTP)

The term "Regional Signal Transfer Point" (RSTP) denotes a Signal Transfer Point (STP) equipped with gateway screening capability. Gateway screening is defined as the examination of designated fields within inbound SS7 messages to prevent unauthorized access to, and use of, the Telephone Company's SS7 network by another signaling network.

Regional Signal Transfer Point (RSTP) Port

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

Registered Equipment

The customer's premises equipment which complies with and has been approved within the Registration Provision of Part 68 of the FCC's Rules and Regulations.

Release Message

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

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Remote Switching Modules and/or Remote Switching Systems

Small, remotely controlled electronic end office switches which obtain their call processing capability from a Digital Host Office. The Remote Switching Modules and/or Remote Switching Systems cannot accommodate direct trunks to an IC.

Response

The term "Response" denotes an SS7 message representing a reply to a request for information contained in a query.

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.

Route Mileage

The term "Route Mileage" denotes the actual Telephone Company provided facility mileage of a transmission circuit.

Scheduled Issue Date

The term "Scheduled Issue Date" denotes the date the Telephone Company is scheduled to issue the confirmed ASR to all associated work groups.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)Secondary Exchange Carrier

Denotes the Local Exchange Telephone Company in whose exchange a FGA 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.

Segment

The term "Segment" denotes a unit of user information consisting of 64 octets or less. Billing for Packet Switching Network Service is based on the number of segments transmitted within the user data field of a packet. The number of segments transmitted within a packet is limited only by the subscribed or negotiated maximum size of the user data field for the customer interface.

Service Control Point

The term "Service Control Point" (SCP) denotes an SS7 network control interface element between the Telephone Company's SS7 network and one or more data bases.

Service Date

The term "Service Date" denotes the date that the service is to be placed in service. A confirmed ASR is required to establish a service date.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Service Management System

The term "Service Management System" (SMS) denotes the primary 800/888 service system that interfaces between the regional SCPs and 800/888 service providers order entry centers and/or systems. The primary function of the SMS is to administer 800/888 records in the SCPs that involve service provisioning, maintenance network administration and management.

Service Switching Point (SSP)

The term "Service Switching Point" (SSP) denotes a switch which recognizes 800/888 calls and suspends them in order to query the 800/888 Service Control Point (SCP) for routing instructions for the 800/888 call.

Serving Wire Center

That Telephone Company designated wire center serving the customer's designated premises and used for mileage measurement to determine local transport or circuit mileage charges for Access Service.

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.

Short Circuit Test Line

The term "Short Circuit Test Line" denotes the end office circuit which provides an ac short circuit termination of the trunk or line by means of a capacitor of at least 4 microfarads.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Shortage of Facilities or Equipment

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.

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. The technical interface specifications, transmission specifications, and diversity requirements for interconnecting to the Telephone Company's SS7 network at the STP are as described in Bellcore Technical Reference Publication TR-TSV-000905.

Signal Transfer Point (STP) Port

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

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.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Signaling for Tandem Switching

The term "Signaling for Tandem Switching" denotes the carrier identification code (CIC) and the OZZ code, or equivalent information needed to perform tandem switching functions. The CIC identifies the interexchange carrier and the OZZ code identifies the interexchange carrier trunk group to which the traffic will be routed.

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.

Singing Return Loss

The term "Singing 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.

Subcontractor

The term "Subcontractor" denotes the status of the Telephone Company when contracting directly with a Prime Service Vendor to provide TSP to a service user.

Subtending End Office of an Access Tandem

An end office that has final trunk group routing through that tandem.

Synchronous Test Line

An arrangement in an end office which performs marginal operational tests of supervisory and ring-tripping functions.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

Tandem Switched Transport

The term "Tandem Switched Transport" denotes transport from the serving wire center to the end office, or from the tandem to the end office, that is switched at a tandem.

Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) System

Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) is a regulatory, administrative, and operational system developed by the Federal Government to ensure priority provisioning and/or restoration of National Security Emergency Preparedness (NSEP) telecommunications services. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) defines NSEP telecommunications services as those services which are used to maintain a state of readiness or to respond to and manage any event or crises, which causes or could cause harm to the population, damage to or loss of property, or degrades or threatens the NSEP posture of the United States.

Under the rules of the TSP System, Telephone Companies are authorized and required to provision and/or restore services with TSP assignments before services without such assignments.

Temporary Facilities

The term "Temporary Facilities" denotes facilities used to provide service to a customer for less than the minimum service period or less than one month, whichever is longer, or to provide service while permanent facilities are being constructed.

Terminating Direction

The use of Access Service for the completion of calls from an IC premises to an end user premises.

Termination Charge

The term "Termination Charge" denotes the portion of the Maximum Termination Liability that is applied as a nonrecurring charge when all services are discontinued prior to the expiration of the specified liability period.

ACCESS SERVICE

2. General Regulations (Cont'd)

2.6 Definitions (Cont'd)

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 (1) a building in which one or more central offices, including end office switches, used for the provision of Telephone Exchange Services, are located, or (2) in the case of a centralized equal access tandem arrangement, a building in which Telephone Company access facilities are located for purposes of interconnection to customer premises.

Wire Center Area

The term "Wire Center Area" denotes the geographical area served by a Wire Center through the use of central office switching equipment, cross connection equipment, and subscriber loops.

X.25 Protocol

The term "X.25 Protocol" denotes an interface between Data Terminal Equipment and Data Circuit Terminating Equipment for terminals operating in the packet mode on public data networks.

X.75 Protocol

The term "X.75 Protocol" denotes terminal and transit call control procedures and data transfer system on circuits between packet switched data networks.